

Technology to Treasure

January 2011

Seminar hit in London

ALMIS Liquidity Management Seminar held in London at Grange St Paul's Hotel proved to be a huge success with all spaces filled!

The seminar explored the implications of the new liquidity standard, with key speakers from banking institutions sharing their experience of how they approached the liquidity standard, and any issues they had. This seminar also provided an opportunity to network with peers, and to discover the benefits of the ALMIS Liquidity Module.

Many non ALMIS users attended the seminar and feedback was overwhelmingly positive. Jane Graylen at Lloyds TSB commented "What I found particularly useful was hearing about the real impact that the FSA Liquidity Standard has had on other financial institutions and knowing there's a solution out there to help with compliance issues" and Nick Wade, Head of Financial & Regulatory Reporting at CIT commented "seeing case studies in practice was very beneficial for us".

ALMIS restructures support

ALMIS support is restructured and split into two distinct areas, application development and support. This will improve support and enhance the system further.

Deborah Greig has been appointed as Senior Financial Analyst. Deborah has a wealth of property finance and project management experience and joins ALMIS from Murray Estates Limited. Deborah will be primarily responsible for training new and existing users on how to set up and use ALMIS software to their best advantage.

Deborah Greig, Senior Financial Analyst at ALMIS International commented "*I am delighted to join ALMIS and look forward to helping clients get even more out of ALMIS software*"

Jonathan Craig has also been appointed as System Developer. Jonathan will be involved in maintaining and enhancing the software to ensure it remains a competitive ALM and Risk Management Solution. Jonathan graduated from the University of Edinburgh where he gained experience of software development, database engineering and human computer interaction.

Joe Di Rollo, Managing Director of ALMIS International, said, "We believe that these changes will help us sustain and strengthen our position as a cutting edge ALM and risk management supplier offering world class support"

Financial Planning Masterclass

ALMIS International is holding a Financial Planning Masterclass on 24th March 2011 in Edinburgh for users wishing to gain a better understanding of the planning wizard.

This workshop will cover aspects of financial planning and dynamic modelling.

Users will be shown how the ALMIS planning wizard operates, how to set up data, input different assumption, run and save plans, analyse outputs, collect and present results.

To book a space, email events@almis.co.uk.

Dates for the Diary

March 24th Edinburgh Financial Planning Masterclass

May 18th London Capital Adequacy Seminar

July 14th Edinburgh Market Risk Masterclass

October 26th Edinburgh User Group Meeting

Users steer future developments

Users across the UK attended the latest ALMIS User Group forum, held in the historic city centre of Edinburgh at Mercure Point Hotel.

This annual event gives customers the opportunity to discuss system features and possibilities for future developments. Based on customer feedback, ALMIS will be exploring the development of a customizable dashboard. A dashboard will give clients a summary of positions, helping them understand ALMIS outputs and present results more easily to ALCO.

Another area identified for future development is an online support forum. ALMIS has developed this idea and created an online support forum on the popular business networking site LinkedIn. This forum will allow users to post questions, interact with other users and view previously asked questions. The main advantage of this forum is that users can share knowledge and become more confident users of ALMIS.

To join the forum, go to 'ALMIS Software' under groups and simply ask to become a member.



Clients successfully use FSA Reporting Module

Using the new ALMIS FSA Reporting Module, Aldermore and Kingdom Bank have successfully submitted FSA reports to Gabriel in XML format. Kingdom and Aldermore Bank are both involved in the beta testing of ALMIS version nine.

The FSA Reporting Module is a fully comprehensive module and enables clients to produce all their reports in one place. This module covers FSA Reports: 003, 004, 008, 017, 044, 047, 048, 050, 051, and 053.

All reports are produced in FSA's XML format and automatically submitted to Gabriel, eliminating the need for customers to manually input figures. Reports are also validated on the spot, before submission to Gabriel, saving valuable business time and correcting errors.

This module will be ready for general release shortly.

Web Meetings now a reality

ALMIS has held a number of successful web meetings with existing clients and prospective banking institutions.

Using sophisticated technology, ALMIS can host an online meeting with up to 15 people at any one time and attendees can join meetings in seconds. Using web conferencing tools, ALMIS can hold software demonstrations, and take clients through software using their own data sets and set up, in real time from anywhere in the UK.

This now means that banking institutions can interact with ALMIS more quickly and effectively, and will not even need to move from their offices!

ALMIS FSA System Developments

Following a recent seminar, FSA supervisor Jon Pyzer clarified a preference that the FSA Basis Risk Report should be calculated on a net, rather than a gross, basis. ALMIS has released an update which is now available to be downloaded from the website.

The FSA has clarified with some clients that buffer securities should go into line 25 rather than line 23 on FSA 048.

To cope with either of these interpretations, ALMIS currently give users the option to either put buffer assets into line 6 and 25 or 6 and 23.

New website launched

A new company website was launched on Monday 6th December 2010. Working closely with the web developer, ALMIS International was able to design a more user friendly, informative site which is easier to navigate.

Clients have a secure login area where they can download the latest software releases, manuals and view FAQ's.

For prospective customers, they can find information about ALMIS and their software.

Go to <u>www.almis-int.com</u> now to view the new website.