



South African Revenue Service

Dear Stakeholder

TAX DIRECTIVES: TRADE TESTING

The South African Revenue Service (SARS) is in the process of enhancing the Tax Directives process and trade testing for Independent Software Vendor (ISV) submissions. To prepare for the implementation of these enhancements, trade testing will start on **24 March 2021**, in line with our intention to go-live within the first quarter of the 2021/22 financial year.

The updated Tax Directives Interface Specification (IBIR-006 Rev 6.104) has been published and is available on the SARS website www.sars.gov.za, and you are encouraged to review the document prior to testing. The changes in this specification will be effective from the go-live date that will be communicated in the near future. Links included for your ease of reference:

Follow these easy steps to submit test files:

Step 1: Before testing can commence, you will need to email 10 taxpayer reference numbers to ncts@sars.gov.za, to ensure the numbers are active. In the email subject line, use “Tax reference numbers for Trade Testing”. A maximum of 10 taxpayer reference numbers will be allowed. You will be notified via the same email address to confirm when testing may commence.

Step 2: To ensure compliance with the [IBIR-006 -Tax Directive Interface Specification](#), SARS will randomly select an IRP3 generated from the submitted taxpayer reference numbers, and request you to send the IRP3 for review. If it does not conform to the SARS standard, an electronic submission to SARS will not be allowed. For more information on the required layout, kindly refer to the “Processed Directives Response Data Record’ and ‘IRP3 HARD COPY EXAMPLE’ in the [IBIR-006 -Tax Directive Interface Specification](#).

For any queries about **Trade Testing**, you may email ncts@sars.gov.za. Thank you for your continuous support.

Sincerely

THE SOUTH AFRICAN REVENUE SERVICE

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