

MATS - FAQ

EPEX SPOT
26.02.2025
Paris

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1. Introduction

1.1 Audience

This document is intended for all customers (client members, API members and Market Data Customers) who will use MATS Trading system.

1.2 Purpose

The purpose of this document is to answer Frequently Asked Questions concerning MATS trading system.

This document can be used by users in order to resolve potential problems when using MATS trading system.

1.3 Document revision history

Evolution	Date	Version	Author	Comments
Creation	18/10/2024	1.0	EPEX SPOT	
Update	25/02/2025	1.1	EPEX SPOT	Addition of questions received during the webinars, from mailbox, etc.

1.4 Reference documents

- MATS Fundamentals
- MATS & ETS – Changes overview

2. Questions/Answers

2.1 Functional and overall system questions

2.1.1 Connection and user accounts

Q: Will all existing ETS accounts (client and API users) be migrated to MATS? No additional registrations are required?

A: All ETS existing accounts will be migrated to MATS automatically. Note that if you have an active user account in ETS that does not have an email address associated with it you will have to provide one. Please contact Market Operations team to update your accounts. Please note that we will not migrate inactive user accounts or portfolios.

Q: Will the user setup / accounts work the same as in ETS?

A: Yes.

Q: How does the system enforce that only single sign-in is allowed at a time?

A: The design principle in MATS is that no more than one user session is allowed at a time (put differently, only one sign in is allowed per user at a time). This is applicable for both client and API users.

Trading system checks if there is already an active user session existing in the system with the same login and token. Based on this, system ensures that two user sessions cannot be allowed at the same time for the same credentials.

Q: How long does it take for token to auto-expire?

A: With regard to the duration of token auto-expiration, we will provide further details when we publish the API documentation. For API users, auto-expiration date and time can be deduced based on the information "tokenDuration" which will be available as part of the API response.

Q: Will login to MATS be done via token or 2-factor authentication?

A: MATS will offer 2-factor authentication, and this will be introduced during simulation phase, well ahead of the Go-live. At the start of simulation, login will be done via user name **login** and password. For API users, bearer token which will be returned by the system upon successful login can be reused to continue with other possible API requests.

Q: Will API clients need to be certified for MATS and do we need to schedule this?

A: Details about 2 factor authentication (ex: certificate) will be shared in the upcoming months. At the start of simulation, there is no need of any Certificate generation process that must be addressed. Users can login via login and password.

For the conformance tests, exact timeline to be shared in upcoming FAQ updates.

Q: Concerning API Login, you state single sign in. If an API Application is used by multiple people. Do we have a token per user or one token for the API Application covers all users? Does each user have to sign in through it or will the API token cover all users of the tool?

A: The answer depends on how the API application is set up and connected to MATS. If there is only one connection from the application, MATS recognizes one user and keeps this session active. In case each person requires a separate connection, then you would need dedicated API users.

Q: Can multiple users use the MATS front end at the same time?

A: Assuming that you have multiple trading accounts(i.e. multiple accounts) with the necessary rights configured, the users associated to these accounts could use the MATS front end at the same time. In case the questions refers to multiple people using the same account, this will not be possible.

Q: What type of tokens are going to be used?

A: The token is JWT (JSON Web Token). However, if the user is intended to use only MATS Web platform, token is not required as this is something “managed by the web platform native design”. In the Login page, only user login & password (for the first SIMU opening) is required to successfully connected to MATS Web Platform.

The token is necessary only for API users.

Q: What to do if my activation links expired?

A (API user):

You can use the Sample Test in the API package, by following these steps in the Connection tab:

- Request a new token by clicking ‘1. Request a RESET token’, after which you will receive the activation email with a new token
- Click on ‘2. Reset Pwd (with token)’ and use the token to create a new password

OR use this request: <https://your-exchange-url/api/security/initialize-password>

- Provide your login name in the login field
- You will receive the password reset email with a new link, please follow the same instructions as for creating the password for the first time.

A (Web Client user):

Use the following link: <https://your-exchange-url/forgot-password>

- Insert your login name and click ‘Send link’ button

You will receive the password reset email with a new token, please follow the same instructions as for creating the password for the first time.

2.1.2 Passwords

Q: What is password policy for MATS user accounts?

A: Please consult the MATS Fundamentals document.

2.1.3 Market Results / Trade Report

Q: Will the current Market results csv file undergo any (major) changes and when will we be informed about these?

A: The file will not undergo any major changes. There will be limited changes related to naming convention, slight restructuring and addition of new information. More details will follow in upcoming versions of MATS Fundamentals and 'MATS & ETS - Changes overview' documents.

15MTU SDAC: Changes to the Market results csv file are expected as the time units will be shifted to 15-minute delivery periods. More details will follow in upcoming versions of MATS Fundamentals and 'MATS & ETS - Changes overview' documents.

Q: Did I understand correctly that current MarketResult files can also be downloaded from the MATS client?

A: That is correct. The functionality will not be available on the first day of simulation, but it will be delivered as part of the first releases during simulation phase.

Q: Will Market Results still be available as well on SFTP?

A: This option will still be available via SFTP as of the Go-live of MATS. During the simulation phase of MATS the functionality will not be available at first; we will communicate once we will enable this synchronization.

Q: Will the Trader ID be captured following submission of orders via UI and API in the Trader Report file? Will this Trader ID be included in the Trade Results API?

A: Yes, the Trader ID will be included in Trade Report file, and this information can also be retrieved via a dedicated API call.

Q: Will the market results content move to JSON (currently CSV inside SOAP)?

We will offer 2 options:

- 1) CSV (for Market results file) and XML (for Trade Report file) formats to allow the continuity
- 2) JSON format for API customers

Q: For how long will the results be available in MATS?

A: Current working assumption is seven days, but we are still assessing this configuration. Further updates will be provided in upcoming FAQs.

2.1.4 System configuration / parameters

Q: Will all ETS Area name, Area set and Auction name be used in MATS directly? Will there be additional new auction related reference data?

A: All ETS Area name, Area set and Auction name be used in MATS directly with some minor naming convention change between ETS and MATS. Please check 'MATS vs ETS – Changes overview' document for more details. There will be no new reference data in MATS.

2.1.5 Technical questions

Q: Is the client going to be a web client, or is it still a standalone client?

A: MATS client is a web-based client.

2.1.6 Order Management

Q: For how long will you be able to see historical orders in MATS?

A: Current working assumption is seven days, but we are still assessing this configuration. Further updates will be provided in upcoming FAQs.

Q: Does MATS allow access to all previously submitted bids during an auction, or only the last accepted one that will be used in the quantity and price calculation?

A: MATS allow the access to all version history of an active order. Once the order is deleted/cancelled, then it will be no longer accessible.

2.1.7 Product offering

2.1.7.1 Hybrid curves

Q: Can you give some more details on the concept of "hybrid curves"?

A: **Hybrid curve type** allows the user to submit a linear order with stepwise curves or piecewise curves or a mix of both curves. It will be the user sole choice and preference which curve to use during the linear order submission. Please consult MATS Fundamentals document for further details.

2.1.7.2 Block orders

Q: How many Block offers can MATS process? Is there a contractual limit?

A: Block offering and parameters are not expected to change with the switch to MATS. HUPX Members can find block parameters in Products List and Specifications: [LINK](#).

2.1.7.3 Bulk import

Q: How does bulk import functionality work? What kind of information can be submitted in one file? What benefits will users with one portfolio and registered only on one market have?

A: Main rule for the bulk import functionality is that it works for a per auction session and per order type, meaning that you cannot combine e.g. linear and block orders, you would need separate bulk files. e.g. linear and block orders (applicable if different types of orders are offered in the market), you would need separate bulk files.

- *In one file, you can include several orders. These orders can have different (portfolio, bidding level) combinations.*
- *The orders must be related to one auction day.*

For a user with one portfolio and market, indeed, it may not be a highly beneficial feature.

- *However, even for a user with only 1 portfolio and market configuration, the import functionality may come in handy if the user needs to do an update or import last minute before the OBK Closure Time. Especially if it is a linear order with huge number of curve points and curves needs to be submitted for all 24 delivery periods.*
- *Alternatively, another feature that could be used in any situation with such user configuration, is the copy/paste functionality. In the linear order screen, user has the possibility to copy the content from Excel and paste it on the Grid.*

2.1.8 DST23/25

Q: Will there be any change in how DST23/25 will work in MATS?

A1: There is a difference in how period sequence numbers are used and displayed. Please check examples in 'Delivery period illustration' file, as well as the explanation in 'MATS & ETS – Changes overview' document.

A2: Compared to ETS, MATS does not display the 'skipped' period(s), but rather indicates the next available period (e.g. 60min: 1,2,**4**, etc. / 30min: 1-4,**7**,etc. / 15min: 1-8,**13**, etc.).

2.2 API-specific questions

2.2.1 Market results

Q: Market results and individual results are available in the UI, will this also be the case for the API? I.e. can you fetch your own results?

A: Correct. In addition to reports being available, you will have a set of resources you can use to compile your own results.

2.2.2 Order management

Q: If we have the option to submit either a piecewise or stepwise curve or mixed curve for each auction, then do we need to specify the curve type in the bid submission via API to MATS?

A: No, the system 'recognizes' linear order, you do not need to specify which type you are using.

Q: In case you are an API user, you should retrieve the order ID (which MATS creates after acceptance of the first order for an auction), so that you can update your order later, if necessary?

A: Yes this is right. In case of order modification, API user must use the unique order id assigned by the trading system after the first submission. More details about order lifecycle can be found in MATS REST API Design Guide in the API package:

- In case of modification, the order id featured in the response to a submission request must be provided in the API modification request.
- Each modification increases the order version number.
- The previous version of the order is set with a status = INACTIVE, which can be retrieved with a get linear order with the version=all query parameter.

Q: Using the "sample test client", when you submit Linear orders, D, D+1, can you choose which auction to submit for, or will orders be submitted for all auctions/portfolios the logged in user has access to?

A: You cannot directly choose your auction session. However, there is an indirect way to get one order per auction session: you can use a parameter in the config/properties file: nbLinearOrdersSubmittedByButton=5 for instance.

2.2.3 PUSH mechanism

Q: Is it expected that we implement the logic / functionalities to react to notifications instead of requesting in loops as we do today?

A: Push will allow the customers to reduce the number of loops. Push is not mandatory to be implemented though we strongly recommend to utilize this feature to avoid the looping mechanism as much as possible.

Q: Will we be forced to use the Push Notifications in the API or will we still be able to use loops to check if the auction results are available for example?

A: You remain free to use or not the Push Notification. Push is not mandatory to be implemented though we strongly recommend utilizing this feature to avoid the looping mechanism as much as possible, and get data in real time, especially for market results, instead of waiting for the next loop iteration.

For the looping mechanism, there will be Terms of Reference defined about the limits that must be respected by the API applications.

Q: Is there a request restriction in the web socket section?

A: Your app will just have to listen to push/socket.io notifications and react to these 'signals' by sending the relevant REST API requests, respecting Terms of Reference, and processing responses (same cancel/replace logic as today with loops, but based on the notification scope). It will not be possible to send requests via socket.io.

Q: Will the data push service have a cache feature if we disconnect to catch up on the backlog of messages during that period or would we need to then get the data via the rest API?

A: Data must be retrieved via the Rest API when re-starting your app. There is no cache feature at this moment.

Q: Will this API change require a refactor of our current software for the ETS API, or will it remain compatible with the existing implementation?

A: As technology will change and also the API request/response differs (JSON format, different fields etc), we expect you will need to refactor your current software. Beyond the technology change you will need to implement the push part if you wish to take advantage of this new feature. In addition, there is a slight naming convention change (see response in Section 2.1.4). However, the global logic remains very similar and everything should look very familiar to you.

Q: Does push server support HTTP long-polling protocol?

A: No, the push server does not support HTTP long-polling protocol

Q: Does push server support connection state recovery?

A: No, the push server does not support connection state recovery

Q: When 2FA and client certificates are implemented - will this affect Push mechanism?

A: No, 2FA is only for MATS web client and MATS API. We don't have a plan to implement 2FA for Push server.

Q: What delivery guarantees will the Push API have? Will it be possible for a client to miss messages for any reason?

A: At most once: Messages are delivered once, and if there is a system failure or disconnection, messages may be lost and are not redelivered. The design principle is that user will receive notifications as long as it is subscribed and connected to the Push server.

2.2.4 Trading limits

Q: Existing ETS API request which allows us to retrieve trading limits is not present in API doc.

A: There is a plan to introduce this functionality in MATS API. But as of first planned SIMU opening, this feature will not be available.

However, this feature will be released in SIMU as part of future releases (prior to Prod Go live) in a progressive manner, and we will inform you about it via communication in the due time.

2.2.5 Connectivity

Q: Is there a simple API method like "KeepAlive" (or anything equivalent), which will do nothing but send a successful response to the user? The main purpose is to validate the connection token, to make sure it is not recalled, invalidated or expired.

A: Currently, we do not have such possibility. The only way to know if the token has been expired is based on the tokenDuration. Once the token is returned by the MATS, unless someone kick out the current connection or token duration is exceeded, the token should remain valid.

2.2.6 API limitations

Q: Are there server-side rate limits to the API calls? There is recommended poll frequency in the docs, but will the server detect rate limit violations and block the client (for e.g., with HTTP status code: 429)?

A: No, we don't have the rate-limits at server side. However, we do recommend our customers to have a configurable polling interval between 2 identical requests if you wish to implement loops. As part of our Terms Of Reference, We will further communicate the minimum duration to respect (e.g. at least 3 seconds between 2 identical order retrieval between 2 identical order retrieval requests, 30 seconds between 2 market results retrieval for a given auction session).

2.2.7 Conformance tests

Q: When does the conformance tests will be carried out? Will EPEX SPOT contact the customers to arrange the conformance test or does customers have to contact you to schedule it?

A: We will organize API mass conformance test session on a periodic basis, most likely as of April. We will communicate on this to indicate the protocol and dates. In between please do not hesitate to reach out to [MATS Support SVPX](#) if customers want us to check your app behavior together, or to go through any questions you might have.

2.3 Web Client-specific questions

2.3.1 Order management

2.3.1.1 Bulk import

Q: Is it correct, that we can import hourly orders, quarter hourly orders and block orders in one file to the MATS web client?

A: Main rule for the bulk import functionality is that it works per auction session¹ and per order type, meaning that you cannot combine e.g. linear and block orders, you would need separate bulk files.

15MTU SDAC: Concerning different durations, once multiple time units will be available for the same auction, bulk import will allow combining hourly, half-hourly and quarterly orders in the same file.

Q: Will MATS support Excel file upload? Is there other file formats which will be supported (json or xml)?

A: MATS bulk import via the web client will only support Excel file upload. JSON format is used for order submission via API.

Q: Does the bulk import of linear orders also aggregates the bids in relevant clusters?

A: No, this functionality strictly imports order(s) submitted with the correct (bidding level, portfolio, duration) combination(s).

Q: Is the Excel upload/copy and paste order layout the same format as it was in ETS? If not, are the changes significant or minor? Will we still be able to paste in stepwise linear orders from Excel?

A: Changes to the Excel copy/paste between MATS and ETS are minor. Please consult the 'MATS & ETS – Changes overview' document for more details.

2.3.2 Market results

Q: How is the difference shown in MATS between the preliminary market results (current: orange color) and the final market results (current: green color)?

A: It will follow similar design and colors, we will have a tag that will appear on the lefthand side (dark banner) of the results screen.

¹ Auction session refers to the auction being run on a given auction date (e.g. 2 auction sessions: SDAC CORE auction for delivery date 26/09/2024 and GB DA1 auction for delivery date 26/09/2024).

2.4 Project-specific questions

2.4.1 MATS Simulation

Q: During the members testing, will we get clearing results? Will we be able to get the clearing results on a daily basis?

A: Yes, you will get clearing results. We are running auctions every working day, allowing you to better plan and anticipate the reception of these clearing results during the simulation phase.

Q: Why are the orderbooks closed on the weekend? Why can I not see the results from the weekend?

A: Auctions will not be run during the Week-ends and Public Holidays – in this case, you will see that the results appear to be published, even though there will be no results available.

Q: Will simulations continue after MATS release? So that we can test further development in the future? Will there be a parallel test environment available after go live?

A: Yes, simulation environment will continue after MATS go-live.

Q: Will the testing phase allow testing for both DA and IDAs auctions?

A: That is correct, you will be able to test both DA and IDA auctions before Go-live.

2.4.2 Migration ETS to MATS

Q: Will MATS production run in parallel to ETS or will there be a hard cutover from ETS to MATS?

A: Switch from ETS to MATS will be a clean cutover, meaning that on Go-live day of the Exchange (EPEX SPOT and serviced Exchanges), we will switch all customers of the respective Exchange*.

We will open the MATS production orderbook sufficiently in advance to the Go-live to allow customers to securely place their first production orders. Throughout simulation phase, we want to give our customers sufficient time and opportunity to perform all necessary testing to ensure go-live readiness.

ETS will remain open for several days following the Go-live to allow trading participants to retrieve any historical information they may seek.

*As addressed during the webinar, we intend to do a sequential Go-live of different Exchanges migrating from ETS to MATS.

Q: When will ETS be effectively decommissioned?

A: As announced, ETS will be decommissioned after MATS goes live. This will not occur on the same day, as we will leave some contingency to secure the Go-live. During this period, we will monitor how MATS is operating to ensure successful migration of all customers and system stability. The exact dates and timeframes are subject to confirmation of Go-live date, however, ETS will be decommissioned no later than at the end of our Go-live window, i.e. 30 June 2025.

Q: How will availability of market results be handled on the switchover date?

A: You will still be able to log into ETS on the switchover date to access your results, but we do not intend to open any orderbooks on that day to avoid that someone mistakenly submits orders in ETS. For the sake of clarity, switchover will be based on trading date.

Q: Am I right to assume that ETS Test Env will remain available between now and MATS Go-Live, so that we can keep testing ETS and MATS at the same time?

A: Yes, ETS test environment will remain accessible until MATS Go-live.

2.4.3 15/30MTU in SDAC project

Q: When will MATS go live in relation with the 15MTU in SDAC project? Will it be implemented on the same day?

15MTU SDAC: 15MTU will go live in MATS, meaning that we expect MATS Go-live to happen before 15MTU Go-live. We are carefully monitoring the timeline of 15MTU project and will make sure to communicate in advance the targeted sequence.

Q: How will the move to 15-minute time unit impact block orders minimum granularity?

15MTU SDAC: No changes are expected in block configuration.

Q: Please can you explain cross product matching?

15MTU SDAC: In essence, Cross Product Matching (CPM) consists in the ability of the EUPHEMIA algorithm to match orders submitted with different time resolutions. From MATS perspective, trading system will allow submission of orders of multiple durations in the same bidding level / market segment. Market Results will be computed and published at the Market Time Unit: 15-minute.

Q: Will we be able to test different MTUs to begin with and how do we choose the MTU?

15MTU SDAC: From the opening of MATS SIMU, only one time unit will be offered for a given market segment. Ability to submit multiple time units in the same bidding level / market segment will be enabled at a later stage of the MATS simulation phase. The intention is to onboard customers to the new trading system, then follow by introducing multiple time units

in the same bidding level during simulation. We will inform our members in due course of the tests' detailed planning.

2.4.4 Miscellaneous

Q: Will Comtrader be impacted too?

A: MATS will replace ETS and will be dedicated to day-ahead and intraday auctions. Comtrader/M7 will not be impacted.

3. Serviced Exchanges

3.1 Common questions

Q: Will all ETS serviced exchanges migrate to MATS alongside EPEX? Or do they have their own timeline? Is a big bang release planned?

A: Yes, all ETS member exchanges will migrate to MATS alongside EPEX. The timelines are generally the same and further details will be provided on how we intend to organize the dedicated go-lives in a relatively short window. However, as much as possible, we will avoid migrating too many exchanges on the same day.

3.2 ADEX

Q: Some exchanges like BSP and SEEPEX do not have API for ETS. Will it change for MATS?

A: Yes, BSP and SEEPEX will start offering API access with MATS. We will start sharing API package documentation with BSP and SEEPEX customers to allow smooth onboarding.