



# A.S.K. SERVICES INTL LTD. CLIENT CATEGORIZATION POLICY

This is not a marketing material, but an informative policy for the categorization of clients and their rights

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**Risk Warning:** *CFDs are complex instruments and come with a high risk of losing money rapidly due to leverage.  
Between 74-89 % of retail investor accounts lose money when trading CFDs.  
You should consider whether you understand how CFDs work and whether you can afford to take the high risk of losing your money.*

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

1. A.S.K. Services INTL Ltd. is a Broker carrying on the services in the international forex (hereinafter referred to as the “FX”) and contract or differences (hereinafter referred to as the “CFDs”) market to retail and corporate clients (hereinafter referred to as the “Services”) in accordance with the Laws of Anguilla under Registration Number: A000002004, (hereinafter called “A.S.K. Services INTL Ltd”).
2. The Broker’s Company is incorporated in accordance with the Business Companies Act 2022, with the organizational and legal form – a limited liability company as international business companies (hereinafter referred to as “IBC”). The relevant law is contained in the Company Management Act of the Revised Statutes of Anguilla C75) and the Business Companies Act 2022 of Anguilla.
3. The Company is required to categorize its Clients into one of the following three categories: (a) retail, (b) professional or (c) eligible counterparty.
4. Therefore, when the Company is considering an application for opening an account, it will classify a prospective Client under any of the above categories based on the information provided by the said Client and notify the relevant client accordingly regarding his/her categorization.

## 2. CATEGORIES & CATEGORISATION CRITERIA

### A. **Retail Clients**

- 2.1. A “**Retail Client**” is a Client who is NOT a professional Client or an eligible counterparty (as defined below).

### B. **Professional Clients**

- 2.2. A “**Professional Client**” is a Client who possesses the experience, knowledge and expertise to make his own investment decisions and properly assess the risks that he incurs. In order to be considered a professional Client, a Client must comply with one of the following criteria:

- a. Entities which are required to be authorized or regulated to operate in the financial markets.

The list below should be understood as including all authorized entities carrying out the characteristic activities of the entities mentioned: entities authorized by a Member State, and entities authorized or regulated by a non-Member State:

- i. Credit Institutions;
- ii. Investment Firms;

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- iii. Other Authorized or regulated financial institutions;
- iv. Insurance Companies;
- v. Collective Investment Schemes and management companies of such schemes;
- vi. Pension funds and management companies of such funds;
- vii. Commodities and commodity derivatives dealers;
- viii. Locals;
- ix. Other Institutional Investors (like Portfolio Investment Companies).

b. Large undertakings meeting two of the following size requirements on a company basis:

- i. balance sheet total: USD 20.000.000,-
- ii. net turnover: USD 40.000.000,-
- iii. own funds: USD 2.000.000,-

c. National and regional governments, public bodies that manage public debt, Central Banks, international and supranational institutions such as the World Bank, the IMF, the ECB, the EIB and other similar international organizations.

d. Other institutional investors whose main activity is to invest in financial instruments, including entities dedicated to the securitization of assets or other financing transactions.

2.3. Clients who may be treated as professionals on request, following approval by the Company (please see further below under '**Request for Different Classification**').

2.4. The entities mentioned above from (2.2.a.) through (2.2.b.) are considered to be '*professionals*' in relation to all investment services and activities and financial instruments. The Clients mentioned in service or transaction, or type of transaction or product.

2.5. Professional Clients are responsible for keeping the Company informed about any change, which could affect their categorization. Should the Company become aware that the Client no longer fulfils the initial conditions which made him eligible for a professional treatment, the Company will take appropriate action.

### **C. Eligible Counterparties**

2.6. An "**Eligible Counterparty**" is any of the following entities to which an investment firm provides the services of reception and transmission of orders on behalf of Clients and/or execution of such orders and/or dealing on own account: Investment firms from Member States, credit institutions, insurance companies, Portfolio Investment Companies, pension funds and their management (2.2.c.) through (2.2d.) may be treated as professionals generally or in respect of a particular investment companies and other financial institutions authorized by a Member State or regulated under Community legislation or the national law



of a Member State, national governments and their corresponding offices, including public bodies that deal with public debt, central banks and supranational organizations.

### 3. REQUEST FOR DIFFERENT CLASSIFICATION

#### A. *Retail Clients*

- 3.1. A **“Retail Client”** has the right to request a different classification as a ‘Professional Client’, but he/she will be afforded a lower level of protection. The Company is not obliged to deal with him/her under a different classification.
- 3.2. ***Tests and Criteria:*** The Company is allowed to treat any of the retail Clients as professionals provided that the relevant criteria and procedures mentioned below are met. Any waiver of the protection afforded by the standard conduct of business regime will be effected only if an adequate assessment of the expertise, experience and knowledge of the Client, undertaken by the Company, gives reasonable assurance, in light of the nature of the transactions or services envisaged, that the Client is capable of making his own investment decisions and fully understands the risks involved.
- 3.3. The fitness test applied to managers and directors of entities licensed in the financial sector could be regarded as an example of the assessment of expertise and knowledge. In the case of small entities, the person subject to the above assessment should be the person authorized to carry out transactions on behalf of the entity.
- 3.4. In the course of the above assessment, as a minimum, two (2) of the following criteria should be satisfied:
  - a. the Client has carried out transactions, in significant size, on the relevant market at an average frequency of 10 per quarter over the previous four quarters;
  - b. the size of the Client's Financial Instruments portfolio, defined as including cash deposits and Financial Instruments exceeds USD 500.000,- ;
  - c. the Client works or has worked in the financial sector for at least one (1) year in a professional position, which requires knowledge of the transactions or services envisaged.
- 3.5. ***Procedure:*** Retail Clients may waive the benefit of the detailed rules of conduct applicable to them only where the following procedure is followed:

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- a. they must state in writing to the Company that they wish to be treated as a 'Professional Client', either generally or in respect of a particular investment service or transaction, or type of transaction or product;
- b. the Company will give them a clear written warning of the protections and investor compensation rights they may lose;
- c. they must state in writing, in a separate document from the User Agreement (business Terms and Policies), that they are aware of the consequences of losing such protections and accept them;
- d. before deciding to accept any request for waiver, the Company is required to take all reasonable steps to ensure that the Client requesting to be treated as a 'Professional Client' meets the relevant tests and criteria above.

## **B. Professional Clients**

- 3.6. A "**Professional Client**" has the right to request a different classification as a 'Retail Client' in order to obtain a higher level of protection.
- 3.7. It is the responsibility of the Client, initially considered to be a 'Professional Client', to ask for a higher level of protection when it deems it is unable to properly assess or manage the risks involved. This higher level of protection will be provided when a Client, who is considered to be a 'Professional Client', enters into a written agreement with the Company to the effect that it shall not be treated as a 'Professional Client' for the purposes of the applicable conduct of business regime. Such agreement will specify whether this applies to one or more particular services or transactions, or to one or more types of products or transactions.

## **C. Eligible Counterparties**

- 3.8. An "**Eligible Counterparty**" has the right to request a different classification either as a 'Professional Client' or as a 'Retail Client' in order to obtain a higher level of protection. According to the Investment Services and Activities and Regulated Markets Law, the Company is not obliged to deal with the Client on this basis.
- 3.9. Should you have a question about this Client Categorization Policy, please direct your questions to our Compliance Department: [ask@askservicesintl.com](mailto:ask@askservicesintl.com).