

CNMV PUBLISHES HANDBOOK ON THE AUTHORISATION PROCESS OF FOREIGN INVESTMENT FIRMS SEEKING TO MOVE TO SPAIN

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- The handbook contains an explanatory guide on the fast-track authorisation process, which is one of the measures included in the *Welcome to Spain* programme launched by the CNMV last December.
- The handbook is fully in English and includes an extract of the relevant legislation and samples of the standard preauthorisation and authorisation forms.
- It also contains a guide for the authorisation of broker-dealers, securities brokers and portfolio management companies.

The Spanish National Securities Market Commission (CNMV) has prepared a <u>Handbook</u> in English on the fast-track authorisation process of investment firms, which forms part of the measures included in its <u>Welcome to Spain</u> programme which purpose is to attract EU financial institutions, especially those based in the UK, seeking a new base in the European Union as a result of Brexit.

The handbook explains the key features of the fast-track authorisation process, which consists of an initial pre-authorisation phase lasting two weeks and a second formal authorisation phase taking at most two months. The pre-authorisation phase is designed to offer comfort to institutions in the sense that no significant obstacles to formal authorisation within the aforementioned two-month period have been found, provided that the legally required documentation is substantially presented.

The handbook includes a translation into English of the key legislation and samples of the standard pre-authorisation and authorisation forms. It also includes a guide to facilitate and simplify the authorisation process for broker-dealers, securities brokers and portfolio management companies.

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The CNMV's Welcome to Spain programme offers a fast-track authorisation process for financial institutions based in the United Kingdom or any other member State of the European Union interested in a move to Spain, as well as the services of an Englishspeaking coach to guide and assist them throughout the process and the option to file all of the requisite documents electronically and in English.

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