Press information

23 June 2011

Nucleus enhances platform proposition

Nucleus, the IFA-owned and controlled wrap platform, has introduced a new business process designed to create a more flexible and streamlined proposition for advisers and their clients.

The improved process, which has been developed in conjunction with member IFA firms, is available now and includes a range of enhancements including:

- Streamlined processing: key top-ups saving time and effort
- Paperless business submission: reduced paperwork
- Pre-population of forms for new business and transfers
- Multiple investment pots for each tax wrapper, enabling more sophisticated financial planning

Commenting on the launch, Wendy Taylor, FA Watts Investment Managers, said: "Overall, our impressions of the new business process are very good. It makes life a lot easier and is a definite improvement to the platform. Being able to add prospective clients is great, as often you're just waiting on one thing and can't get the client onto the system. As with most of the other changes being implemented, it's going to save us a lot of time. It just streamlines and improves the system."

Nucleus chief operating officer Andrew Smith said: "By introducing this new process, we have been able to streamline our proposition and enhance the experience for both our member IFAs and their clients. So far the feedback we have received from advisers has been overwhelmingly positive.

"The paperless top-ups is another enhancement that is also proving popular as it speeds up the investment process and is a great time-saving technique for advisers. All in all, our new processes are much easier to use and provide advisers with an even more efficient feel to our proposition."

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Notes to editors:

New business process:

Feature	Change
Multi Account creation	Multi account creation allows you to make applications for more than one account at the same time, e.g. buy an Isa for several clients at the same time.
Pre-population of forms	Pre-population of forms means that key forms such as transfer and re-registration authorities are populated and can be printed out.
Paperless top ups	Paperwork is significantly reduced as a wet signature is only required on client declarations.
Additional data capture	Additional data capture allows information such as retirement age and nationality to be added.
Asset selection tool	The asset selection tool is a simplified mechanism for finding assets and creating investment direction. It will now work in the same way as model portfolio self-service, where you can put in any part of the asset name and the search will return any asset with those characters. This means that you no longer have to scroll through a large drop-down list to find the asset you're looking for.
Designation	Additional data fields have been added for designated accounts. So, for example, you can now label an account 'school fees'.
Preview before submission	A summary screen is now available which will allow you to review the application before you submit. This will allow you to make changes and correct errors, meaning greater accuracy and less re-work.
Streamlining of submission	Instead of having to go through every screen each time you submit new business, you now only have to go through the screens applicable to the type of application you are submitting, saving time and effort. For example, if the application contains a transfer only, you can select this option at the start of the application and the screens containing re-registrations, payments and withdrawals will not be displayed.

About Nucleus

Nucleus Financial Group is an online wrap based business platform.

Nucleus was founded in 2006 by a number of high quality IFAs who shared a commitment to create a market where advisors have the infrastructure and desire to place the client centre stage.

Since foundation Nucleus has established itself as a major force for change in the market. It is now a community of IFA businesses who through ownership and control of the business process seek to create a better customer experience.

The management team is led by David Ferguson chief executive, and offers extensive experience across all areas of the UK retail financial services market.

In 2010, Nucleus' IFA-firm total reached 80 and the platform also broke the £2bn AUM barrier.