

# Asset Control

*The information in this profile was provided by Asset Control*

## Service description

Asset Control provides centralised data management solutions for financial institutions worldwide. From business entity-wide to firm-wide projects, Asset Control offers strategic reference and market data platforms that deliver the accuracy, consistency and relevancy firms need to reduce costs and risk, manage evolving compliance needs, and accelerate the delivery of new products and services.

Asset Control's AC Plus and TAPMaster help financial institutions to optimise their data infrastructures, enhance decision-making, and reduce complexity.

### AC Plus

AC Plus provides financial services companies with a solution to control the tremendous volume of data flowing through their organisations. Its comprehensive data integration, enrichment and cleansing capabilities provide high-quality, consistent reference and pricing data for cross-asset investment strategies, compliance, regulatory reporting and risk. AC Plus's customisable data enrichment and workflow rules support efficient exception handling while giving the transparency business users demand. AC Plus's flexible connectivity allows rapid integration with other decision support tools and is ideally suited to organisations seeking to provide a centralised data management service.

AC Plus is an N tier application with a Java-based graphical user interface (GUI). Its desktop GUI is a modular tool for data managers, cleansers and modellers supporting the entire data management process. The desktop can be extended with additional modules to help meet diverse business needs within an organisation. The desktop sits above the server, which queries databases running on Oracle or Sybase in either a UNIX or Linux environment.

### TAPMaster

TAPMaster is a rapid deployment data access and management product focused on capital markets. Flexible and highly scalable, it is designed to empower business users and increase productivity by providing transparent acquisition, management and distribution of reference and financial data. TAPMaster can be deployed as a standalone tool for decision support, as a data server for business applications, or as part of a centralised data management platform.

TAPMaster is ideally suited to organisations seeking to reduce time to market for new business initiatives. TAPMaster is a modular, MS Windows-based product that uses a web-based GUI connected to a Microsoft SQL Server database.

## Market data sources

Off-the-shelf interfaces are available for the following data sources.

Asset Control data vendor interfaces
Bloomberg Data Licence (incl PerSecurity and Back Office)
Capco GIM/GEM (Global Index/ETF Monitor)
Dominion DBRS
DTCC/Accenture GCA (Global Corporate Actions)
eMBS Mortgage Factor Service
Fitch RDS
FTID/IDC FTS
FTID/IDC Fundrun
FTID/IDC IDSI
FTID/IDC Muniview
FTID/IDC SIRS
ICAP Information Services
ISO 15022 MT564/MT568
London Stock Exchange Sedol Master File
Markit Data
Markit Equity
Markit RED (Reference Entity Directory)
Moody's RDS (Ratings Delivery Service)
MSCI/S&P GICS Direct (Global Industry Classification Standard)
FINRA Trace
Options Clearing Corporation Encore DDS
OptionMetrics Ivy DB
Reuters DataScope Equities
Reuters EJV GOVCORP
Reuters EJV MORT
Reuters EJV NEWCMO
Reuters Selectfeed
Standard & Poors Crosswalk Bulk
Standard & Poors Crosswalk Portfolio
Standard & Poors Cusip DB
Standard & Poors ISIDPlus db
Standard & Poors Ratings Xpress
Swaps Monitor Holiday Calendar
Telekurs VDF (Valoren Datafeed)
Thomson Financial Datastream DDL
Thomson Financial MMD
Wertpapier Mitteilungen WM Datenfeed VF-1

## Implementation/installation methodology

Asset Control's project managers and IT consultants are located across Europe, North America and the Asia Pacific region to serve clients with local resources wherever possible. Asset Control's methodology includes well-defined implementation phases to enhance implementation quality, time to market and budget control. Because of Asset Control's extensive track record in delivering solutions across buy side, sell side and service providers, we can provide predictability and significantly reduce the implementation risk that is often typical of larger projects. During these implementation phases, emphasis is placed on expectation management, knowledge transfer, scope control and on-time delivery. Both AC Plus and TAPMaster use the same services infrastructure.

Asset Control's implementation methodology generally consists of four phases:

- *Phase 1: analysis and design* – this involves gathering all of the information required to successfully create a prototype in the construction phase. The time will vary depending on the size of the project. Good estimates for the construction phase are given if the technical design documents are created and signed off by the client. Required resources consist of business analysts, an architect, users and IT consultants.
- *Phase 2: prototype construction/workshop* – in this phase, Asset Control configures the system to conform to the business requirements addressed in Phase 1. The product is presented to the customer, who confirms that the business requirements and system configuration conform to their needs. If changes are required, they are detailed in this phase and altered in the final construction.
- *Phase 3: final construction* – all alterations are finalised and a production build is constructed.
- *Phase 4: deployment and support* – migration and roll-out schedules are implemented. Users are trained on the system and general helpdesk support begins.

## Fault reporting and resolution

Support for all Asset Control products is provided through the Asset Control support and maintenance agreement. First-line support is provided by the Asset Control call centre facilities in the US and Netherlands for AC Plus, and in Canada for TAPMaster. Second- and third-line support is provided by our product and data R&D teams or professional services consultants, depending on the nature of the issue.

## Upgrades

Asset Control releases three types of software update:

- Major releases (5.0, 6.0 etc) containing significant design and feature enhancements.
- Minor releases (5.1, 5.2, etc) containing minor feature enhancements.
- Patches identified by a build number for interim bug fixes.

The release schedule is approximately every two years for major releases, once or twice a year for minor releases, with patches released as required.

New software releases as well as release notes and change logs are made available to our customers through the Asset Control user website. Asset Control customers are notified of new releases by email and by their account managers. In addition to this, customers are kept abreast of new product plans via quarterly customer advisory board meetings which also offer them a forum to give product input and feedback at an early stage.

## Commercial model

### Licence fees

AC Plus is provided either under a fixed-term licence or on an annual subscription-based licence, in both cases based on the modules and components required to meet the customer's specific data management needs, with consideration given to the types and complexity of instruments supported, and the volume and global scope of instrument sourcing and distribution. TAPMaster is currently supplied on an annual subscription licence, with consideration given to the size of the business supported, the number of data sources, and the functional modules required.

### Support and maintenance

Support and maintenance service is an annual fee based on the initial licence fee or – in the case of subscription pricing – is included in the annual fee. Clients are entitled to all upgrades on the modules licensed.

### Professional services

Professional services are based on the number of onsite and off-site resources that are utilised within an AC Plus and/or TAPMaster implementation and configuration.

### Training

Asset Control offers a comprehensive set of classroom and e-learning-based courses on various products. These courses can be provided either at the customer site or in our Asset Control learning centre in the Netherlands.