

IBIA publishes data standards & opens application process

27 October 2020: The International Betting Integrity Association (IBIA) has published a set of standards governing the procedure for the collation of sporting event data for betting and opened a process for all parties engaged in data collation to demonstrate that they meet those standards. The auditing procedure will be conducted by industry specialist eCOGRA and those parties that pass that independent audit will have access to a Data Standards Kitemark.

The move follows an announcement by the association in May in which it stated that a set of standards would be the most effective means of protecting the integrity of sport, its data, betting markets generated by that data and consumers enjoying those products. IBIA, which represents many of the leading regulated sports betting operators in the world, has been concerned about the adverse impact of the manipulation of data and the related corruption of betting markets.

Khalid Ali, CEO of IBIA, said: "When we started this process I stated that upholding the reliability and credibility of sporting event data was of paramount importance for IBIA members and that the challenges posed by the pandemic had further highlighted the necessity for robust data chains. IBIA has sought to meet that integrity challenge and has put in place a set of data standards that reflects the minimum expectations of the association and its members.

"The association believes that data collation is an important part of the wider sports betting integrity debate and this standards and auditing process, to be conducted by leading independent and internationally approved testing agency eCOGRA, represents the next step in the association's work in this area. We call upon all of those parties engaged in the data collation process to demonstrate that they meet these standards and of their commitment to protecting the integrity of the global data supply chain."

Shaun McCallaghan, CEO of eCOGRA said: "We are delighted to have been chosen as IBIA's data standards auditing partner. Our professional auditing experts have worked with companies operating in both the betting and data sectors, and eCOGRA will seek to utilise that industry knowledge to best effect in the data standards assessment process. We will also be assisting IBIA in an annual stress test and enhancement of those standards."

The International Betting Integrity Association is the leading global voice on integrity for the licensed betting industry. It is run by operators for operators, protecting its members from corruption through collective action. Its monitoring and alert platform is a highly effective anti-corruption tool that detects and reports suspicious activity on its members' betting markets. The association has longstanding information sharing partnerships with leading sports and gambling regulators to utilise its data and prosecute corruption. It represents the sector at high-level policy discussion forums such as the IOC, UN, Council of Europe and European Commission.

The Data Standards document is available [here](#) and the initial press release [here](#). An auditing process and timeline has been agreed with eCOGRA and is available to applicants via IBIA. IBIA publishes quarterly reports covering the integrity alerts reported through its

monitoring and alert platform which can be viewed [here](#). The association can be contacted via info@ibia.bet.

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About the International Betting Integrity Association

The International Betting Integrity Association is the leading global voice on integrity for the licensed betting industry. Our members share a common goal of combating betting corruption to protect the integrity of sport and their businesses. Established in 2005 and formerly known as ESSA, we are a not for profit association whose members include many of the world's largest regulated betting operators, active across six continents. Members undergo a rigorous due diligence process and must adhere to our code of conduct committing them to responsible betting practices.

The International Betting Integrity Association's Monitoring & Alert Platform is a highly effective anti-corruption tool that detects and reports suspicious activity on its members' betting markets. The bespoke system tracks transactional activity linked to individual consumer accounts, clearly distinguishing it from commercial monitoring systems focused on simple odds movements. The association has longstanding information sharing partnerships with leading sports bodies including FIFA, UEFA, the TIU and the IOC and many gambling regulators to utilise this data and prosecute corruption. The association maintains a policy of transparency and publishes quarterly integrity reports analysing activity reported on the Platform.

About eCOGRA

Founded 2003 to establish and improve operational standards and player safety requirements in the online gambling space, eCOGRA has amassed a wealth of experience in implementing international best practice standards and requirements and ensuring these are maintained through regular review and monitoring.

eCOGRA acts as a regulatory audit partner to over 200 multi-jurisdictional operators, software providers and other relevant service providers in the online gambling industry. The independent testing laboratory is staffed by a team of professional auditors with Big 4 auditing firm experience, information security experts, test engineers and responsible gambling specialists.

eCOGRA is the only online gambling testing laboratory authorised to offer operators and service providers accredited ISO/IEC 27001 certifications for ISMS and Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) services. The company is an approved testing laboratory with several online gambling jurisdictions.

The organisation has been awarded the United Kingdom Accreditation Service's (UKAS) ISO accreditation ISO/IEC 17025:2017: General Requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories for Great Britain, Denmark, Sweden and Switzerland. It also holds ISO/IEC 17021-1:2015 accreditation, which is a prerequisite for carrying out third-party ISO/IEC 27001 audits and accredited certifications of ISMS, together with UKAS accreditations for ISO/IEC 17020:2012 and ISO/IEC 17065:2012.

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For more information about eCOGRA's testing and certification services, please visit www.ecogra.org

