

SIMM[™] - what questions should your firm be ready to answer?

- Have you scheduled a meeting with your prudential regulator to discuss gaining permission from them to use SIMM™?
- Governance does your proposed risk policy and governance framework meet the key regulatory requirements such that neither will be an impediment to you using SIMMTM?
- Can you make a coherent case for why the generic ISDA SIMM[™] backtesting output supports your request to use SIMM[™] for your own bilateral business?
- Have you produced your own portfolio specific backtesting output? Will the dataset utilized pass regulatory scrutiny in terms of integrity?
- Can you make a coherent validation case for using SIMM™ for your own bilateral derivatives business based on this backtesting output?
- Can you benchmark SIMM™ against an appropriate VaR model to monitor its level versus an equivalent CCP risk measure (DCO monitoring)?
- Are you confident of repeating this backtesting process on a quarterly basis and the validation process on an annual basis?
- If you gain permission to use SIMM[™], are you confident of meeting the regulatory required, monitoring and backtesting requirements on an on-going basis?
- Are you confident your use of SIMM™ could operate reliably and to minimum regulatory requirements through a market or counterparty stress event?

Any firm wishing to 'gain and maintain' compliance to use SIMM™ to calculate initial margin for its bilateral derivative relationships will need to navigate the above issues both prior to using the model then on an ongoing basis as per regulatory requirements.

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