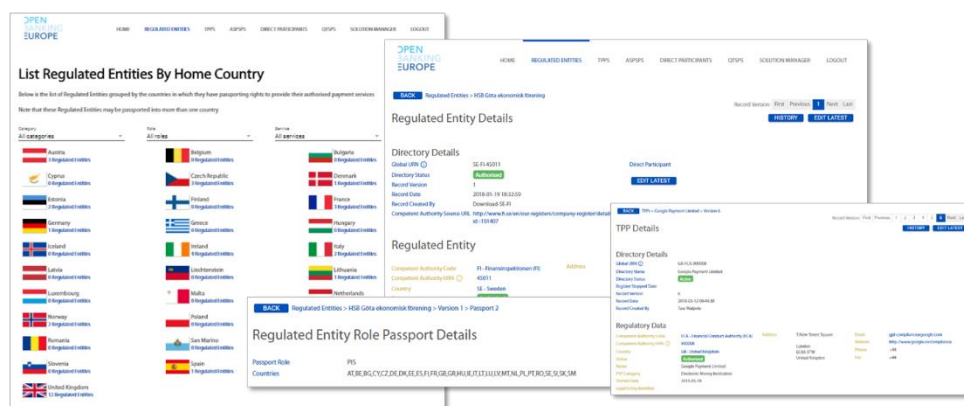


The Open Banking Europe Directory

Product Description for ASPSPs

The Open Banking Europe Directory provides a single & compliant source of standardised information for ASPSPs about the active Regulated Entities that can perform Access To Account (XS2A) services in Europe.



Why Has The Directory Been Created?

Under PSD2, Account Servicing Payment Services Providers (ASPSPs) are obliged to allow Payment Service Providers (PSPs) with the appropriate payment services authorisations to access their customer accounts and to prevent access to any organisation without these authorisations.

Any failure to properly authenticate these PSPs will risk unauthorised transactions or unauthorised data sharing and later claims under PSD2, or the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

So, how will this authentication take place? The common understanding is that ASPSPs will use:



For identification, i.e. understanding whether a party is actually the party they claim to be.



National Competent Authority Registers

For authorisation, i.e. understanding whether a party is regulated and what they are authorised to do.

How Does The Directory Support PSD2 XS2A?

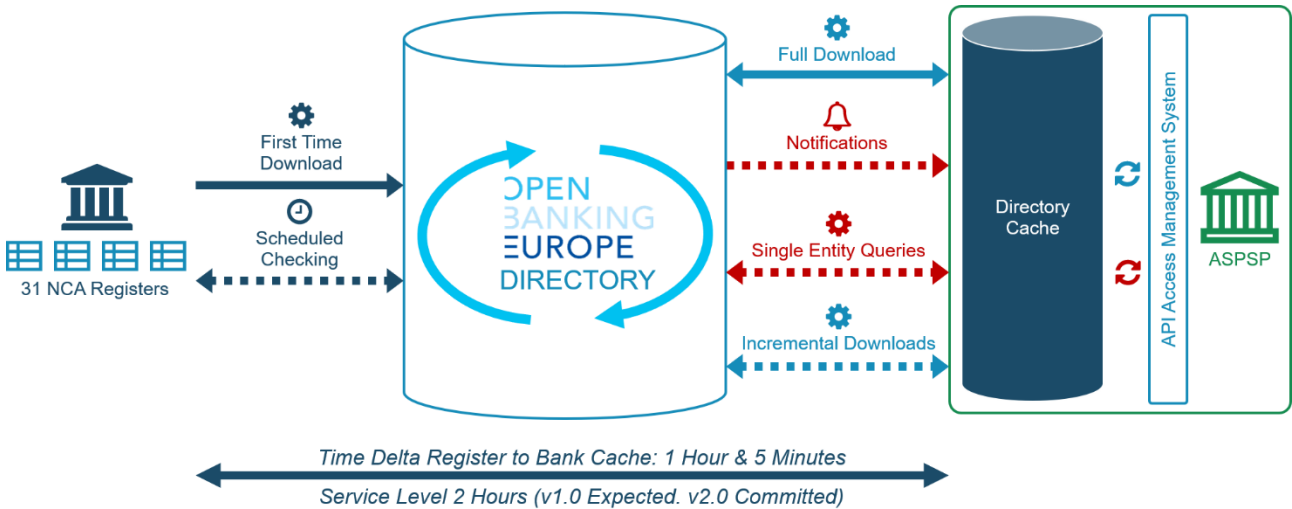
The Directory provides a [single, standardised reference point](#) for ASPSPs. ASPSPs can use the Directory to accurately identify which Third Party Providers (TPPs) are authorised to access their interfaces and which roles and services they are authorised to perform on behalf of their customers.

All of the information available in the Directory can be easily accessed either by using the [secure, browser-based Graphical User Interface \(GUI\)](#) or by downloading using [the Directory's Application Programming Interface \(API\)](#), giving ASPSPs access to the latest XS2A information, whenever they need it.

How Does The Directory Work?

Regulatory Data

ASPSPs can download a cache of the Directory's Regulatory Data straight into their local systems using the Directory's Application Programming Interface (API) or view the data in its' Graphical User Interface (GUI):



First Time Register Downloads: There are 31 National Competent Authority Registers, containing 4000 to 6000 Regulated Entities in total. As soon as a new Register becomes available, the Directory will access it and download its data, in accordance with an agreed 'Register Specification' document to standardise and format the data.

Hourly Register Checking: After the initial download, the Directory checks every Register once an hour by default for any changes to the Regulatory Data. Those changes are then integrated into the Directory.

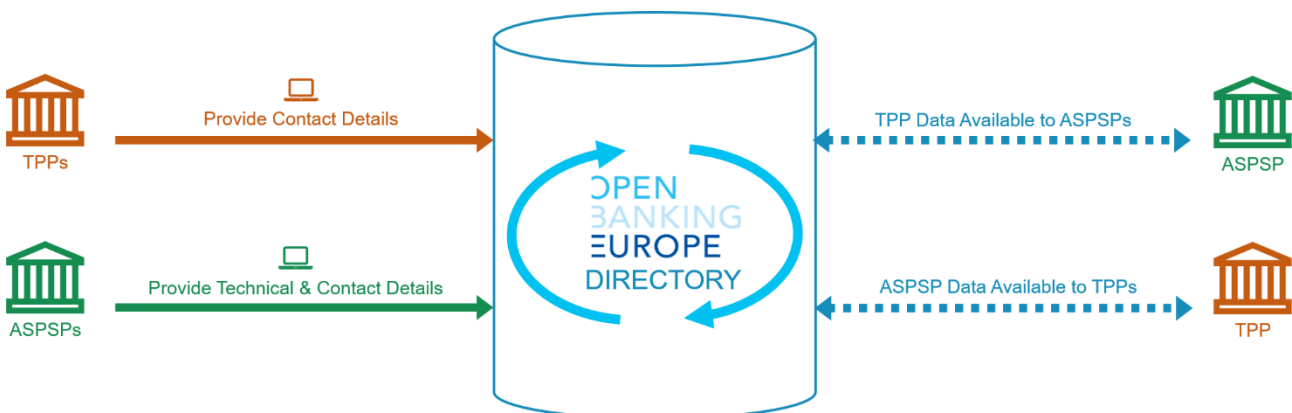
Full Directory Downloads: ASPSPs can download a full cache of the Directory's Regulatory Data. Once this cache is in place, ASPSPs can use queries and incremental downloads to keep the cache up-to-date.

Single Entity Queries: If critical data changes, the Directory automatically sends a notification, so that ASPSPs can download the change.

Incremental Directory Downloads: For non-critical data changes, ASPSPs should periodically refresh their local cache. OBE recommends that Directory Users refresh the data each day at end-of-day.

Operational Data

The Directory also allows ASPSPs to add the technical and contact details that TPPs can use to set up their technical access to customer accounts and to access the TPP contact details needed to interact with TPPs.



ASPSP Operational Data: ASPSPs can add details of their technical set-up to access customer accounts for every brand, including all their API information and contact details. TPPs can then retrieve this data.

TPP Operational Data: TPPs can add the specific details about their applications or brands into the Directory, including any contact details to use to resolve issues. ASPSPs can then retrieve this data.

What Are The Directory's Benefits?



Verify the Regulatory Access Rights of TPPs

ASPSPs can access and download the latest Regulatory Data available in the Directory, extracted from the 31 National Competent Authority Registers across Europe.



View & Retrieve TPP Operational Data

ASPSPs can use Directory to find the TPP contact details that they need by application or brand, in order to notify them of changes, or to contact them in case of incidents.



Add Your ASPSP Operational Data

ASPSPs can add the technical details required to enable TPPs to set up access to their customers' accounts, as well as the appropriate contact details for every brand and/or service.

What Directory Environments Are Available?

The [Directory's Test environment](#) provides access to the Directory's dummy Regulatory Data, Operational Data, and notifications, as well as onboarding, training, testing, and live support.

The [Directory's Production \(live\) environment](#) provides consolidated access to all the available Regulatory Data in Europe, as well as critical data notifications, Operational Data, and live support.

What Technical Features Are Available In The Directory?

The Directory includes the following features:



Regulatory Data API

Securely download all of the Directory's available Regulatory Data into your own local cache.



Browser-Based Interface

Use the GUI to search, filter, and view the Directory's Regulatory and Operational Data.



Real-Time Notifications

Be notified as soon as critical Regulatory Data changes, so you can update your local cache.



Versioning & Audit Logs

Compare, monitor, and track historical Regulated Entity and Operational Data changes.



ASPSP Operational Data

Add your developer and contact details to enable TPPs to set up access to customer accounts.



TPP Operational Data

Access & retrieve TPP Operational Data for the right contacts for updates and issue resolution.



Dual User Verification

Ensure that any changes to your Directory data are checked by another user before implementation.



Data Security

Access to the Directory's APIs is securely controlled using API Keys, with any data returned signed.

What Operational Features Does The Directory Have?

The following operational features are in place to support the Directory:



Live Support

The Directory has a live Helpdesk available during working hours, to answer your queries.



Business Continuity

The Directory adopts high levels of security, with robust backup and recovery measures.



Performance

The Directory will be scaled up to efficiently manage any usage and data volume increases.



Availability

The Directory is available 24/7¹, so Directory Users can access the data whenever they need it.

¹ Excluding any downtime for essential maintenance, which will be communicated to Directory Users in advance

What Are The Directory's ASPSP Service Levels?

	Service Level
Directory Availability	24 hours a day, seven days a week, excluding any downtime for essential maintenance or incident resolution
Directory Incremental Register Checking	Once an hour, between 06:00 to 20:00 CET, Monday to Friday, or as defined by 'Register Specification' document
Directory Regulatory Data Update Availability ¹	Within 2 hours of identification in the Public Register
Directory Regulatory Data Changes Made	Between 06:00 to 20:00 CET, Monday to Friday
Directory Concurrent Full Downloads by Participants	Up to 10
OBE Helpdesk Working Hours ²	09:00 to 18:00 CET, Monday to Friday
OBE Helpdesk Ticket Response Times ³	Within 24 hours
Directory Incident Logging ³	Within 30 minutes of the incident being identified
Directory Incident Participant Notification ³	Within 1 hour of the incident being identified
Directory Incident Actions Initiated ³	Within 24 hours of the incident being identified
Directory Incident Resolution	Continuous best effort shall be applied until all identified incident actions are complete and the incident is resolved
Directory Incident Resolution Participant Notification ³	As soon as the incident has been resolved

¹ Assuming that the Data is available in the Register between 06:00 to 20:00 CET, Monday to Friday

² The OBE Helpdesk is closed on Saturdays, Sundays, and on the following public holidays in all participating countries: 01 January, Good Friday, and Easter Monday (according to the calendar used by Western Christianity), 01 May, 25 December, and 26 December

³ Within normal OBE Helpdesk working hours

What Are The Directory's ASPSP Usage Limits?

	Recommendation	Limit
Full Directory Download	Once	12 times a year
Incremental Directory Download	Once a day	When notified + twice a day
Single Directory Query	When notified	When notified + 10 times a day
Searching, Listing & Viewing Information	As required	No limit applied
Adding, Editing & Deleting Information	As required	No limit applied

What Are The Directory's Licensing & Access Options?

There are two types of participant who can access the Directory:



Licensees must be Regulated Entities and acquire their License from OBE. They will access the Directory through a Directory Distributor, who will either be themselves or a registered third party.



Directory Distributors are typically Banking Groups or Service Providers that manage data for multiple entities. They can purchase their specific package from OBE and access the Directory on behalf of Licensees to whom they provide services, including themselves.

What Will I Receive If I Join The Directory Today?

Once you have confirmed your requirements and signed your Directory contract with OBE, you will receive:

- ✓ A **Directory License**, to share the Directory between you and your subsidiaries.
- ✓ **Connection to the Directory**, including API and GUI access, notifications, and support.
- ✓ **Onboarding Support**, with a testing program and training to get you started with the Directory.

Where Can I Find Out More?

To learn more about the Open Banking Europe Directory, talk to OBE today or visit our website:



<https://www.openbankingeurope.eu/>