

## 2019 SILA National Education Conference

New CRD System Capabilities, Firm Benefits and Registered Representative Interface

September 2019



- The current version of CRD was introduced in 1999, and we just passed the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the product.
- The time has come to replace the technology and in doing so, FINRA viewed this as an opportunity to think bigger than just building the same thing again.
- We are currently in the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of our four-year transformation.
- FINRA has set ambitious goals.
- This transformation represents a three-pronged approach:
  - Move to technology that unleashes faster delivery, higher quality and more innovation;
  - Move to the cloud, which offers unlimited growth at lower costs;
     and
  - Move to a user-centric modern experience that focuses on the users of the system, not just meeting the letter of the law.

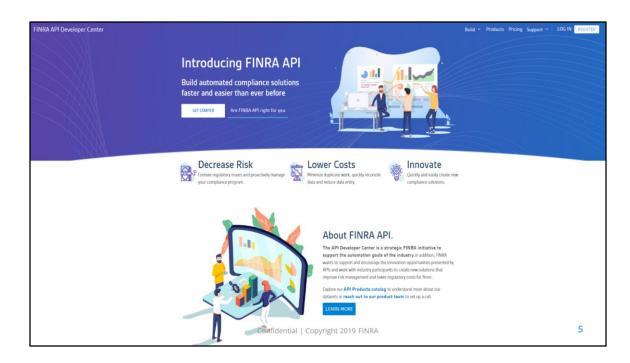


- During the first part of the transformation, much of the work was foundational.
  - · Migrating to the cloud
  - Getting old data ready for a new CRD
  - Getting feedback about where change/improvement is most needed
  - Working out the scope of what we can do
  - Working on the details of some of the newer concepts
    - Activities
    - New individual profile
  - Working with other regulators
    - FINRA
    - States
- · But today, we get to announce new stuff



- First, we are introducing a new dynamic data reporting capability.
- Firms of all shapes, sizes, business models and regions have said, "Make reporting better!"
  - Why do I have to run data month by month?
  - Get the data out. Why is it locked away in a pdf?
  - Why do I have to get an ad hoc report when all I want is a new column?
- At the end of this month, we are going to open up our new dynamic reporting functionality.
- However, "reporting" as a description undersells this new capability.
- The new dynamic reporting feature lets you explore the information about your firm.
- DEMO Highlights included:
  - Report Templates
  - Adding/Removing Columns
  - Sorting
  - Filtering
  - Grouping
  - Exporting
  - Saving Custom Templates

- Firms are investing in automation, and FINRA wants to support those investments.
- FINRA is launching developer.finra.org as part of our commitment to supporting firms' (and their vendors') automation and enabling firms to integrate our data into their applications
- In October, FINRA will relaunch the public developer.finra.org website.
- Additionally, we will introduce a sandbox to allow firms and vendors to signup and try these new APIs (test data).
- We intend to make available the first new production APIs in December.



• Screen shot of the new developer.finra.org site



- FinPro has been available for the past 18 months or so in a soft launch.
- Starting this week, we began actively communicating the official FinPro rollout.
- Today, FInPro consolidates a number of capabilities that were previously dispersed across FINRA.
- However, FinPro will become a fundamental part of a registered professional's experience.
- Your firm will have the ability to collaborate with your professionals on providing necessary information and conducting regulatory transactions
- You professionals will be able to complete CE in FinPro.
- Additionally, FinPro will be a valuable tool for individuals before and after their time registered in the industry.



- In 1999, Web CRD launched and brought a paper form onto the web, but it still feels like you are dealing with a paper form.
- We want to take advantage of digital data collection
- To do that, we are separating the form that is produced from the data collection experience
- But we have some constraints:
  - We must stay within the scope of the existing form questions/fields & instructions.
  - We can break a question/field into multiple questions if they remain logically equivalent.
  - Guided conditional logic is acceptable as long as the users are still shown all the questions.
  - Replacing references to questions with the full text is acceptable.
  - Help text will consist of guidance that is already approved.
  - The "Legal Form View" must be viewed prior to form submission in certain cases and viewable to the user in all cases.
    - Initial submissions and any disclosure changes <u>require</u> the user to view the full legal form prior to submission.
    - Amendments that do not add or modify disclosure information provide the

option to view the legal form.

- Regardless of the type of change, the legal form will be available as a historical filing.
- This is primarily an exercise to improve user experience in FINRA web-based systems. We want to minimize change to our EFT firms and supporting vendors.
- We have been demonstrating this during in-person and virtual roundtables. Feedback has been extremely positive.
- The new U4 is targeted for the middle of 2020.



- The DXT initiative is the latest outgrowth of the ongoing FINRA360 organizational improvement initiative.
- The project has incorporated feedback from the industry collected during a series
  of focus groups with firms, as well as a survey of more than 50 firms. We learned a
  lot about how the industry interacts with FINRA for compliance information and
  management, and how the processes can be improved.
- The transformation will be implemented in stages through 2022. It is focused on six areas:
  - Efficiency Centralized task management designed to help compliance professionals do their work faster and at lower cost;
  - Proactive Compliance Actionable notifications for early warning of issues;
  - Simplified Experience Customized and personalized user experience tailored to the role of the user;
  - Enhanced Interaction Centralized workspace to facilitate interaction with FINRA staff;
  - Flexibility and Automation Easier machine-to-machine integration with firm systems, plus enhanced access to FINRA compliance data;
  - Self Service Access to online knowledge base and contextual support.



- While the Registration Systems Transformation (RST) kicked off before the overarching DXT effort, these efforts are coming together as they have overlapping values and goals.
- We no longer want you to have to think about which FINRA application you need to use to complete work; rather, we will just "go to FINRA to accomplish the necessary tasks."
- Over the next several months, you will see the first public pieces of DXT.
- Ultimately, the new CRD will evolve into the new FINRA Gateway.
- This transformation is expected to occur in April of 2020



- The next item we are focusing on is how you will interact with FINRA. We will begin outreach for feedback shortly.
- Rethinking how we interact with firms includes investigating how we collect information.
- Some of this data collection work will also bring efficiencies to FINRA: reduced errors means less items to review.



- This transformation is being driven by the needs of the industry.
- We appreciate the positive feedback we have heard and the willingness of the industry to engage with us in ensuring we build the right product for the industry.
- We continue to need feedback and your participation.
- There are numerous opportunities to engage, including:
  - Roundtables,
  - Virtual feedback, and
  - one-on-one conversations
- Go to www.finra.org/newcrd and www.finra.org/dxt for opportunities to participate.