

CSA Staff Notice 11-312 (Revised)

National Numbering System

December 12, 2024¹

The Canadian Securities Administrators (CSA) follows a system in which securities regulatory instruments are assigned numbers that indicate the type and subject matter of the instrument.

The numbering system was designed so as to:

- (i) convey as much information as possible about the particular instrument so that a user knows what type of instrument it is, whether the instrument is national, multilateral or local and what subject matter it relates to;
- (ii) permit all National² Instruments/Multilateral Instruments, National Policies/Multilateral Policies and CSA Notices to have the same numbers in all jurisdictions (as is currently the case); and
- (iii) be flexible enough to permit Local Rules, Policies, Notices and implementing instruments of all jurisdictions to be numbered in accordance with the numbering system without affecting the numbering of National Instruments/Multilateral Instruments, National Policies/Multilateral Policies and CSA Notices³.

Under the numbering system, each instrument is assigned a five-digit number, with a hyphen appearing between the second and third digit. There are four components to the number assigned to a document:

- The first digit represents the broad subject area.
- The second digit represents a sub-category of the broad subject area.
- The third digit represents the type of the document.
- The last two digits represent the number of the document within its document type in its sub-category (in sequential order starting at 01).

More specifically, these four components may be described as follows:

- The **first** digit relates to the subject matter category into which the instrument has been classified. The nine subject matter categories are:

¹ This Notice adds information on the numbering of CSA coordinated blanket orders and is a revised version of CSA Staff Notice 11-312, as published on February 6, 2009 and revised on February 19, 2010 and on January 29, 2015.

² A National Instrument or Policy is an instrument or policy that has been adopted by all CSA jurisdictions, whereas a Multilateral Instrument or Policy is an instrument or policy that has not been adopted by one or more CSA jurisdictions.

³ In Québec, all National Instruments, Multilateral Instruments and Rules are referred to as Regulations and all National Policies and Companion Policies are referred to as Policy Statements.

1. Procedures and Related Matters
2. Certain Capital Market Participants (Self-Regulatory Organizations, Exchanges and Market Operations)
3. Registration Requirements and Related Matters (Dealers, Advisers and other Registrants)
4. Distribution Requirements (Prospectus Requirements and Prospectus Exemptions)
5. Ongoing Requirements for Issuers and Insiders (Continuous Disclosure)
6. Take-over Bids and Special Transactions
7. Securities Transactions Outside the Jurisdiction
8. Investment Funds
9. Derivatives

For example, in the context of 54-101, the number “5” indicates that the instrument relates to Ongoing Requirements for Issuers and Insiders.

- The **second** digit relates to the sub-category of the subject matter category into which the instrument has been classified (see the “sub-category” column of the table below).

Using the 54-101 example, within the Ongoing Requirements for Issuers and Insiders category, a sub-category for instruments dealing with Proxy Solicitation is denoted by the number “4”. Accordingly, all instruments dealing with this matter commence with the numbers “54”.

- The **third** digit classifies the document as one of nine types of documents:
 1. National Instrument/Multilateral Instrument and any related Companion Policy or Form(s)
 2. National Policy/Multilateral Policy
 3. CSA Notice
 4. CSA Concept Proposal or Discussion Paper
 5. Local Rule, Regulation or Blanket Order or Ruling and any related Companion Policy or Form(s), except an Implementing Instrument described below.
 6. Local Policy
 7. Local Notice
 8. Implementing Instrument⁴
 9. Miscellaneous

Using the same example, the third digit in 54-101 indicates that the type of instrument is a National Instrument or Multilateral Instrument (or a related Companion Policy or Form).

- The **fourth** and **fifth** digits represent a number assigned to instruments of the same type in consecutive order from 01 to 99 within a particular sub-category.

⁴ For this purpose, an Implementing Instrument is a local rule making consequential changes relating to the implementation of a National Instrument/Multilateral Instrument.

Again, using the example 54-101, the number “01” indicates that the instrument is the first document of its type in the sub-category “Proxy Solicitation”.

A Companion Policy or Form that is related to an Instrument or Local Rule will have the same number as the Instrument or Local Rule to which it relates, followed by “F” in the case of a Form. If there is more than one Form related to a particular instrument, the Forms will be numbered consecutively (F1, F2, F3, etc.).

In 2023, the CSA introduced a Coordinated Blanket Order format, which is used to reflect the fact that all or several CSA members are issuing the same (or similar) exemptive relief. The coordinated CSA blanket orders are designated by the third digit (document type) 9, for example, Coordinated Blanket Order 13-932, *Exemptions from certain filing requirements in connection with the launch of the System for Electronic Data Analysis and Retrieval* +. In this number, the first two digits represent the subject matter category and sub-category, the third digit represents the document type (coordinated blanket order), and the last two digits represent the consecutive number assigned to this instrument in this category and document type. Generally, CSA coordinated blanket order numbers will start with xx-930 because the document type number 9 could have been previously used for miscellaneous documents.

Category, Sub-Category and Document Type Numbers

Category (1st digit)	Sub-Category (2 nd digit)	Document Type (3 rd digit)
1 - Procedure and Related Matters	1 - General 2 - Applications 3 - Filings with Securities Regulatory Authority 4 - Definitions 5 - Hearings and Enforcement	1 - National or Multilateral Instrument (Rule) and any related Companion Policy and Form 2 - National or Multilateral Policy
2 - Certain Capital Market Participants	1 - Stock Exchanges 2 - Other Markets 3 - Trading Rules 4 - Clearing and Settlement 5 - Other Participants	3 - CSA Notice or CSA Staff Notice 4 - CSA Concept Proposal or Discussion Paper
3 - Registration and Related Matters	1 - Registration Requirements 2 - Registration Exemptions 3 - Ongoing Requirements Affecting Registrants 4 - Fitness for Registration 5 - Non-Resident Registrants	5 - Local Rule, Regulation or Blanket Order or Ruling and any related Companion Policy or Form
4 - Distribution Requirements	1 - Prospectus Contents - Non-Financial Matters 2 - Prospectus Contents -	6 - Local Policy

	Financial Matters 3 - Prospectus Filing Matters 4 - Alternative Forms of Prospectus 5 - Prospectus Exempt Distributions 6 - Requirements Affecting Distributions by Certain Issuers 7 - Advertising and Marketing 8 - Distribution Restrictions	7 - Local Notice 8 - Implementing Instrument (Local Rule that gives effect to a National or Multilateral Instrument) 9 - A CSA Coordinated Blanket Order or Miscellaneous item (e.g., a Form that does not relate to another Instrument or Policy)
5 - Ongoing Requirements for Issuers and Insiders	1 - Disclosure - General 2 - Financial Disclosure 3 - Timely Disclosure 4 - Proxy Solicitation 5 - Insider Reporting 6 - Restricted Shares 7 - Cease Trading Orders 8 - Corporate Governance	
6 - Take-Over Bids and Special Transactions	1 - Special Transactions 2 - Take-over Bids	
7 - Securities Transactions Outside the Jurisdictions	1 - International Issuers 2 - Distributions Outside the Jurisdiction	
8 - Investment Funds	1 - Investment Fund Distributions	
9 - Derivatives ⁵	1 - General 2 - Trading 3 - Registration and Regulation of OTC Derivatives Market Participants 4 - Clearing and Cleared Derivatives 5 - Uncleared Derivatives 6 - Data Reporting	

Questions

Please refer your questions to any of the following people:

⁵ Please note that in Québec, derivatives regulations are made under the *Derivatives Act* (Québec) and not the *Securities Act* (Québec).

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