

London Stock Exchange

HISTORICAL DATA PRODUCTS: BEST PRICES

Technical Specifications



Contents

Guide Disclaimer	3
Introduction	4
Purpose	4
Readership	4
document History	4
Enquiries	4
Service Overview	5
Service Description	5
Criteria for Inclusion in the Service	5
File Availability	5
Other Notes	5
Technical Specification	7
File Format	7
File Name	7
Type Definitions	7
Field Format	8

Guide Disclaimer

The content of this publication is not offered as advice on any particular matter and must not be treated as a substitute for specific advice. In particular, information in this publication does not constitute professional, financial or investment advice and must not be used as a basis for making investment decisions and is in no way intended, directly or indirectly as an attempt to market or sell any type of financial instrument. London Stock Exchange Group plc. and its group undertakings (the "London Stock Exchange Group") attempts to ensure that all information used in this publication is accurate at the time of publication, however all information is provided "as is" and on an "as available" basis and may not be accurate or up to date and the London Stock Exchange Group shall not be liable for decisions made in reliance on it. The information provided by the London Stock Exchange Group may or may not have been prepared by the London Stock Exchange Group but is made available without responsibility on the part of the London Stock Exchange Group. No responsibility is accepted by or on behalf of the London Stock Exchange Group for any errors, omissions, or inaccurate information. The London Stock Exchange Group does not make any representations and disclaims all express, implied and statutory warranties of any kind, including warranties as to accuracy, timeliness, completeness, merchantability or fitness for any particular purpose.

Except as is otherwise indicated, the London Stock Exchange Group is the owner of the copyright in all the information and of all related intellectual property rights, including but not limited to all database rights, trademarks, service marks and logos.

Whilst this document may be updated at any time, the London Stock Exchange Group will endeavour to provide notice to customers of changes being made. This notice, however, cannot always be guaranteed. The information in this publication is therefore for guidance only.

For further information, please contact your usual London Stock Exchange Group contact.

Introduction

PURPOSE

This document provides detailed information for the Best Prices product including:

- Overview of the service
- Criteria for data inclusion in the service
- Format of the files
- Detailed description of service contents
- Availability of the service
- Other information

It will be updated and reissued when appropriate to do so.

READERSHIP

This document is relevant to both technical and non-technical teams within member firms, information vendors and other market participants who currently have access to, or are interested in accessing, historical data products from London Stock Exchange Group (LSEG).

It is intended to provide all required information to access and interpret Best Prices files, one of our historical data product offerings.

DOCUMENT HISTORY

This document has been subject to the following iterations:

Issue	Date	Description
1.0	20 June 2022	Initial version

In subsequent issues of this document, where amendments have been made, these changes are indicated through the use of **red text**.

ENQUIRIES

For further information on London Stock Exchange Historical Data products, please contact the LSEG market data team at marketdata@lseg.com.

Further information on London Stock Exchange market data products can be found on our website:

<https://www.lseg.com/markets-products-and-services/market-information/market-data>

Service Overview

SERVICE DESCRIPTION

The Best Prices service provides customers with an end-of-day download of every change to top of book prices, i.e. the best bid price and best offer price, for instruments listed on the London Stock Exchange. The service also provides the total volume of orders at the top of the book.

The key benefits of the Best Prices service are:

- Provides granular details of every updated to the top of book for London Stock Exchange tradable instruments;
- Allows clients to determine the prevailing market price at any historical point in time and the level of liquidity at that price;
- Increases confidence in decision making through receiving officially badged data from a trusted source.

The service can be accessed either for:

- One-off historical data purchases, or;
- Ongoing daily subscriptions

Note that this service has previously been referred to as Enhanced Best Prices.

CRITERIA FOR INCLUSION IN THE SERVICE

The Best Prices product covers all instruments traded on London Stock Exchange cash market.

FILE AVAILABILITY

File Publication

The Best Prices file will be published on LSEG's Managed File Transfer (MFT) service.

Customers should refer to the separate Managed File Transfer Connectivity Customer Guide for instructions on how to get access to this service.

Note that the MFT service may not be available during weekend maintenance windows.

File Publication Time

The Best Prices file will be made available by 18:00 London time every business day.

The data will contain information relating to the current business day's data.

The Exchange will take all reasonable steps to meet the above delivery times and dates, but such times and dates shall be estimates only and the Exchange shall not be liable for failure to meet them. In certain circumstances the publication of files will be delayed, for example on an extremely busy trading day. If a problem is encountered with the extraction process the Exchange will produce the files on a best endeavours basis.

OTHER NOTES

Rebased Data

The data in the tick data service is not rebased and has not been adjusted for corporate actions. If you would like to subscribe to the London Stock Exchange's SSN service which allows you to monitor corporate actions on an ongoing basis please contact Product Management.

Data Sequence

The Best Prices file contains best bid and ask information for all instruments on the London Stock Exchange. The records in the file are ordered first by instrument and then by time, such that the file will contain all of the best bid and ask information for one instrument, from the start to the end of the trading day) followed by all of the best bid and ask information for the next instrument and so on.

The first record for each instrument will contain details of any good-til-cancelled (GTC) orders if any exist. If there are no GTC orders for an instrument, the first record for that instrument will contain a blank bid and blank ask price.

Previous File Formats

This specification sets out the **current** file and field format for Best Prices files. The file and field format for these files changed in Q2 2022. Please contact the LSEG market data team for the file and field formats for data prior to this date.

Technical Specification

FILE FORMAT

Files are created in accordance with the following specifications:

Attribute	Description
File format	csv
Fields delimiter	, (comma)
Field enclosing	Fields may optionally be enclosed by double quotes
Null fields	Will be empty (i.e. contain no data)
Decimal symbol	. (point)
Digit grouping symbol (thousands separator)	None
End of line	\n
Character encoding standard	UTF8

Files will be compressed using gzip and will be published with a .GZ extension. Clients should use widely available software such as 7-Zip or WinZip to access the file contents.

FILE NAME

The Best Prices files shall have the following format:

LSE_ BESTPRICES _<YYYYMMDD>.CSV

For example:

LSE_ BESTPRICES _20211026.CSV is the Best Prices file for 26 October 2021

TYPE DEFINITIONS

Definitions of the types of data fields are listed below:

Type Definition	Description
Integer	whole number
Float	real number field including a decimal point
Time	format YYYY-MM-DD HH24:MI:SS.FF9
Char(n)	indicates an alpha-numeric field of maximum length n

ISO Cross References

Country	ISO3166
Currency	ISO4217 plus GBX (GB pence) and USX (US cents)
ISIN	ISO6166

FIELD FORMAT

Header Record

The header record contains the column headings (comma delimited).

Trailer Record

There is no trailer record.

Data Fields

The following data fields are included in the Best Prices file.

Field	Type	Description
Tradable Instrument Display Mnemonic	Char(4)	Tradable Instrument Display Mnemonic. The mnemonic code is allocated by the Exchange and used to identify a tradable instrument.
Issuer Name	Char(35)	The full name of the issuer of a tradable instrument.
Tradable Instrument Code	Char(12)	Together with the Country Of Register, Currency Code and Market Segment, this will uniquely identify a tradable instrument. This will be the International Security Identification Number (ISIN).
Country Of Register	Char(2)	This specifies the Country of Register for a specific tradable instrument. This is an ISO country code (ISO 3166).
Market Segment Code	Char(4)	A code which uniquely identifies a specific trading area as defined by the London Stock Exchange.
Currency Code	Char(3)	The currency in which prices for a tradable instrument are most frequently expressed. This is an ISO currency code (ISO 4217 plus GBX and USX).
Market Sector Code	Char(4)	This code identifies a division of the market within Market Segment.
Best Bid Price	Float	Best bid price
Best Ask Price	Float	Best offer price
Best Bid Volume	Float	Aggregate volume of orders at the best bid price
Best Ask Volume	Float	Aggregate volume of orders at the best ask price
Timestamp	Time	Time of the update to the best bid/ask