

29 May 2024

Changes to the T2 releases deployment schedule

In line with the communication shared on 31 October 2023, the dates of the regular June and November release deployment activities now coincide for all the services, i.e., T2, T2S and TIPS. This is a technical requirement following the consolidation of all TARGET services on the same platform on 20 March 2023.

T2 RELEASES DEPLOYED IN 2023

In 2023, two T2 releases were deployed in June and November. For these two deployments, the Eurosystem had applied an altered T2 schedule where the start of the T2 mandatory maintenance window (MW) was brought forward by 4,5 hours and therefore commenced already on Friday at 22:00 CET (instead on Saturday at 02:30 CET). This was required due to technical constraints imposed by the common components that are used by all TARGET services. Consequently, Monday's business day ran from Friday 19:30 CET until Friday 22:00 CET, was interrupted by the deployment activities and restarted on Monday 02:30 CET, as per usual schedule. More specifically, the T2 release was deployed from Friday 22:00 CET and until Monday 02:30 CET while T2 was in maintenance.

Following the T2 releases of June and November 2023, the T2 deployment approach was reassessed. During its analysis, the Eurosystem mainly considered (a) the benefits further alignment of the T2 and T2S deployment schedules would bring, (b) the additional complexity introduced in case a release contains changes to the message standards used by the TARGET Services and (c) how to minimise the operational risk stemming from following different schedules for the release weekends depending on the content of the release. The outcome of this analysis was also shared with the relevant T2 user groups.

GENERAL APPROACH FOR ALL FUTURE T2 RELEASES

The Eurosystem concluded that the T2 annual releases will now follow a harmonised approach according to which the releases will no longer be deployed during an opened business day. **Instead, during release weekends for T2, the business day of Friday will be completed and closed. The Eurosystem will then proceed with the release deployment activities and the start of the new business day as well as CLM RTS and RTGS RTS I periods will be shifted from Friday evening**



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to Saturday, after the release is successfully deployed. This will prevent that two different message standards have to be supported during the same (Monday's) business day. Furthermore, this deployment approach will allow a full synchronisation with the T2S deployment schedule where the release is also deployed before the settlement of Monday's business day commences. **The exact time for the start of day, and the start of CLM RTS and RTGS RTS I periods will be communicated ahead of each T2 release and will vary based on the time needed to deploy the release.**

Furthermore, the **start of the T2 MW will also be aligned with the start of the T2S MW** which during the release deployment weekends usually **starts on Sunday morning at 11:00 CET.**

The Information Guide for TARGET participants will be updated to reflect the above-described changes to the T2 release deployment schedule. These updates will be available with the upcoming version which is currently under preparation in relation to the T2 R2024.JUN release.

DETAILED SCHEDULE FOR T2 R2024.JUN RELEASE

The T2 R2024.JUN release is scheduled for deployment during 7-9 June 2024 weekend. In accordance with the above communicated general approach, the deployment activities will start on Friday, 7 June 2024, after the completion of the 7 June 2024 business day. The deployment of the T2 R2024.JUN release is foreseen to be completed on Saturday afternoon, allowing the **change of the business day to take place shortly after 17:30 CET, followed by the start of the CLM RTS and the RTGS RTS I periods for the business day 10 June 2024.**

The business day of Monday 10th June will continue to remain open until Sunday, 11:00 CET, when T2 will enter into maintenance. As per the usual schedule, the T2 MW will close on Monday morning at 02:30 CET when CLM will resume RTS period and RTGS will enter RTS II period.



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Below you may find the list of the migration weekend business day events where the changed timing of the T2 deployment schedule - comparing to the deployment schedule used for 2023 releases - is indicated with a red colour. The first table indicates the general approach for all future T2 releases while the second table indicates the detailed release schedule for R2024.JUN.

GENERAL APPROACH FOR ALL FUTURE T2 RELEASES:

<i>Business day event</i>	<i>Regular T2 schedule (CET)</i>	<i>T2 release schedule in June and November 2023 (CET)</i>	<i>Future T2 release schedule (CET)</i>
<i>End of day procedures</i>	Friday 18:00 – 18:45	Friday 18:00 – 18:45	Friday 18:00 – 18:45
<i>Start of day procedures</i>	Friday 18:45 – 19:00	Friday 18:45 – 19:00	Saturday - after the release deployment (detailed timing to be communicated before each release)
<i>CLM RTS</i> <i>RTGS RTS I</i>	Friday 19:00 – Saturday 02:30 Friday 19:30 – Saturday 02:30	Friday 19:00 – Friday 22:00 Friday 19:30 – Friday 22:00	Saturday - after the release deployment (detailed timing to be communicated before each release)
<i>Maintenance Window (CLM/RTGS deployment)</i>	Saturday 02:30 – Monday 02:30	Friday 22:00 – Monday 02:30	Sunday 11:00
<i>CLM RTS</i> <i>RTGS RTS II</i>	Monday 02:30 - 18:00	Monday 02:30 - 18:00	Monday 02:30 - 18:00



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DETAILED SCHEDULE FOR T2 R2024.JUN RELEASE:

<i>Business day event</i>	<i>Regular T2 schedule (CET)</i>	<i>T2 release schedule in June and November 2023 (CET)</i>	<i>Future T2 release schedule (CET)</i>
<i>End of day procedures</i>	Friday 18:00 – 18:45	Friday 18:00 – 18:45	Friday 18:00 – 18:45
<i>Start of day procedures</i>	Friday 18:45 – 19:00	Friday 18:45 – 19:00	Saturday shortly after 17:30
<i>CLM RTS</i> <i>RTGS RTS I</i>	Friday 19:00 – Saturday 02:30 Friday 19:30 – Saturday 02:30	Friday 19:00 – Friday 22:00 Friday 19:30 – Friday 22:00	approximately 5 minutes after the start of SoD procedures 20 minutes after the start of CLM RTS
<i>Maintenance Window (CLM/RTGS deployment)</i>	Saturday 02:30 – Monday 02:30	Friday 22:00 – Monday 02:30	Sunday 11:00
<i>CLM RTS</i> <i>RTGS RTS II</i>	Monday 02:30 - 18:00	Monday 02:30 - 18:00	Monday 02:30 - 18:00