

# ASCENT

Anticrisis Settlement & Commodity Centre

## Becoming an ASCENT client or regional partner

### How to become a client of ASCENT

Membership of the Anticrisis Settlement and Commodity Centre (ASCENT) is open to any legal corporate entity (e.g. a limited company) or to any individual registered as a sole trader or entrepreneur. To join, prospective clients must complete and submit an application to ASCENT. The joining process has been made as straightforward as possible to encourage prospective clients to use the system.

Once a company or individual is a member of ASCENT, their supply/demand bids are free. ASCENT charges a commission only once a transaction is settled. When registering their bids ASCENT clients do not need to describe their offers because the system has a standard classified index of goods and services. This index features a search engine and navigation system that enables users to find offers in different countries and industries.

On approval of a membership application, the client has the right to submit details of goods and services to the ASCENT system for matching with potential trading partners. There is no limit to the number of applications a client may submit, and each application will remain valid for six months. On completion of a transaction, ASCENT is entitled to 1% of the total value of the deal.

*For more information about joining ASCENT and using the system to trade, please go to:*

[www.ascent-europe.com](http://www.ascent-europe.com)

### Benefits of membership

Membership offers access to an automated global system of countertrade – an immense benefit in the current period of acute money shortages. ASCENT enables its clients to use cash more sparingly and efficiently than when using credit-backed trade mechanisms, which in recent decades have been so fashionable.

Members specify the goods or services they want to trade and what they would like to receive in return, and ASCENT's software then presents their trading options. The system also works with liabilities backed by the value of unsold inventories. Lenders are then able to receive payments in cash instead of claiming recovery against debtors' property.

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# ASCENT

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## How to become a regional representative of ASCENT

The transparency and accountability of ASCENT is guaranteed by a network of Regional Settlement and Commodity Centres (RSCCs). These regional centres leverage ASCENT's network externalities by increasing the number of users and bids in the system. This, in turn, enhances the efficiency of the system and provides its users with availability of almost instant countertrade chains.

RSCCs usually operate as limited liability companies established as joint ventures between ASCENT and local partners in countries such as China, Russia, Ukraine and the United Kingdom. They provide the physical infrastructure and personnel required to complement ASCENT's global computer network. Regional partners in each country have exclusive rights to represent ASCENT and supply local producers with access to the system. Distribution of revenues from the fees charged in each country is subject to franchising agreements that ASCENT signs with each of its regional representatives.

ASCENT selects potential franchisees with great care, only working with reputable companies that have the highest standards of credibility. Any company that wishes to participate in setting up a RSCC is invited to apply to ASCENT. Procedures for setting up a RSCC are specified in agreement documents for the establishment of regional centres, which are available on the ASCENT website. The prospective regional partner must undertake to establish the RSCC in compliance with the agreement. It will also be required to appoint members to the RSCC executive board, while ASCENT will be responsible for assigning auditing authorities.

*For more information about setting up a RSCC in partnership with ASCENT, please go to:*

[www.ascent-europe.com](http://www.ascent-europe.com)