



EQUIFAX®

Understanding CCDS and its Importance

CCDS provides a holistic view of a
SME's financial health.



Revolutionising SME lending

Commercial Credit Data Sharing (CCDS) is a key initiative designed to enhance the transparency, efficiency, and competitiveness of SME lending. By mandating the sharing of detailed business financial data among lenders, CCDS provides a holistic view of an SME's financial health. This initiative not only aids lenders in making better credit decisions but also supports SMEs in accessing tailored financial products.

Why CCDS Matters



Lenders: enables more accurate credit assessments and risk management.



SMEs: improves access to financing, fostering business growth and resilience.



The economy: supports and encourages competition and innovation in financial services.

What data is in CCDS?

Comprehensive financial insights

The data shared under CCDS provides lenders with a detailed and transparent view of a business's financial activities. This includes:

- **Current account data:** transaction histories, balances, and turnover, offering insights into cash flow and financial stability.
- **Credit performance:** detailed records of loans and credit cards, including payment histories, credit limits, and utilisation rates.

Benefits of data sharing



Informed lending decisions: access to accurate, up-to-date financial data.



Risk mitigation: early identification of potential credit risks.



Enhanced customer insights: better understanding of customer needs and behaviours.





Leveraging CCDS for strategic advantages



Boosting client acquisition

CCDS data helps lenders target potential clients more effectively by providing a clearer understanding of an SME's financial position. This enables lenders to:

- Develop personalised financial products.
- Offer competitive credit terms tailored to specific business needs.



Driving product innovation

The data from CCDS allows for the development of products that are better aligned with market demands. Lenders can:

- Design products that cater to different SME segments.
- Refine credit policies to adapt to changing market conditions.
- Enhance risk assessment models, ensuring product offerings remain competitive and profitable.



Optimising customer management

Continuous access to CCDS data supports dynamic risk management and customer relationship strategies. Lenders can:

- Monitor credit performance in real-time.
- Provide proactive support and advice to clients.
- Adjust credit terms and services in response to evolving business needs.



Why should I use CCDS?

While CCDS offers benefits to lending practices, there are factors that may need to be taken into account during implementation:



Data integration: ensuring seamless integration of CCDS data into existing systems.



Standardisation: developing common data standards to facilitate data sharing and interpretation.



Operational changes: adapting internal processes to leverage CCDS data effectively.



How do I use CCDS in my business?

- By investing in technology to integrate CCDS data.
- By collaborating with industry stakeholders to standardise data formats.
- By training staff to understand and utilise CCDS insights.



Looking ahead

The 2024 Post-Implementation Review highlights the ongoing evolution of CCDS, with plans to expand data coverage and enhance its usability. Future enhancements aim to:

- Broaden the types of data shared to include additional financial metrics.
- Improve the ease of data access and analysis.
- Foster greater collaboration between lenders and SMEs, ensuring CCDS continues to drive innovation and efficiency in the lending landscape.





Contact us

Discover how Equifax can help you integrate CCDS data into your lending operations.

Visit our website or contact our team for more information.

Speak to our experts

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