IMPORTANCE OF IT SOLUTIONS IN SUPPORTING ISLAMIC BANKING ACTIVITIES

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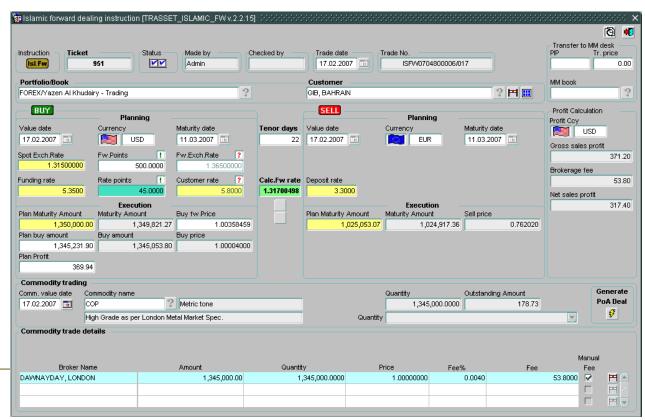
Agenda

- **▶** Specialities of Islamic banking transactions/workflow
- **▶** Requirements to be met by IT solutions



SPECIALITIES OF ISLAMIC BANKING IT SOLUTIONS

- The Islamic banking products (e.g. the MM deals Murabaha, Mudharabah) have complex structure to meet the requirements of Shariah
- ▶ Several products are composed of few commodities/assets buy/sell transactions having very strict rules and workflows



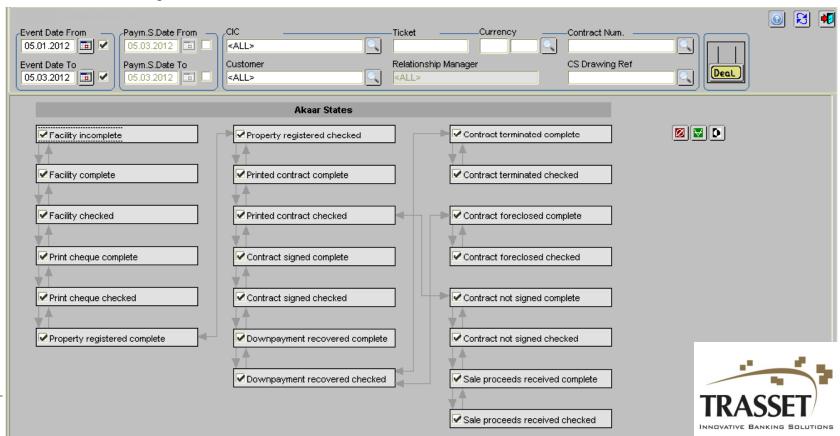
SPECIALITIES OF ISLAMIC BANKING IT SOLUTIONS

- Due to the above mentioned specifics, banks are running higher (operational) risk
- Although efforts are made continuously to move the Islamic banking towards a standardization, there is a long way to go as there are different Shariah regulations on country level and on individual institution level based on the decisions of financial institutions' own Shariah board
 - Same products might be not Shariah-compliant in different countries (e.g.
 Islamic derivatives)
 - Same products have different structure in different countries/banks /no
 international standards (e.g different types of contracts to be signed, different
 mandatory elements of the transaction processing)



PROCESS EXAMPLE - WORKFLOW

Strict succession of processing steps for an interbank MM deal, Murabaha structure (please compare with a conventional transaction) – Sales desk (term and conditions) – Investment desk (commodity purchase) – Back Office (settlement) – Broker (Holding certificate) – Sales desk (signed documents) – Client (Power of attorney)



REQUIREMENTS TO BE MET BY A COMPREHENSIVE ISLAMIC BANKING SOLUTION

Conclusion: in order to remain competitive, the processes have to be backed up by highly automated IT system

- ➡ Has the knowledge to manage the product-specific Islamic banking activities
- It is flexible enough to adapt to the local and individual Shariah board requirements and workflows
- ► Continuous monitoring of the processes with built-in checkpoints to avoid the possibility of breaching the strict rules (e.g. commodity can not be sold to client before receiving the Holding Certificate from the broker)



REQUIREMENTS TO BE MET BY A COMPREHENSIVE ISLAMIC BANKING SOLUTION - contd...

- Manage special cases e.g. the client refuses to step in the deal while commodity was already purchased
- ♣ Huge number of contracts/printouts to be generated automatically by the system at any stage of the deal
- ▶ Different steps of the transactions will be executed by different departments (Sales Desk – Investment Desk - Back Office, etc.), thus a proper information flow between the departments has to be managed by the system – real time / STP concept



REQUIREMENTS TO BE MET BY A COMPREHENSIVE ISLAMIC BANKING SOLUTION - contd...

- New products should be implemented just through parameterization especially the workflow engine should be modifiable by the users themselves
- ♣ Auditability: the complex workflows should be auditable, turnaround time to be calculated for the end-to-end process

Instead of running two or more separate applications, an integrated solution

- increases the profitability ,
- lowers TCO and reaction time
- has a positive effect for Bank level exposure and liquidity consolidation



Thank you for your kind attention!

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