Sinara
The trade engineering people

Tech, Ops, and What's Next for LME Brokers

LME Week Breakfast Forum 2025 – Summary Report

14 October 2025, The Refinery CityPoint, London

Overview

Sinara's 2025 LME Week Breakfast Forum brought together operations, technology, and trading professionals from across the LME broker community and beyond. Alongside those who took the microphone on the morning, the questions submitted before (and after) the event highlighted a range of common themes and shared concerns. This summary reflects some of the issues raised, and ideas discussed for moving forward.

Key Themes and Takeaways

Market Structure & Compliance Readiness

The LME's white paper reforms and the new Minimum Volume Threshold (MVT) regime continue to drive both compliance and technology planning. Firms are interpreting the new rules in different ways, but most agree embedding MVT logic into workflows early will reduce risk and rework later on. The challenge lies in adapting without over-engineering ahead of final implementation details.

OMS Automation & Change Management

Questions focused on how brokers can automate MVT checks, routing logic, and rule validation directly within order management systems. Many are exploring new automation pipelines, test environments, and deployment practices — with cloud infrastructure, if done right, seen as one way to speed up development, testing, and rollout cycles while also improving resilience.

Rollout Strategies & Operational Planning

Views varied on 'big bang' versus phased rollouts for system upgrades, but everyone agreed that robust test data, automation, and rollback options are essential. Firms noted the importance of meeting regulatory deadlines while continuing to deal with the practicalities of operational continuity and user confidence.

Integration, Data Accessibility & Transparency

Data quality and accessibility remain sticking points across front, middle, and back-office systems. Clean, consistent reference data underpins compliance and efficiency, while better transparency, particularly post-trade, supports client servicing. Firms see growing value in unified data models and cloud-based architectures that make information easier to use and share across teams.

User Experience & Business Value

A recurring theme was ensuring that new systems don't just tick regulatory boxes but actually help people do their jobs better, whether that's traders making execution decisions, operations teams resolving breaks, or finance and compliance maintaining control. Technology investment should make daily work smoother, decisions faster, and ultimately deliver measurable value back to the business.

Automation, AI & the Path to Efficiency

Interest in AI is cautious but growing, particularly around data validation, exception handling, and workflow monitoring. Most firms remain focused on getting the fundamentals right first — automation, integration, and clean data — but see clear potential for AI to enhance operational resilience and support smarter decision-making over time.

Next Steps

Sinara will continue engaging with the broker community to:

- Support firms in assessing system and workflow readiness for the 2026 LME reforms
- Share insights and offer solutions for automation and new client trading services
- Facilitate discussions on technology across the LME ecosystem

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About Sinara

For nearly 20 years, Sinara has supported firms involved in metals and other commodity derivatives by delivering software solutions that enable innovative trading, operations, and compliance processes.

To find out more, or organise a demo of our SinaraTLC broker application tailored for LME trading, contact Hamish on hamish.adourian@sinara.co.uk or call +44 (0)20 7940 7974.

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