



FAQ: Demo Entities

Q: What is a demo entity?

The demo entity feature allows you to experience the end to end process of digitally submitting a VAT Return within a simulation environment. You can use this simulation to familiarise yourself with the MTD Compliance Portal and try out functionality, without the need to actually submit a real VAT Return. Demo entities use hypothetical period data that we have provided to display obligations, payments, liabilities, and submission receipt information. When preparing your VAT Return for a demo entity, you will be able to upload your own VAT data to arrive at your VAT Return.

Q: What can I use the demo entity for?

You can use the demo entity feature to learn how to digitally submit a VAT Return for a single entity, via AlphaBridge. It can also be used as a training tool, to demonstrate the end-to-end process and allow new users to familiarise themselves with the portal before they need to begin processing real VAT Returns.

Q: Can I create a demo entity for a VAT group?

No. The demo entity feature can only be used when creating a single entity.

Q: Can I enter the details of a real entity, when creating a demo entity?

Yes. But we recommend that you **do not** use the details of real entities for your demo entities. This will help to avoid confusion later on, when you do need to create the real entity on the portal.

Q: Should I enter a real VAT registration number (VRN) for a demo entity?

No. We recommend that you always type in a **random 9-digit number** that does not resemble a real entity VRN.

Q: Do I need to authorise a demo entity?

No. It is not necessary to authorise a demo entity since the feature is designed as a simulation tool to allow the user to familiarise themselves with the MTD Compliance Portal and its features.

Q: Can I submit a VAT Return for a demo entity?

The demo entity feature allows you to experience the process of submitting a VAT Return, but it will not actually submit a return to HMRC.

Q: Can I view obligations, payments and liabilities for a demo entity?

Yes. We have built in the period data required to pre-populate these areas with a set of obligations, payments, and liabilities so that you can see what they will look like when you create a real entity .

Q: Can I use the AlphaBridge template with a demo entity?

Yes. You can download, populate and upload the AlphaBridge template for a demo entity.

Q: Can I use the upload a data file to AlphaBridge option for a demo entity?

Yes. You can upload your own data file to AlphaBridge for a demo entity.

Q: Can I use AlphaVAT with a demo entity?

No. The demo entity feature can only be used with AlphaBridge.

For more information, see the **Demo entity guide**.