



BOOK INDUSTRY COMMUNICATION LTD

# **BIC Supply Chain Excellence Award (SCEA) Revised Accreditation Scheme**

## **Statement of Benefits**

Version 1.0  
November 2019

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## Benefits of applying to the BIC SCEA Accreditation Scheme

**The BIC Supply Chain Excellence Award (SCEA) is the book supply chain accreditation scheme managed by Book Industry Communication (BIC) Ltd.**

**Accreditation under this scheme demonstrates that your organisation is modern, technically-capable, efficient to do business with, and compliant with industry standards and practices.**

The BIC SCEA accreditation scheme enables organisations to test their performance in key areas and find out how they measure up against the industry standards set by BIC. The scope of the award covers BIC's areas of interest and activity across the supply chain from the initial provision of product metadata using ONIX, via EDI messaging (orders and invoices), right through to the efficient management of returns and the reporting of sales.

### Benefits

The scheme is of value to participants, enabling them to:

1. Research and document their organisation's current capabilities and achievements.
2. Measure the organisation's activity and capability against the competition.
3. Measure activity and capability against an industry established bench-mark.
4. Identify areas for development.
5. Inform and educate across the organisation.
6. Wave the flag for the often unheralded but important achievements of the supply chain, e.g. I.T., Production and Logistics departments.
7. Highlight the benefits of deploying beneficial technologies in terms of improvements in customer service, speed, responsiveness and over-all efficiency.
8. Inform trading partners of the organisation's achievements and capabilities, service offerings and compliance with industry practices.
9. Promote the organisation by displaying the BIC SCEA accreditation logo and certificate on the premises, on social media, websites, etc.

This scheme enables book industry organisations to demonstrate the efficiency of their supply chains for books and related products such as eBooks. It recognises organisations large and small for their investment in automation and for innovative solutions to the supply chain issues they face; and recognises them as the best in their class for business efficiency, customer service and innovation.

### Feedback

Applications receive confidential feedback from the accreditation process which will highlight strengths and weaknesses as well as inform future systems investment or service deployment.



## Free and open to all

The BIC SCEA is free and open to BIC members and non-members. This includes Booksellers, Library Suppliers, Wholesalers, Publishers, Printers, Distributors, Systems Vendors and Service Providers. In fact, any organisation which is active in the book supply chain and which uses beneficial technology and complies with industry standards. The scheme is open to organisations of all sizes including specialist publishers and independent booksellers.

## Why should I apply?

The BIC SCEA logo will demonstrate to your clients and competitors that you do business in an efficient, industry-standard manner. It will show:

- **Booksellers and Wholesalers**

That you utilise industry standard services and that you are an efficient customer to trade with, complying with standards and deploying best practice wherever possible. You may also offer your customers an improved service, e.g. a *BIC Realtime* Price & Availability look-up service will enable your customers to order books or eBooks more accurately and more efficiently.

- **Publishers, Distributors and Wholesalers**

To potential publishing clients that you have adopted industry standards for supply chain best practice and can provide a high standard of service in these areas of your business;

To bookseller customers that you are committed to the efficiency and quality of your product metadata and that you can, for example, accept electronic orders and returns requests and that you can provide electronic invoices and returns authorisations.

- **Systems and Service Providers**

To existing and potential clients that you support industry standards and offer services consistent with the highest standards of book trade efficiency.

- **All organisations**

To owners and shareholders that you are making best use of electronic trading and automation, and are keeping operational costs to a minimum;

To the wider trade and public that you are an organisation committed to minimising waste and to conducting your business in an efficient, cost effective manner by deploying beneficial technologies and supporting industry standards.

