

Supplier Benchmarking – Buyer FAQ

What's changing

Q: What is Supplier Benchmarking?

A: Supplier Benchmarking gives your suppliers a clear view of how their Management Controls score compares to similar suppliers in the same industry and location. This includes the ability for suppliers to download and share their results with customers like you. We're sharing this update because more of your suppliers now have the tools to proactively demonstrate their performance and progress, rather than waiting for you to request it.

Q: When is this rolling out, and to which suppliers?

A: Monday 20th July 2026 – rolling out to all suppliers on Sedex; Monday 17th August 2026 – downloading added to let suppliers share their results

Q: Is this standard for every supplier now?

A: Yes, this tool is available for all Sedex supplier members. Our direction is to make Sedex a one-stop shop for suppliers – helping them to understand their risk performance, target improvement, and demonstrate their credentials to the businesses they work with. Extending this to every supplier, not just a subset, means more of your supply base benefits from it.

Q: Does this cost our suppliers anything extra?

A: No, it's included as standard in every supplier's membership at no extra cost.

Q: Does this affect what we pay for our own Sedex membership?

A: No, this doesn't change your buyer membership or pricing.

Data access

Q: Do we get direct access to our suppliers' benchmark data?

A: Not directly. The results belong to the supplier to share with you or any other customers. You will continue to have access to management controls risk scores for suppliers across your supply chain including in report downloads and through the API.

Q: Do we get the same benchmarking access for our own sites?

A: Supplier Benchmarking is built specifically for supplier-registered sites, so it isn't part of your buyer membership directly. The real value for you as a buyer is what this unlocks across your supply base – more engaged suppliers with a clear, credible way to show you their progress, at no extra cost to either of you.

Q: Can we require our suppliers to share their results with us?

A: We'd encourage inviting your suppliers to share their results with you – most suppliers are keen to share good progress once they see the benefit. A good way to start: many buyers fold this into existing SAQ follow-ups or scorecard reviews, and we've built a ready-to-send cascade toolkit to make that easy – just ask your account manager for a copy.

Q: Will Sedex ever offer buyers a dashboard or direct view of this data?

A: Right now we're focused on giving suppliers full ownership of their own data and the confidence to act on it – that's what drives real engagement across a supply base. We're continuing to invest in this space and will keep you posted as things develop.

Q: Is the peer comparison data anonymised, or can we see who else is in it?

A: Yes – it's anonymised and aggregated, which is exactly what makes it a credible, unbiased benchmark. That credibility is part of why suppliers trust it enough to act on it, and to share it with you.

Value to Buyer members

Q: What's the benefit to us if we don't get direct access ourselves?

A: More of your suppliers now have a structured way to identify and act on improvement areas, and a credible way to demonstrate progress to you – without you needing to build or fund that capability yourselves.

Q: Does this reduce the need for our own audits or SAQs?

A: Not at all – SMETA audits and SAQs remain the critical foundation of your due diligence. Benchmarking adds a layer of context on top of that data; it doesn't replace your existing processes.

Q: Will this change any data?

A: No – benchmarking doesn't change a supplier's underlying SMETA audit or SAQ results, it shows how those existing results compare to peers. It's a lens on existing data, not a new pass/fail assessment.

Practical

Q: How can we encourage our suppliers to engage with this?

A: We've built a buyer-to-supplier toolkit to help you. A ready-to-send comms template and FAQ that you're welcome to use to promote this within your own supply base. Ask your account manager for a copy.

Q: Is there anything we need to do on our end?

A: No action is required, though we'd encourage sharing the tools in the buyer-to-supplier toolkit with your suppliers if you'd like to accelerate engagement.

Q: Who do we contact with questions?

A: helpdesk@sedex.com