

## Chapter 255A

### Options on Australian Dollar/U.S. Dollar (AUD/USD) Futures

#### 255A00. SCOPE OF CHAPTER

This chapter is limited in application to options on Australian dollar/U.S. dollar futures. In addition to this chapter, options on Australian dollar/U.S. dollar futures shall be subject to the general rules and regulations of the Exchange insofar as applicable.

For purposes of this chapter, unless otherwise specified, times referred to herein shall refer to and indicate Chicago time.

#### 255A01. OPTIONS CHARACTERISTICS

##### 255A01.A. Contract Months, Trading Hours, and Trading Halts

Options contracts shall be listed for such contract months (i.e., expirations) and scheduled for trading during such hours, except as indicated below, as may be determined by the Exchange.

##### 255A01.B Trading Unit

The trading unit shall be an option to buy, in the case of the call, or to sell, in the case of the put, one Australian dollar/U.S. dollar futures contract as specified in Chapter 255.

##### 255A01.C. Price Increments

For options trading on CME Globex and via open outcry and for submission for clearing via CME ClearPort, the price of an option shall be quoted in U.S. dollars per Australian dollar. Each \$0.0001 per Australian dollar (one point) shall represent \$10.00. For example, a quote of .0075 represents an option price of \$750.00 (75 points x \$10.00 per point) of premium. The minimum fluctuation shall be one point (also known as one tick). A trade may also occur at a price of \$.00005 (\$5, also known as one-half tick), \$.00015 (\$15, also known as one and one-half ticks), \$.00025 (\$25, also known as two and one-half ticks), \$.00035 (\$35, also known as three and one-half ticks), and \$.00045 (\$45, also known as four and one-half ticks).

In addition, for options expiring on their last trading day based on the 2:00 p.m. Fix that are quoted in volatility terms, the minimum fluctuation shall be 0.01 percent for the volatility quote. Also, following a volatility trade, when CME Globex converts the volatility-traded options position into a premium-based options position for clearing, the minimum price increment for the premium-based option position shall be \$0.00001 per Australian dollar (equal to \$1.00).

##### 255A01.D. Underlying Futures Contract

The underlying futures contract is the nearest quarterly futures contract following the options expiration except for options expiring the week prior to a quarterly futures termination. For options expiring the week prior to a quarterly futures termination, the underlying futures contract is the next nearest quarterly futures contract.

##### 255A01.E. Position Limits, Exemptions, Position Accountability and Reportable Levels

The applicable position limits and/or accountability levels, in addition to the reportable levels, are set forth in the Position Limit, Position Accountability and Reportable Level Table in the Interpretations & Special Notices Section of Chapter 5.

A Person seeking an exemption from position limits for bona fide commercial purposes shall apply to the Market Regulation Department on forms provided by the Exchange, and the Market Regulation Department may grant qualified exemptions in its sole discretion.

Refer to Rule 559 for requirements concerning the aggregation of positions and allowable exemptions from the specified position limits.

##### 255A01.F. Special Price Fluctuation Limits

At the commencement of each trading day, the contract shall be subject to special price fluctuation limits as set forth in Rule 589 and in the Special Price Fluctuation Limits Table in the Interpretations & Special Notices Section of Chapter 5.

##### 255A01.G. [Reserved]

##### 255A01.H. Termination of Trading and Expiration Days for European-Style Exercise Options ("9:00 a.m. Fix")

1. Monthly Options in the March Quarterly Cycle ("Quarterly Options")

The options expire on the second Friday immediately preceding the third Wednesday of the contract month (usually 9:00 a.m.). If the foregoing date for expiration is a scheduled Exchange holiday, option expiration shall occur at the same time on the immediately preceding Business Day. Trading in monthly options in the March quarterly cycle (i.e., March, June, September and December) on the trading floor shall terminate at the close of trading (usually 2:00 p.m.) on the Business Day immediately preceding the expiration of the contract month. Trading in monthly options in the March quarterly cycle (i.e., March, June, September and December) on the CME Globex® platform shall terminate at 9:00 a.m. on the contract month expiration day. In the event that the underlying futures market does not open on the scheduled expiration day, the option expiration shall be extended to the next day on which the underlying futures market is open for trading.

#### 2. Monthly Options Not in the March Quarterly Cycle ("Serial Options")

The options expire on the second Friday immediately preceding the third Wednesday of the contract month (usually 9:00 a.m.). If the foregoing date for expiration is a scheduled Exchange holiday, options expiration shall occur at the same time on the immediately preceding Business Day. Trading in monthly options not in the March quarterly cycle (i.e., January, February, April, May, July, August, October and November) on the trading floor shall terminate at the close of trading (usually 2:00 p.m.) on the Business Day immediately preceding the expiration of the contract month. Trading in monthly options not in the March quarterly cycle (i.e., January, February, April, May, July, August, October and November) on the CME Globex platform shall terminate at 9:00 a.m. on the contract month expiration day. In the event that the underlying futures market does not open on the scheduled expiration day, the option expiration shall be extended to the next day on which the underlying futures market is open for trading.

#### 3. Weekly Options

The options expire (usually 9:00 a.m.) on those Fridays that are also not expirations for either monthly options in the March quarterly cycle or monthly options not in the March quarterly cycle. If the foregoing date for expiration is a scheduled Exchange holiday, option expiration shall occur at the same time on the immediately preceding Business Day. Trading in weekly options on the trading floor shall terminate at the close of trading (usually 2:00 p.m.) on those Business Days immediately preceding the expiration of the weekly option that are not also the termination of trading of a monthly option as described in the preceding sections 1 and 2. Trading in weekly options on the CME Globex platform shall terminate at 9:00 a.m. on the contract month expiration days that are not also the contract month expiration days of a monthly option as described in the preceding sections 1 and 2. In the event that the underlying futures market does not open on the scheduled expiration day, the option expiration shall be extended to the next day on which the underlying futures market is open for trading.

### **255A01.I. Termination of Trading for European-Style Exercise Options ("2:00 p.m. Fix")**

#### 1. Monthly Options in the March Quarterly Cycle ("Quarterly Options")

Trading in monthly options in the March quarterly cycle (i.e., March, June, September and December) shall terminate at the close of trading (usually 2:00 p.m. Central time) on the second Friday immediately preceding the third Wednesday of the contract month. If the foregoing date for termination is a scheduled Exchange holiday, trading in monthly options shall terminate on the immediately preceding business day. In the event that the underlying futures market does not open on the scheduled expiration day, the option expiration shall be extended to the next day on which the underlying futures market is open for trading.

#### 2. Monthly Options Not in the March Quarterly Cycle ("Serial Options")

Trading in monthly options not in the March quarterly cycle (i.e., January, February, April, May, July, August, October and November) shall terminate at the close of trading (usually 2:00 p.m. Central time) on the second Friday immediately preceding the third Wednesday of the contract month. If the foregoing date for termination is a scheduled Exchange holiday, trading in monthly options shall terminate on the immediately preceding business day. In the event that the underlying futures market does not open on the scheduled expiration day, the option expiration shall be extended to the next day on which the underlying futures market is open for trading.

#### 3. Weekly Options

Trading in weekly options shall terminate at the close of trading (usually 2:00 p.m. Central time) on those Fridays that are not also the termination of trading of a monthly option as described in the preceding sections 1 and 2. If the foregoing date for termination is a scheduled Exchange holiday,

trading in weekly options shall terminate on the immediately preceding business day. In the event that the underlying futures market does not open on the scheduled expiration day, the option expiration shall be extended to the next day on which the underlying futures market is open for trading.

#### 4. Wednesday Weekly Options

Trading in Wednesday weekly options shall terminate at the close of trading (usually 2:00 p.m. Central time) on Wednesdays. If the foregoing date for termination is a scheduled Exchange holiday, trading in Wednesday weekly options shall terminate on the immediately preceding business day. In the event that the underlying futures market does not open on the scheduled expiration day, the option expiration shall be extended to the next day on which the underlying futures market is open for trading.

#### 255A01.J. Exercise Prices

Regular exercise prices shall be stated in terms of U.S. dollars per Australian dollar at intervals of \$0.005, e.g., \$0.705, \$0.710, \$0.715, etc.

### 255A02. LISTING OF EXERCISE PRICES

#### 1. Monthly Options in the March Quarterly Cycle ("Quarterly Options")

At the commencement of trading in a contract month, the Exchange shall list put and call options at the regular exercise price that is nearest the previous day's settlement price of the underlying futures contract. For options on Australian dollar/U.S. dollar futures, the Exchange shall list put and call options at the next twenty-one higher and next twenty-one lower regular exercise prices.

When a sale, bid, offer, or settlement price in the underlying futures occurs within half a regular exercise price interval of the twenty-first highest or twenty-first lowest existing regular exercise price for options on Australian dollar/U.S. dollar futures, put and call options at the next higher or next lower regular exercise price shall be listed for trading on the next Trading Day. New options may be listed for trading up to and including the termination of trading.

The Exchange may modify the provisions governing the establishment of exercise prices as it deems appropriate.

#### 2. Options Not in the March Quarterly Cycle ("Serial" and "Weekly Options")

Upon demand, the Exchange shall list put and call options at any regular exercise price listed for trading in the next March quarterly cycle futures option that is nearest the expiration of the option. New options may be listed for trading up to and including the termination of trading.

#### 3. Dynamically-Listed Exercise Prices.

Upon demand and at the discretion of the Exchange, new out-of-current-range exercise prices at regularly defined intervals may be added for trading on as soon as possible basis.

### 255A03. EXERCISE AND ASSIGNMENT

In addition to the applicable procedures and requirements of Chapter 7, the following shall apply to the exercise of option contracts on Australian dollar/U.S. dollar futures.

#### 255A03.A.1. Exercise of European-Style Exercise Options("9:00 a.m. Fix")

All in-the-money options are automatically exercised by the Clearing House on the day of expiration for the option. All out-of-the money options are abandoned by the Clearing House on the day of expiration for the option. To determine whether an option is in or out of the money on this day, the Exchange shall calculate the relevant "CME currency fixing price" from GLOBEX-traded underlying futures contracts as follows:

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|--------|--|
| Tier 1 | Take the 30-second average of sale (trade) prices, weighted by volume, from 8:59:30 to 8:59:59 a.m. on the day of determination of the CME currency fixing price.  |
| Tier 2 | If less than three or no sales (trades) occurred during the 30-second interval noted above, take the midpoint of each bid & ask spread where available and average the resulting midpoints over the 30-second interval.                                    |
| Tier 3 | If no sales (trades) and no bid and ask prices occurred during the 30-second interval, then Exchange staff shall derive the CME currency fixing price (as a synthetic futures price) from quote vendor spot rates and appropriate maturity forward points. |

The calculation of the CME currency fixing price at Tiers 1 to 3 shall be rounded to each contract's Price Increment's definition. For example, for Euro with a Price Increment of \$0.0001 per Euro, the CME currency fixing price shall be rounded to the nearest \$0.0001 per Euro (with \$0.00005 and above rounded up to \$0.0001, and \$0.00004 and below rounded down to \$0.0000).

An option is in the money if the CME currency fixing price of the underlying futures contract lies above or is equal to the exercise price in the case of a call, or lies below the exercise price in the case of a put. For example, if the CME currency fixing price were 1.3050 or higher, then 1.3050 Calls shall be exercised. If the CME currency fixing price for Euro were 1.3049 or lower, then 1.3050 calls shall be abandoned. Similarly, if the CME currency fixing price were 1.3049 or lower, then 1.3050 Puts shall be exercised. If the CME currency fixing price for Euro were 1.3050 or higher, then 1.3050 Puts shall be abandoned.

#### **255A03.A.2. Exercise of European-Style Exercise Options ("2:00 p.m. Fix")**

All in-the-money options are automatically exercised by the Clearing House on the day of expiration for the option. All out-of-the money options are abandoned by the Clearing House on the day of expiration for the option. To determine whether an option is in or out of the money on this day, the Exchange shall calculate the relevant "CME currency fixing price" from GLOBEX-traded underlying futures contracts as follows:

**Tier 1** Take the 30-second average of sale (trade) prices, weighted by volume, from 1:59:30 to 1:59:59 p.m. on the day of determination of the CME currency fixing price.

**Tier 2** If less than three or no sales (trades) occurred during the 30-second interval noted above, take the midpoint of each bid & ask spread where available and average the resulting midpoints over the 30-second interval.

**Tier 3** If no sales (trades) and no bid and ask prices occurred during the 30-second interval, then Exchange staff shall derive the CME currency fixing price (as a synthetic futures price) from quote vendor spot rates and appropriate maturity forward points.

The calculation of the CME currency fixing price at Tiers 1 to 3 shall be rounded to each contract's Price Increment's definition. For example, for Euro with a Price Increment of \$0.0001 per Euro, the CME currency fixing price shall be rounded to the nearest \$0.0001 per Euro (with \$0.00005 and above rounded up to \$0.0001, and \$0.00004 and below rounded down to \$0.0000).

An option is in the money if the CME currency fixing price of the underlying futures contract lies above or is equal to the exercise price in the case of a call, or lies below the exercise price in the case of a put. For example, if the CME currency fixing price were 1.3050 or higher, then 1.3050 Calls shall be exercised. If the CME currency fixing price for Euro were 1.3049 or lower, then 1.3050 calls shall be abandoned. Similarly, if the CME currency fixing price were 1.3049 or lower, then 1.3050 Puts shall be exercised. If the CME currency fixing price for Euro were 1.3050 or higher, then 1.3050 Puts shall be abandoned.

#### **255A03.B. Assignment**

Exercise notices created by the Clearing House for buyers of European-style exercise options shall be assigned by the Clearing House through a process of random selection to clearing members with open short positions in the same series. A clearing member to which an exercise notice is assigned shall be notified thereof as soon as practicable after such notice is assigned by the Clearing House, but not later than 45 minutes before the opening of Regular Trading Hours in the underlying futures contract on the following Business Day.

The clearing member assigned an exercise notice shall be assigned a short position in the underlying futures contract if a call is exercised or a long position if a put is exercised. The clearing member representing the option buyer shall be assigned a long position in the underlying futures contract if a call is exercised and a short position if a put is exercised.

All such futures positions shall be assigned at a price equal to the exercise price of the option and shall be marked to market in accordance with Rule 814 on the Trading Day of acceptance by the Clearing House of the exercise notice.

#### **255A04. [RESERVED]**

**(End Chapter 255A)**