

**Updated Trading Community Q&A  
March 12, 2020**

CME Group announced yesterday that the trading floor will close as of the close of business tomorrow, Friday, March 13, 2020, as a precaution to reduce large gatherings that can contribute to the spread of coronavirus in line with the advice of medical professionals. The following updated guidance provides greater clarity on how trading procedures will adjust with this closure:

**1. How can I facilitate customer orders routed to the pit for execution?**

Member firms and floor brokers facilitating any customer orders currently routed to the floor for pit execution should have alternative plans in place to handle the execution of those orders either on CME Globex or via permissible noncompetitive execution methods (block trades and EFRPs). This includes any orders that have been placed with floor brokers for pit execution that have not currently been filled. You should engage with your qualifying clearing member firm to determine whether they will permit you to execute customer orders remotely after Friday.

**2. Will block thresholds be changed for any products?**

For full-sized Standard S&P 500 options on futures, the minimum block threshold will be lowered to 50 contracts while the trading floor is closed. Please note that each leg of a spread must satisfy this minimum threshold. For S&P Flex options, the block trade minimum will be established at 50 contracts.

**3. What happens to outrades?**

Clearing House will work with outrade clerks and brokers to match all activity via phone. Broker Trade View will be available to view trades via CME Group Portal. Please contact [ccs@cmegroup.com](mailto:ccs@cmegroup.com) or 312.207.2525 with questions.

**4. Will brokerage reports still be available?**

Yes, all brokerage reports are available in Enterprise Reporting Tool (EREP) which is available online. For access issues, please contact EASE.

**5. What happens to the trade vendor devices for trade submission on the floor?**

All trade entry vendor devices utilized on the trading floor will be restricted effective Monday, March 16.

**6. Will post-trade activity be allowed on pit trades in clearing post-closure?**

Yes, post-trade activity will be available as usual.