

## EMEA-APAC Conflicts of Interest Policy Summary

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### Purpose and Scope

The purpose of this document is provide a summary of the processes in place at CME Group for purposes of identifying, monitoring and managing conflicts of interest (the “Conflicts of Interest Compliance Program”) as it relates to the following regulated CME Group entities in the EMEA and APAC regions (hereafter “Regulated Entities”):

- BrokerTec Europe Limited (UK)
- CME Group Benchmark Administration Limited (UK)
- CME Amsterdam B.V. (The Netherlands)

This summary sets out key information regarding the Conflicts of Interest Compliance Program to allow clients or potential clients to understand the measures that the Regulated Entities undertake to safeguard the interests of their clients in accordance with applicable regulatory requirements (including, but not limited to, Article 34 of the MiFID organisational requirements Delegated Regulation<sup>1</sup> and Article 4 of the UK Benchmarks Regulation<sup>2</sup> applicable to CME Group Benchmark Administration Limited as a benchmark administrator).

### Definition of Conflict of Interest

A conflict of interest typically arises when two or more persons have competing interests and a duty of care or trust exists between those persons.

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<sup>1</sup> COMMISSION DELEGATED REGULATION (EU) 2017/565 of 25 April 2016 supplementing Directive 2014/65/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards organisational requirements and operating conditions for investment firms and defined terms for the purposes of that Directive and the UK onshored version of the same as amended and transposed into the laws of the United Kingdom pursuant to the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018 and the European Union (Withdrawal Agreement) Act 2020.

<sup>2</sup> REGULATION (EU) 2016/1011 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 8 June 2016 on indices used as benchmarks in financial instruments and financial contracts or to measure the performance of investment funds and amending Directives 2008/48/EC and 2014/17/EU and Regulation (EU) No 596/2014, as amended and transposed into the laws of the United Kingdom pursuant to the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018, the Benchmarks (Amendment and Transitional Provision) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 and the European Union (Withdrawal Agreement) Act 2020.

CME Group has sought to identify conflicts of interest that exist in its business and has put in place measures it considers appropriate to the relevant conflict in an effort to monitor, manage and control the potential impact of those conflicts. Conflicts of interest relevant to CME Group may include those that arise between:

- Customers with competing interests;
- Customers and the CME Group of Companies where their respective interests in a particular outcome may be different;
- The personal interests of staff of CME Group and the interests of CME Group or its customers where those interests may be different;
- Individual functions or business divisions of CME Group;
- CME Group entities; and
- A third-party service provider and CME Group or CME Group's customers.

There may be a conflict involving a customer where CME Group (or anyone connected to CME Group including another CME Group affiliate):

- Is likely to make a financial gain (or avoid a loss) at the expense of its customer;
- Is interested in the outcome of the service provided to its customer where the interests of CME Group are distinct from those of the customer;
- Has a financial or other incentive to favor the interests of one customer over another;
- Carries on the same business as a customer;
- Receives money, goods or services from a third party in relation to services provided to a customer other than standard fees or commissions.

## **Policies and procedures**

CME Group has a Code of Conduct, Conflicts of Interest Policy and associated procedures in order to manage conflicts of interests. These policies and procedures are subject to CME Group's normal monitoring and review processes.

### **Conflicts of Interest Policy**

CME Group has adopted a Code of Conduct. The Code of Conduct builds on our business principle of leading with conviction and integrity by setting the tone for a culture of compliance, ethical conduct and accountability and providing greater detail about the behavior we expect from our colleagues. It applies to all companies in the CME Group organisation, including those entities where CME Group is not the sole owner but has control of the entity. All CME Group employees, internal consultants and temporary

personnel resources (referred to as “colleagues”) must follow the Code of Conduct and its related policies.

As part of the Conflicts of Interests Compliance Program, CME Group has adopted a separate Conflicts of Interest Policy. The Conflicts of Interest Policy aligns with the Code of Conduct and sets forth the process for identifying, monitoring and managing actual and potential conflicts of interest. CME Group seeks to ensure that a conflict of interest does not adversely affect the interests of its organisation, its clients, its shareholders or other stakeholders.

The Conflicts of Interest Compliance Program seeks to:

- Identify circumstances which may give rise to conflicts of interest, entailing any risk of damage to customers’ interests, where CME Group undertakes various regulated activities such as the operation of regulated markets and Multilateral Trading Facilities (“MTF”);
- Identify circumstances which may give rise to conflicts of interest, entailing any risk to clients’ interests where acting as a benchmark administrator. In particular,
  - ensure the confidentiality of information contributed to or produced by the administrator, subject to the disclosure and transparency obligations under the regulations; and
  - specifically mitigate conflicts of interest due to the administrator’s ownership or control, or due to other interests in the administrator’s group or as a result of other persons that may exercise influence or control over the administrator in relation to determining the benchmark;
- Establish appropriate mechanisms and systems to manage conflicts of interest;
- Maintain systems and controls in an effort to prevent actual damage to customers’ interests through the identified conflicts; and
- Where these systems and controls are not sufficient to ensure, with reasonable confidence, that the risks of damage to clients’ interest will be prevented, CME Group, as a last resort, will ensure it discloses the relevant conflict in sufficient detail to its client(s).

## **Integrity and Standards of Conduct**

CME Group insists that in its dealings with customers all colleagues must always use the highest standard of integrity in their actions. The compliance induction program, training & competency procedures and monitoring program at CME Group are designed to ensure that all relevant staff are familiar with and observe, *inter alia*, the relevant MiFID II or benchmark regulation requirements.

## **Personal Account Dealing (“PAD”)**

CME Group has a policy (CME Group Personal Trading Policy) on PAD which is subject to certification by all colleagues. This policy:

- Establishes policies and procedures, designed to ensure the integrity of CME Group’s markets and to comply with all legal and regulatory requirements involving the trading of its own and other securities, derivatives and other financial instruments;
- Demonstrates that personal trading activity and investments are free from conflicts of interest; and
- Assists the company in avoiding even the appearance of improper conduct relating to personal trading by anyone associated with CME Group.

As part of this policy, certain colleagues by virtue of their job functions relating to the Regulated Entities, and the information to which they may have access to, or be presumed to have access to, are subject to additional disclosure and pre-clearance procedures relating to certain investments.

## **Confidentiality and Information Barriers**

CME Group is committed to protecting its proprietary, confidential and personal information, including information relating to its business, customers, vendors, strategic partners, employees and other third parties. In accordance with its Confidentiality and Data Protection Policy, CME Group has put in place procedures to control or prevent the flow of information between CME Group business units and entities where the interests of customers of one business unit or entity may conflict with the interests of customers of another CME Group business unit or entity or with CME Group’s own interests. Furthermore, CME Group insists on strict client confidentiality to ensure that information is disclosed only to those entitled to receive it or otherwise with the prior approval per established procedures.

## **Inducements to Employees from Customers**

Colleagues are not allowed to accept gifts, entertainment (or anything else that might inappropriately influence their decisions) from any person which might benefit one customer at the expense of another when conducting business. Colleagues are not allowed to place undue pressure upon customers to persuade the customer to trade through the firm to the extent that this might give rise to a conflict of interest between that customer and its own underlying customers.

## **Group Companies**

Where the services of another CME Group business are recommended to an existing customer, the colleague must inform the customer of the relationship with CME Group.

### **Remuneration Policy**

All relevant staff who are open to a conflict of interest are paid a fixed salary including those in key support areas such as Compliance, Finance and Operations. This salary is not dependent on company performance. A bonus and equity structure does exist, which is funded by overall Group company performance, rather than the business performance of each Regulated Entity. Any bonus or equity grant is then awarded based on the individual's performance and at the discretion of the senior management and notified only on payment. Where additional national remuneration regulations apply to Regulated Entities due to their country of operation, additional arrangements are in place to ensure compliance. The (variable) remuneration of staff who are involved in the provision of services to clients is structured in such a way that it encourages responsible business conduct, fair treatment of clients and avoids conflicts of interest in the relationship with clients.

### **Separate Supervision and Segregation of Function**

Where appropriate, CME Group has arranged for the separate supervision of those carrying out functions for customers whose interests may conflict, or where the interests of customers and CME Group may conflict and has taken steps to prevent the simultaneous or sequential involvement of a relevant person in separate services or activities where such involvement may impair the proper management of conflicts of interest.

### **Oversight of Activities by Other CME Group Entities**

Some activities within the Regulated Entities are carried out by personnel from other CME Group entities. Where this is the case, there are outsourcing agreements in place which, *inter alia*, dictate and control access to client data and set out service level agreements

### **Compliance and Monitoring Program**

The CME Group Governance, Risk and Compliance department has an established and documented compliance monitoring program of which part of this program focuses on conflicts of interest and recognising where there may be a potential conflict. The program includes an established process for monitoring for compliance with its pre-clearance requirements. Compliance also is a key participant in the establishment and performance monitoring of any important or critical outsourcing arrangements.

### **Disclosure**

As a last resort, where there is no other means of managing the conflict or where the measures in place do not, in the view of CME Group, sufficiently protect the interests of customers, the conflict of interest will be disclosed to customers to enable an informed decision to be made by the customer as to whether they wish to continue doing business with CME Group in that particular situation. Finally, where CME Group considers it is not able to manage the conflict of interest in any other way it may decline to act for a customer.

### **Benchmarks Contributors**

As a contributor of data to various third-party benchmarks, CME Group has established effective controls to manage conflicts of interest between the parts of the business responsible for the benchmark submission or contribution of data and those parts of the business who may use, or have an interest in the benchmark rate. CME Group has also established effective measures to prevent or limit any person from exercising inappropriate influence over the benchmark submission or contribution of data.

### **Benchmark Administrator**

As an administrator of various benchmarks, sourced from internal and third-party contributors, CME Group Benchmark Administration Limited must ensure that the provision of a benchmark is operationally separated from those parts of its business that may create an actual or potential conflict of interest. Therefore, CME Group has established controls to manage conflicts of interest between parts of the business that receive or contribute the data, from those that calculate the benchmark and those that distribute the benchmark. In addition, the benchmark methodology in place for each benchmark helps to prevent any person from exercising any influence over the resulting benchmark. Any queries on the above should be directed to [InternationalCompliance@cme.com](mailto:InternationalCompliance@cme.com).

<b>REVISION HISTORY FOR THE EMEA-APAC CONFLICTS OF INTEREST POLICY SUMMARY</b>	
<b>DATE</b>	<b>REVISION</b>
2020-09-16 Periodic review	First version
2022-06-16	Updates to Regulated Entity list and legislative references
2023-09-01	Periodic Review
2025-03-13	Periodic Review
2025-11-07	Update to Regulated Entity list