

MARKET REGULATION ADVISORY NOTICE

Exchange	CME, CBOT, NYMEX, COMEX
Subject	Order Routing/Front-End Audit Trail Requirements
Rule References	Rule 536.B.
Advisory Date	December 17, 2019
Advisory Number	CME Group RA1913-5
Effective Date	January 2, 2020

Effective on trade date Thursday, January 2, 2020, and pending all relevant CFTC regulatory review periods, this Market Regulation Advisory Notice will supersede CME Group Market Regulation Advisory Notice RA1520-5 from December 14, 2015. It is being issued based on amendments to Rule 536.B.2. (“Electronic Audit Trail Requirements for Electronic Order Routing/Front-End Systems”).¹

No other information in this Advisory Notice has been changed.

CME, CBOT, NYMEX and COMEX Rule 536.B.2. (“Globex Order Entry – Electronic Audit Trail Requirements for Electronic Order Routing/Front-End Systems”) requires that the electronic audit trail associated with any system that accesses the CME Globex platform through the CME iLink[®] gateway contain a complete and accurate record of all activity through that connection, and account for every electronic communication by the order routing or front-end system from the time such order routing or front-end system receives or generates an electronic communication until it is communicated to CME Globex. Further, the Rule requires that CMFs guaranteeing a connection to CME Globex are responsible for maintaining, or causing to be maintained, the electronic audit trail for a minimum of 5 years.

Firms responsible for the order routing/front-end audit trail of a trading system that accesses CME Globex through the CME iLink[®] gateway must have the ability to display data in the required format. Exchange Drop Copy messages or files do not meet the requirements of Rule 536.B.2., as Drop Copy only reflects an Exchange-level audit trail and will not include information internal to the firm’s system. Further, the connected entity must ensure that **all trading functionality supported by the system** is appropriately reflected in the audit trail. For the convenience of those responsible for such order routing or front-end systems, the Exchanges have updated the [CME Group Client Systems Wiki](#) with the new data definitions, required format, and validation rules applied through the certification process of the minimum acceptable audit trail elements that such systems must capture.

CME Group Market Regulation performs annual reviews of order routing/front-end audit trails to validate that certified systems capture data in accordance with the minimum acceptable audit trail elements.

Responsibility for Preserving Audit Trails

CMFs guaranteeing a connection to Globex are responsible for maintaining or causing to be maintained the order routing/front-end system audit trail for all electronic orders (except in the circumstance below where the CMF’s client is another CMF or an Equity Member Firm), including order entry, modification, cancellation, and responses to such messages (referred to as the “electronic audit trail”), entered into the Globex platform through the CME iLink[®] gateway. While CMFs are responsible for this audit trail, many firms outsource the preservation of the audit trail to a vendor, or require that their directly connected clients bear the cost of maintaining this data.

In the case where the Guaranteeing CMF has a direct connect client that is another CMF or an Equity Member Firm, the Guaranteeing CMF may notify the client CMF or Equity Member Firm that it is their obligation to maintain the audit trail. Upon execution of a written notice, it shall be the duty of the client CMF or Equity Member Firm to maintain an electronic audit trail pursuant to this rule.

¹ Please see Special Executive Report S-8477 from December 17, 2019, for information on the amendments.

When a new connection is made to CME Globex, connecting entities must provide a sample audit trail report from the test/certification environment before the system accesses the live environment. Shortly after the new system is deployed in the live environment, the connecting entity or the clearing firm is required to provide the Market Regulation Department with a full production audit trail report. The purpose of this review is to verify that the connecting entity's audit trail meets the minimum data requirements, and that it can be produced in a standard human readable format. Questions regarding the submission of sample or production audit trail reports should be sent to AuditTrail@CMEGroup.com.

The text of CME, CBOT, NYMEX and COMEX Rule 536.B. appears below.

536.B. Globex Order Entry

1. General Requirement

Each Globex terminal operator entering orders into Globex shall accurately input for each [Application Message](#) all fields required to be populated by the CME iLink® Message Specifications set forth in the [CME Group Client Systems Wiki](#) in effect at the time, including, but not limited to the: operator's user ID (Tag 50 ID); price; quantity; product; expiration month; CTI code; automated or manual indicator (Tag 1028); and account number (except as provided in Section C), and, for options, put or call and strike price. The Globex terminal operator's user ID must be present on each Application Message, including order messages, submitted to Globex. For a Globex terminal operator with access pursuant to Rule 574, the clearing member that guarantees such access to Globex will be responsible for the Globex terminal operator's compliance with this rule with respect to the following fields: operator's user ID, CTI code, automated or manual indicator and account number. Notwithstanding, and in accordance with Rule 574, a clearing member must take appropriate action if it has actual or constructive knowledge that a non-member operator has failed to accurately input for each Application Message fields required to be populated by this rule.

With respect to orders received by a Globex terminal operator which are capable of being immediately entered into Globex, no record other than that set forth above need be made. However, if a Globex terminal operator receives an order which cannot be immediately entered into Globex, the Globex terminal operator must prepare a written order and include the account designation, date, time of receipt and other information required pursuant to section A.1. above. The order must be entered into Globex when it becomes executable.

2. Electronic Audit Trail Requirements for Electronic Order Routing/Front-End Systems

Entities certified by the Exchange to connect an order routing/front-end system to the Globex platform through the CME iLink® gateway are responsible for creating an audit trail of each message entered into Globex. Clearing members guaranteeing a connection to Globex are responsible for maintaining or causing to be maintained the electronic audit trail for such systems. This electronic audit trail must be maintained for a minimum of 5 years, and clearing members must have the ability to produce this data in a standard format upon request of Market Regulation.

Each such electronic audit trail must be complete and accurate and account for every electronic communication such system sends to or receives from Globex.

This electronic audit trail must contain all order entry, order modification, and Globex response receipt times to the highest level of precision achievable by the operating system, but at least to the millisecond. The times captured must not be able to be modified by the person entering the order. The data must also contain all Fix Tag information and fields which should include, but is not limited to the following:

a record of all fields relating to order entry, including transaction date, product, Exchange code, expiration month, quantity, order type, order qualifier, price, buy/sell indicator, stop/trigger price, order number, unique transaction number, account number, session ID, Tag 50 ID, automated or manual indicator (Tag 1028), self-match prevention ID (Tag 7928) where applicable, host order number, trader order number, clearing member, type of action, action status code, customer type indicator, origin, and timestamps. For executed orders the audit trail must record the execution time of the trade along with all fill information.

In the case where the guaranteeing Clearing Firm has a direct connect client that is another Clearing Firm or an Equity Member Firm, the Clearing Firm may notify the client Clearing Firm or Equity Member Firm that it is their obligation to maintain the electronic audit trail. Upon execution of this written notice, it shall be the duty of the client Clearing Firm or Equity Member Firm to maintain an electronic audit trail pursuant to this rule. Nothing herein relieves any of the above-referenced firms from compliance with the applicable recordkeeping provisions of CFTC Regulations, including Regulation 1.31 or 1.35.

Questions regarding this Advisory Notice may be directed to the following individuals in Market Regulation:

Maricela George, Senior Data Investigator, 312.435.3614

Terry Quinn, Manager, 312.435.3753

Laetizia Moreau, Senior Director, 312.435.3619

For media inquiries concerning this Special Executive Report, please contact CME Group Corporate Communications at 312.930.3434 or news@cmegroup.com.