

Chapter 106 Palladium Futures

106100. SCOPE OF CHAPTER

This chapter is limited in application to Palladium futures. The procedures for trading, clearing, delivery and settlement not specifically covered herein or in Chapter 7 shall be governed by the general rules of the Exchange.

The provisions of these rules shall apply to all palladium bought or sold for future delivery on the Exchange.

The terms “seller” and “buyer” shall mean the seller of the physical product and the buyer of the physical product, respectively. Terms not specifically defined herein shall be defined in Chapter 7.

For purposes of these rules, unless otherwise specified, times referred to herein shall refer to and indicate New York time.

106101. CONTRACT SPECIFICATIONS

106101.A. Grade and Quality Specifications

Palladium held for delivery against a futures contract shall be either (i) a standard palladium unit which is defined as 100 troy ounces of palladium, weighed to the nearest thousandth of a troy ounce, or the equivalent weight in grams, of homogeneous cast plate and/or ingot, with a weight tolerance of 10% either higher or lower, or (ii) a larger palladium unit which is defined as palladium with weight greater than 110 troy ounces and less than or equal to 192.904 troy ounces (6 kilograms) weighed to the nearest thousandth of a troy ounce, or the equivalent weight in grams, of homogeneous cast plate and/or ingot.

The contract for delivery on futures contracts shall be either:

- (A) a standard palladium unit. Each standard palladium unit may consist of more than one piece of plate and/or ingot, with no individual piece weighing less than 10 troy ounces, or the equivalent weight in grams; or
- (B) ten (10) Accumulated Certificates of Exchange (“ACE”) in palladium issued by the Clearing House.

Each ACE represents a share in the ownership of either a standard palladium unit or a larger palladium unit held in the form of a Warrant. Each larger palladium unit may consist of more than one piece of plate and/or ingot, with no individual piece weighing less than 10 troy ounces.

Upon delivery, the buyer’s clearing member receives and the seller’s clearing member delivers ten (10) ACEs, issued by the Clearing House.

A clearing member may request the issuance of ACEs by electronically endorsing to the Clearing House a Warrant representing one (1) standard palladium unit or one (1) larger palladium unit.

In respect of standard palladium units, the Clearing House will issue ten (10) ACEs, with each such ACE representing an equal share in the ownership of the standard palladium unit (subject to any necessary rounding requirements). In respect of larger palladium units, the Clearing House will issue an ACE for each division of 10 troy ounces, or residual part thereof, within the larger palladium unit, with each such ACE representing an equal share in the ownership of the larger palladium unit based on the number of ACEs being issued in respect of the larger palladium unit (subject to any necessary rounding requirements).

ACEs may only be redeemed for a Warrant upon the accumulation of sufficient number such ACEs. Upon presentation and endorsement to the Clearing House of ACEs, the owner will receive either one (1) Warrant for a standard palladium unit, or one (1) Warrant for a larger palladium unit. Tolerance adjustments for ounces received vs. ounces represented by the ACEs will be made through the Clearing House.

Storage charges are invoiced to the clearing member who owns the ACEs.

Palladium delivered under this contract shall be a minimum of 99.95% pure and must be a brand approved by the Exchange.

106101.B. Packing Methods

Palladium may be delivered in packaged or unpackaged form.

1. If palladium is delivered in packaged form, the palladium must be in a package sealed by an Assayer or Producer such that the package may not be opened without destruction of the seal. Each package must contain either (i) exactly one standard palladium unit, or (ii) one larger palladium unit, and must bear:
 - a. the lot or identification number(s) of each ingot and/or plate contained therein;
 - b. the actual weight of the palladium therein;
 - c. the grade of the pieces therein;
 - d. the name or logo of the assayer or mark of the brand; and
 - e. the chemical symbol for palladium "Pd" and/or the word "Palladium"; and
 - f. the month and year of production for palladium (produced as of January 1, 2025). The production date can be separate from or part of the serial number. If the production date is part of the serial number, it can be alphanumeric up to 25 characters and the only special character allowed is a dash (-). If the production date is separate from the serial number, it can be in the following allowable formats:
 1. all numeric: MMYYYY (e.g., 012025)
 2. alphanumeric in this format: MMMYYYY (e.g., APR2025).
2. If palladium is delivered in unpackaged form, each piece of palladium comprising the standard palladium unit or larger palladium unit shall be incised with:
 - a. the lot or identification number of such ingot and/or plate contained therein;
 - b. its actual weight (provided that if the piece was previously sampled, the weight on the Assay Certificate shall govern);
 - c. the grade of such piece;
 - d. the name or logo of the assayer or mark of the brand; and
 - e. the chemical symbol for palladium "Pd" and/or the word "Palladium"; and
 - f. the month and year of production for palladium (produced as of January 1, 2025). The production date can be separate from or part of the serial number. If the production date is part of the serial number, it can be alphanumeric up to 25 characters and the only special character allowed is a dash (-). If the production date is separate from the serial number, it can be in the following allowable formats:
 1. all numeric: MMYYYY (e.g., 012025)
 2. alphanumeric in this format: MMMYYYY (e.g., APR2025).

106101.C. Warrant

Each Warrant shall contain the information set forth in the Assay Certificate, incised on the bar, or clearly identified on the package; provided, however, that weight shall be expressed in troy ounces. If the weight incised on the bar or set forth on the Assay Certificate is in grams, it shall be converted to troy ounces by dividing the weight in grams by 31.1035 and rounding to the nearest thousandth of a troy ounce.

Palladium must be delivered to an Exchange approved depository for palladium by an Exchange approved carrier or agent thereof acceptable to the Exchange for palladium as follows:

1. directly from an Exchange approved producer for palladium, or
2. directly from an Exchange approved assayer for palladium, provided that such palladium is accompanied by an assay certificate of such Exchange approved assayer for palladium, or

3. directly from another Exchange approved depository for palladium, provided, that such palladium was placed in such other Exchange approved depository for palladium pursuant to paragraphs (1) or (2) above, or
4. directly from one or more storage vaults located in Zurich, Switzerland or London, U.K. owned or controlled by members of the London Precious Metals Clearing Limited ("LPMCL") or custodians offering vaulting services in the Loco London Market, by means of one or more Carriers. Upon request of the Depository, the seller's clearing member shall provide to the Depository a bar list issued by the aforementioned vault or custodian and, if so requested, the Depository is not required to issue a Warrant for any such standard palladium unit or larger palladium unit until such documentation has been provided, or
5. directly from an Exchange approved producer for palladium or Exchange approved assayer for palladium that has been stored at another Exchange approved depository for palladium or a depository that is owned and/or operated by an Exchange approved depository for palladium.

106102. TRADING SPECIFICATIONS

The number of months open for trading at a given time shall be determined by the Exchange.

106102.A. Trading Schedule

The hours for trading shall be determined by the Exchange.

106102.B. Trading Unit

The contract unit shall be 100 troy ounces.

106102.C. Price Increments

The minimum price fluctuation shall be fifty cents (\$0.50) per troy ounce for outright transactions and ten cents (\$0.10) for implied spread transactions as well as daily and final settlement. Prices shall be quoted in dollars and cents per troy ounce.

106102.D. 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.

106102.E. Termination of Trading

No trades in Palladium futures deliverable in the current month shall be made after the third last business day of that month. Any contracts remaining open after the last trade date must be either:

- (A) Settled by delivery which shall take place on any business day beginning on the first business day of the delivery month or any subsequent business day of the delivery month, but no later than the last business day of the delivery month.
- (B) Liquidated by means of a bona fide Exchange for Related Position ("EFRP") pursuant to Rule 538. An EFRP is permitted in an expired futures contract until 12:00 p.m. on the business day following termination of trading in the expired futures contract. An EFRP which establishes a futures position for either the buyer or the seller in an expired futures contract shall not be permitted following the termination of trading of an expired futures contract.

106102.F. Special Price Fluctuation Limits

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

106103. INSPECTION AND ASSAY CERTIFICATE

Except for palladium delivered pursuant to Rules 106101.C (1), (2), (3) or (5), or 106101A.C. (1), (2), (3) or (5), the Depository shall, upon receipt of the commodity, cause an inspection to be made by an Assayer or a Producer. The Assayer or Producer shall issue Assay Certificate(s) covering each piece in the contract in the form approved by the Exchange.

Each Assay Certificate shall report the lot or bar number, weight, grade, the name of the Assayer or Producer, the symbol identifying the metal or the name of the metal and the date of inspection. On all Assay Certificates, weight shall be expressed in troy ounces.

Every lot inspected must bear on the package the lot number, seal number, date of inspection, weight, grade, and the name of the Assayer or Producer who made the inspection. (Effective as to palladium assayed prior to October 1, 1979)

Every lot inspected, if packaged, must bear on such package the lot or bar number, weight, grade, the name or logo of the Assayer or Producer and the symbol identifying the metal or the name of the metal. Every lot inspected, if unpackaged, must be incised with the lot or bar number, weight; grade, the name or logo of the Assayer or Producer, and the symbol identifying the metal. (Effective as to palladium assayed on and after October 1, 1979)

If a standard palladium unit or a larger palladium unit is surrendered to the bearer of a Warrant, or if the standard palladium unit or larger palladium unit is in a package and the seal is broken, Assay Certificate(s) for such standard palladium unit or larger palladium unit is no longer valid and such standard palladium unit or larger palladium unit is no longer Eligible.

The seller shall bear the costs of inspection, delivery to the Depository, charges of the Depository, and all other expenses, if any, to determine that the palladium is Eligible.

106104.-107. [RESERVED]

106108. VALIDITY OF DOCUMENTS

The Exchange makes no representation respecting the authenticity, validity or accuracy of any document or instrument delivered pursuant to these rules.