This Advisory Notice supersedes CME Group Market Regulation Advisory Notice RA1508-5 issued on June 8, 2015. It is being issued as a result of the upcoming elimination of NYMEX and COMEX Rule 550 (“Post Close Session”) in connection with the December 30, 2016, termination of open outcry trading of NYMEX and COMEX products and the closure of the NYMEX and COMEX trading floor. The text of CME and CBOT Rule 550 appears at the end of this Advisory Notice.

**Frequently Asked Questions**

**Post Close Session**

1. **Which futures and options contracts have a post close session?**

   The following pit-traded products have a post close session:
   - CME – S&P 500 Stock Price Index™ futures contracts.
   - CBOT – All agricultural options contracts.

2. **How long is the post close session?**

   At CME, the post close session lasts for three minutes. At CBOT, the post close session lasts for five minutes.

3. **Is there a post close session in electronic trading?**

   No.

4. **What time does the post close session begin?**

   The post close session begins as soon as practicable after the close of Regular Trading Hours for the particular product. Trading Floor Operations staff, in consultation with the Pit Committee, determines when a pit is prepared to begin the post close session and will communicate the starting time of the post close session to the pit.
5. For products which have a post close session, what may be traded during the session?

All listed contract months and all spreads and combinations are eligible to be traded during the post close session. Listed contracts eligible for trading via open outcry which have not traded during the session or have not previously opened are also eligible to be traded during the post close session.

6. What prices are eligible to be traded during the post close session?

Except as noted in question 7 below, outright trades during the post close session may be executed at any price, provided that the price is within the daily limits for contracts with daily price limits. Spreads and combinations may be transacted at any price, provided that both legs of the spread are priced within the daily price limits for contracts with price limits. For contracts with variable price limits, the price limits in effect during the Regular Trading Hours session will apply to trading during that day's post close session.

7. How do the equity index price limits apply to the prices at which CME S&P 500 Stock Price Index™ futures may be traded during the post close session?

Trades in S&P 500 Stock Price Index™ futures during the post close session are subject to a 5 percent upside and downside price limit based on that day’s settlement price, provided, however, that the downside limit may not violate the downside daily price limit that was in effect at the time the market closed at 3:15 p.m. Central Time.

The 5 percent upside and downside limit is currently applicable to trading in E-mini S&P 500 Stock Price Index™ futures on CME Globex during non-pit trading hours. The application of the 5 percent upside and downside limit during the post close session ensures that prices traded during the session do not occur at prices which would subsequently be ineligible to trade during the Extended Trading Hours session.

The additional application of the downside price limit in effect at the time the S&P 500 Stock Price Index™ futures market closes at 3:15 p.m. is necessary to ensure that trading during the post close session does not occur at a price which, if allowed, would violate the existing downside daily price limit applicable to the contract during Regular Trading Hours.

8. May a price traded during the post close session establish a new high or low in the outright contract month or spread or combination?

Yes.

9. Are settlement prices derived using prices traded during the post close session?

No. Activity during the post close session does not have any effect on the determination of settlement prices.

10. May new orders be entered after the close of Regular Trading Hours for execution during the post close session?

Yes.

11. What is a member’s obligation with respect to the handling of orders during the post close session?

A member is obligated to bid or offer any orders which the member has accepted that are executable during the post close session. The member’s obligation to exercise due diligence in the handling and execution of customer orders remains unchanged during the post close session.
12. In those contracts for which CME Globex does not continue trading subsequent to the close of the pit traded market, are orders on CME Globex that were unfilled prior to the Globex close required to be entered for execution during the post close session?

No. In those contacts for which Globex trading closes prior to the pit’s post close session, orders entered for execution on Globex that remain unfilled at the close of the Globex session are not required to be entered for execution during the post close session. Firms and their customers are responsible for determining the venue in which to enter orders and the servicing arrangements associated with the handling of orders.

Questions regarding this advisory may be directed to the following individuals:

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CME

550. POST CLOSE SESSION
As soon as practicable, trading may resume for a period of three minutes after the close of Regular Trading Hours for pit traded S&P 500 Stock Price Index™ futures contracts. Such trading must begin within 15 minutes after the close of Regular Trading Hours unless a later start time is approved by an Exchange Official.

During the post close session, members are obligated to bid or offer any orders that were received prior to or after the close which are executable in the post close session.

Futures trades during the post close session may occur at any price, provided such price is within the daily limits as set forth in Rule 35102.I.

The prices at which trades occur during the post close session may establish a new high or low in the outright contract month or spread or combination.

Except as otherwise specifically set forth in this rule, the rules applicable to trading during Regular Trading Hours shall be applicable to trading during the post close session.

CBOT

550. POST CLOSE SESSION
As soon as practicable, trading may resume for a period of five minutes after the close of Regular Trading Hours for designated pit traded options contracts. Such trading must begin with 15 minutes after the close of Regular Trading Hours unless a later start time is approved by an Exchange Official.

During the post close session, members are obligated to bid or offer any orders that were received prior to or after the close which are executable in the post close session.

Outright options and options-only spread and combination trades during the post close session may occur at any price.

An option spread which includes a futures leg executed during the post close session may occur at any price, provided that the futures leg is priced within the daily price limits for futures contracts with price limits.

The prices at which trades occur during the post close session may establish a new high or low in the outright contract month or spread or combination.

Except as otherwise specifically set forth in this rule, the rules applicable to trading during Regular Trading Hours shall be applicable to trading during the post close session.