



## BY ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION

Submission No. 18-386 August 1, 2018

Mr. Christopher J. Kirkpatrick Office of the Secretariat Commodity Futures Trading Commission Three Lafayette Centre 1155 21<sup>st</sup> Street, NW Washington, DC 20581

Re: Amendments to MSCI Contract Exchange Member Fee Program Submission Pursuant to Section 5c(c)(1) of the Act and Regulation 40.6

Dear Mr. Kirkpatrick:

Pursuant to Commission Regulation 40.6(a), ICE Futures U.S., Inc. ("IFUS" or "Exchange") submits, by written certification, the amendment to the MSCI Contract Exchange Member Fee Program ("Program") set forth in Exhibit A. The amendment will require participants in the Program to trade 500 lots of NYSE Fang+ Index Futures volume on the screen (central limit order book) each month.

The Program currently offers market participants that are members or member firms of ICE Futures US or another qualifying exchange the ability to earn discounted Exchange and Clearing fees for proprietary MSCI Index Futures and options. As described in Exhibit A, Program participants currently must execute at least 500 lots of NYSE Fang+ Index Futures and satisfy certain pre-set monthly volume levels in one of the two Program Tracks, the MSCI Emerging Market ("EM") Track or the MSCI EAFE Track. Each Program Track includes the named index and the associated contracts (as listed in the "Product Scope" in Exhibit A). Screen and non-screen (off-Exchange) volume are included in determining a participant's monthly volume in the Program and are eligible for any discounted Exchange and Clearing fee earned.

The Exchange is amending the Program to require participants to execute the 500 lots of NYSE Fang+ Index Futures volume on the screen. Off-Exchange transactions reported to the Exchange will no longer be counted towards the qualifying threshold. The Exchange believes that this amendment will help increase volume and liquidity on the screen in the NYSE Fang+ Index Futures and benefit all market participants.

The Exchange certifies that the Program continues to comply with the requirements of the Commodity Exchange Act and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder. In particular, the amendments, which will become effective on September 1, 2018, comply with Core Principle 4 (Monitoring of Trading), Core Principle 9 (Execution of Transactions) and Core Principle 12 (Protection of Market Participants). The Program does not impact order execution priority or otherwise give participants any execution preference or advantage. In addition, the Exchange's

Market Regulation Department actively monitors for trading abuses using electronic exception reports and will take appropriate action against any participants engaging in market abuses.

The Exchange further certifies that, concurrent with this filing, a notice of pending certification was posted on the Exchange's website. A copy of this submission may be accessed at ((<a href="https://www.theice.com/futures-us/regulation#rule-filings">https://www.theice.com/futures-us/regulation#rule-filings</a>). The Exchange is not aware of any opposing views with respect to the Program.

If you have any questions or need further information, please contact me at 212-748-4021 or at jason.fusco@theice.com.

Jasm L. Tuso

Jason V. Fusco Assistant General Counsel

Market Regulation

Enc.

cc: Division of Market Oversight

## **EXHIBIT A**

## ICE Futures U.S.®, Inc. MSCI Contract Exchange Member Fee Program

The program offers entities that are members of a number of qualifying derivatives exchanges and that execute proprietary trades in Futures contracts on NYSE FANG+<sup>TM</sup> Index Futures and: (1) the MSCI Emerging Markets, the Emerging Markets Asia, Emerging Markets Latin America, Emerging Markets EMEA, China, India, Mexico, ACWI Ex-US Indexes, collectively the "EM contracts"; and/or (2) the MSCI EAFE, MSCI World, and ACWI, Canada, USA, Euro, Europe and Pan Euro Indexes, collectively the "EAFE contracts", to earn a discounted Exchange and Clearing fee for their program volume in the EM contracts and the EAFE contracts each month.

Only participants who execute at least 500 sides of NYSE FANG+ Index futures <u>screen-traded</u> volume in a calendar month are eligible to earn discounted rates on MSCI contracts in this program. For participants who meet that NYSE FANG+ volume threshold, the amount of the discounted Exchange and Clearing Fee for MSCI contracts earned in a calendar month is based on the participant's volume of EM and EAFE contract volume in the month, as shown below:

	Discounted Excha	ange and		
EM Track Volume	Clearing Fee (per	side)	EAFE Track Volume	
Less than 8,000 sides	no discount		less than 4,000 sides	
8,000 to 17,999 sides	66 cents		4,000 to 8,999 sides	
18,000 or more sides	45 cents		9,000 or more sides	
Participant Name				
Type of Membership (check	one)			
CME	CBOT		CBOE	
Corporate Member	Corporate Me	ember	Corporate Member	
NYMEX	ISE		IFUS	
Corporate Member	Corporate Me	ember	Corporate Member	
ICE Futures Europe	CFE			
Corporate Member	Corporate Me	mber		
NFA Registration ID (if appl	icable):			
Please identify the proprietar	y account/s you will b	be using for	trading ICE Futures U.S. Russell	
Index products (only propriet	tary trades in identifie	ed accounts a	are eligible for program rates).	
ICE Futures U.S. Clearing Member		Proprietary Trading Account Number		
learing Member Contact:		Phone	e:email:	

Only transactions in said EM and EAFE contracts executed by the participant in its proprietary account(s) are eligible for discounted fees in this program; block trades and EFP transactions in these contracts are eligible for discounted fees. The difference between the discounted rate earned by the participant in this Program and the standard customer fees for the contracts will be rebated to the Program participating firm through the participating firm's clearing member.

Any participant that earns a discounted rate for EM Track volume in a calendar month and executes at least 500 sides of screen trades in MSCI Emerging Markets futures contracts in the same calendar month during Asian Hour (defined for purposes of this program as any time before 3:00 pm Singapore time) shall receive an additional 2 cents per side discount on their MSCI Emerging Markets futures contract volume in that calendar month. All Participants (without regard to achievement of the volume thresholds stated above) shall receive a full rebate of Exchange and Clearing fees for all EM contract screen traded volume executed during Asian Trading Hours.

The Exchange Member Fee Program continues through trade date December 31, 2018 or until further notice, but in no case for a period to exceed three years. ICE Futures U.S. reserves the right to remove any participant from the Program at its discretion, and to terminate or amend the program terms at any time.

As a qualified representative of the Exchange member applying to participate in the Program, I hereby certify that the information provided above is true and correct. I hereby acknowledge and understand that ICE Futures U.S., including but not limited to the Market Regulation Department, will be reviewing trading in the proprietary account(s) listed above to determine whether the participant continues to meet the requirements of the Program and whether the participant should continue or be renewed as a participant in the Program. I authorize ICE Futures U.S. to contact the clearing member of the participant from time to time to confirm its continued eligibility for the program and authorize its clearing member to release all trading information related to the proprietary account(s) listed above to ICE Futures U.S.

Signature:		Date:
Printed Name:		
Title:		
	Firm:	
Telephone Number:		
E-Mail Address:		

Please call Ted Doukas (312.836.6712) or Laura Brandeis (212.323.8874) with questions about the program. The application should be returned to <a href="ted.doukas@theice.com">ted.doukas@theice.com</a> or <a href="laura.brandeis@theice.com">laura.brandeis@theice.com</a>.