

SUBMISSION COVER SHEET

IMPORTANT: Check box if Confidential Treatment is requested

Registered Entity Identifier Code (optional): 15-556

Organization: The Board of Trade of the City of Chicago, Inc. ("CBOT")

Filing as a: DCM SEF DCO SDR

Please note - only ONE choice allowed.

Filing Date (mm/dd/yy): December 15, 2015 Filing Description: Modifications to the Grain and Oilseed Futures Volume Incentive Program

SPECIFY FILING TYPE

Please note only ONE choice allowed per Submission.

Organization Rules and Rule Amendments

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Certification | § 40.6(a) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Approval | § 40.5(a) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Notification | § 40.6(d) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Advance Notice of SIDCO Rule Change | § 40.10(a) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | SIDCO Emergency Rule Change | § 40.10(h) |

Rule Numbers: **Not Applicable**

New Product

Please note only ONE product per Submission.

- | | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Certification | § 40.2(a) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Certification Security Futures | § 41.23(a) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Certification Swap Class | § 40.2(d) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Approval | § 40.3(a) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Approval Security Futures | § 41.23(b) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Novel Derivative Product Notification | § 40.12(a) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Swap Submission | § 39.5 |

Official Product Name:

Product Terms and Conditions (product related Rules and Rule Amendments)

- | | | |
|--------------------------|---|----------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Certification | § 40.6(a) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Certification Made Available to Trade Determination | § 40.6(a) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Certification Security Futures | § 41.24(a) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Delisting (No Open Interest) | § 40.6(a) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Approval | § 40.5(a) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Approval Made Available to Trade Determination | § 40.5(a) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Approval Security Futures | § 41.24(c) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Approval Amendments to enumerated agricultural products | § 40.4(a), § 40.5(a) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | “Non-Material Agricultural Rule Change” | § 40.4(b)(5) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Notification | § 40.6(d) |

Official Name(s) of Product(s) Affected:

Rule Numbers:



Christopher Bowen
Managing Director and Chief Regulatory Counsel
Legal Department

December 15, 2015

VIA ELECTRONIC PORTAL

Christopher J. Kirkpatrick
Office of the Secretariat
Commodity Futures Trading Commission
Three Lafayette Centre
1155 21st Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20581

**RE: Modifications to the Grain and Oilseed Futures Volume Incentive Program
CBOT Submission No. 15-556**

Dear Mr. Kirkpatrick:

The Board of Trade of the City of Chicago, Inc. ("CBOT" or "Exchange") hereby notifies the Commodity Futures Trading Commission ("CFTC" or "Commission") of plans to modify the Grain and Oilseed Futures Volume Incentive Program ("Program"). The proposed modifications to the Program will become effective on January 1, 2016.

Exhibit 1 sets forth the terms of this Program. The modifications appear below, with additions underscored and deletions ~~everstruck~~.

CBOT reviewed the designated contract market core principles ("Core Principles") as set forth in the Commodity Exchange Act ("CEA"). During the review, CBOT staff identified the following Core Principles as potentially being impacted: Prevention of Market Disruption, Execution of Transactions, Protection of Market Participants, Compliance with Rules, and Recordkeeping.

The Program and proposed modifications will not impact the Exchange's ability to perform its trade practice and market surveillance obligations under the CEA and the Exchange's market regulation staff will monitor trading in the Program's products to prevent manipulative trading and market abuse. Additionally, the Exchange has implemented systems to track Program participants' obligations under the Program to ensure proper distribution of earned incentives. The incentives in the Program do not impact the Exchange's order execution. Participants in the Program will be selected by Exchange's staff using criteria as further stated in Exhibit 1. Chapter 4 of the CBOT rules includes prohibitions against fraudulent, non-competitive, unfair or abusive practices. All participants must execute a contractual agreement with the Exchange in which each participant will expressly agree to comply with and be subject to, applicable regulations and rules. The Program is subject to the Exchange's record retention policies which comply with the CEA.

CBOT certifies that the Program complies with the CEA and the regulations thereunder. There were no substantive opposing views to this Program.

The Exchange certifies that this submission has been concurrently posted on the Exchange's website at <http://www.cmegroup.com/market-regulation/rule-filings.html>.

If you require any additional information regarding this submission, please e-mail CMEGSubmissionInquiry@cmegroup.com or contact Rachel Johnson at 312-466-4393 or via e-mail at Rachel.Johnson@cmegroup.com. Please reference our CBOT Submission No. 15-556 in any related correspondence.

Sincerely,

/s/ Christopher Bowen
Managing Director and Chief Regulatory Counsel

Attachment: Exhibit 1

EXHIBIT 1

Grain and Oilseed Futures Volume Incentive Program

Program Purpose

The purpose of this Program is to incentivize CBOT Individual Members and Member Firms to increase their volume and thus market liquidity for the products listed below on Globex and on the CBOT trading floor. A more liquid contract benefits all participants in the market.

Product Scope

All CBOT full-sized Agricultural futures contracts that are traded on the CBOT trading floor and on Globex ("Products").

Eligible Participants

There is no limit to the number of participants that may apply for the Program.

1. To be eligible for participation in the CBOT Member Firm incentives below, a participant must:
 - i. Be a CBOT Equity Member Firm (excluding a family of hedge funds). Execution may be conducted by a member or non-member; and
 - ii. Register all participating account owners with the Exchange; and
 - iii. Be a Proprietary Trading Firm which is defined as a firm whose primary means of revenue generation is trading with the firm's own capital. The Exchange, in its sole determination and based on a variety of factors, will have the final decision regarding disputes of eligibility.
2. To be eligible for participation for the CBOT Individual Member Firm Incentives below a participant must:
 - i. Be a CBOT Individual Member (with or without equity) trading for their own account or, Individual CBOT Equity Members where execution is done on the Individual CBOT Equity Member's behalf by another member or delegate.

Program Term

Start date is July 19, 2012. End date is ~~December 31, 2015~~ December 31, 2016.

Hours

~~The incentives will apply to all trades made in the Products regardless of the execution time.~~ 7:45 AM – 1:20 PM CST, Monday – Friday

Qualifications

- a. *Standard Progressive Tiers*. To qualify for participation in the standard progressive tier discounts for an applicable calendar quarter ("Participating Quarter"), a participant, for the

entirety of the calendar quarter immediately preceding the Participating Quarter (“Qualifying Quarter”) must have traded a minimum of thirty percent (30%) of the participant’s volume in the Products on Globex as resting volume. Passivity of 29.5000% and above will be rounded to 30%.

- b. *Accelerated Progressive Tiers.* In addition to meeting the requirements above, to qualify for the accelerated progressive tier discounts for a Participating Quarter, a participant, during the relevant Qualifying Quarter, must have; (i) maintained a combined average daily volume of 250 contract sides traded in CBOT agricultural emerging products, as determined by the Exchange, *or* (ii) traded a minimum of sixty percent (60%) of the participants combined volume in the Products on Globex as resting volume. Passivity of 59.5000% and above will be rounded to 60%.

Incentives*

- 1. **CBOT Individual Member Participants.** For each calendar month of participation in the Program CBOT Individual Member participants will receive progressive tiered discounts on ~~exchange~~ all-in fees for trades executed on the CBOT trading floor and on Globex based on an applicable participant’s combined average daily volume (“ADV”) in the Products, such ADV to be calculated over an applicable calendar month in accordance with the following:

Monthly Average Daily Threshold (sides)	Exchange All-In Fee Discount (per side)
0 to 2,500	None
2,501 to 5,000	\$0.02
5,001 to 10,000	\$0.04
10,001 +	\$0.06

- 2. **CBOT Member Firm Participants.**

- a. *Standard Progressive Tiers.* For each Participating Quarter, CBOT Member Firm participants will receive progressive tiered discounts on ~~exchange~~ all-in fees for trades executed on the CBOT trading floor and on Globex based on an applicable participant’s combined average daily volume (“ADV”) in the Products, such ADV to be calculated over an applicable calendar month in accordance with the table below. For the purpose of the standard progressive tiered discount incentive the first Qualifying Quarter will be considered a Participating Quarter for legacy participants of the former CBOT Agricultural Volume Incentive Program.

Monthly Average Daily Threshold (sides)	Exchange All-In Fee Discount (per side)
0 to 10,000	None
10,001 to 25,000	\$0.02
25,001 +	\$0.04

- b. *Accelerated Progressive Tiers.* For the first Qualifying Quarter and for each subsequent Participating Quarter thereafter, CBOT Member Firm participants will receive progressive tiered discounts on ~~exchange~~ all-in fees for trades executed on the CBOT trading floor and on Globex based on an applicable participant’s combined average daily volume (“ADV”) in the Products, such ADV to be calculated over an applicable calendar month in accordance with the following:

Monthly Average Daily Threshold (sides)	Exchange All-In Fee Discount (per side)
0 to 5,000	None
5,001 to 12,500	\$0.04
12,501 +	\$0.06

*Give-up activity is excluded.

Monitoring and Termination of Status

The Exchange shall monitor trading activity and shall retain the right to revoke Program participant status if it concludes from review that a Program participant no longer meets the eligibility requirements of the Program.

If a participant does not meet the thirty percent (30%) minimum passivity volume in the Products for the Standard Progressive Tiers above during one (1) quarter following a Qualifying Quarter, but is at or above 28.5000% passivity, the participant will still be eligible to receive the incentives for that applicable quarter. In order to continue to receive the program incentives, participants must meet the thirty percent (30%) minimum passivity volume in the Products for all subsequent months.

If a participant does not meet the sixty percent (60%) minimum passivity volume in the Products for the Accelerated Progressive Tiers above during one (1) quarter following a Qualifying Quarter, but is at or above 58.5000% passivity, the participant will still be eligible to receive the incentives for that applicable quarter. In order to continue to receive the program incentives, participants must meet the sixty percent (60%) minimum passivity volume in the Products for all subsequent months.