

**SUBMISSION COVER SHEET**

**IMPORTANT:** Check box if Confidential Treatment is requested

**Registered Entity Identifier Code (optional):** 24-239

**Organization:** NEX SEF Limited ("NEX SEF")

**Filing as a:**  DCM  SEF  DCO  SDR

**Please note - only ONE choice allowed.**

**Filing Date (mm/dd/yy):** 06/05/24 **Filing Description:** Issuance of NEX SEF Market Regulation Advisory Notice ("MRAN") 2024-01 Regarding Amendments to the Operational Parameters Annex

**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:** See filing.

**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     |

**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:**

June 5, 2024

**VIA ELECTRONIC PORTAL**

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

**Re: CFTC Regulation 40.6(a) Certification. Issuance of NEX SEF Market Regulation Advisory Notice (“MRAN”) 2024-01 Regarding Amendments to the Operational Parameters Annex. NEX SEF Submission No. 24-239**

Dear Mr. Kirkpatrick:

Pursuant to Commodity Futures Trading Commission (“CFTC” or “Commission”) Regulation 40.6(a), NEX SEF Limited (“NEX SEF”) is certifying to the CFTC the issuance of NEX SEF Market Regulation Advisory Notice (“MRAN”) 2024-01 regarding amendments to the Operational Parameters Annex (“OPA”) (collectively, the “Rule Amendments”) effective on June 21, 2024.

Specifically, the OPA, included as Appendix 1 to MRAN 2024-01, describes various arrangements NEX SEF has put in place to ensure the fair and orderly functioning of the market as required under the rules of the UK Financial Conduct Authority including UK MiFID II / UK MiFIR and relevant secondary legislation. MRAN 2024-01 shall supersede MRAN 2022-05 (see NEX SEF Submission [22-066R](#) dated March 8, 2022).

Specifically, the updates to the OPA are as follows:

- Addition of Pre-Trade and Post-Trade Transparency publication information;
- Update to references to NEX SEF Pre-Trade and Post-Trade Controls parameters; and
- Removal of sections which are no longer relevant, specifically Section 1.2.2 Quote Fill Ratios (replaced with the Messaging Efficiency Program) and the trading venue self-assessment description which is not required to form part of the OPA/Rulebook.

NEX SEF reviewed the Swap Execution Facility core principles (“Core Principles”) as set forth in the Commodity Exchange Act (“CEA” or “Act”) and identified that the Rule Amendments may have some bearing on the following Core Principles:

**Core Principle 2 – Compliance with Rules:** CEA Section 5h(f)(2)(A) requires a swap execution facility to establish and enforce compliance with its rules. The CFTC has implemented this statutory requirement by adopting CFTC Regulation 37.203(a), which requires a swap execution facility to prohibit manipulative or disruptive trading practices prohibited by the CEA or by the Commission pursuant to Commission regulation. The amendments to the OPA are intended to assist NEX SEF in ensuring that its market participants comply with its rules and NEX SEF remains in compliance with CFTC Regulation 37.203(a) and the Core Principles.

**Core Principle 4 – Monitoring of Trading and Trade Processing:** CEA Section 5h(f)(4) requires a swap execution facility to (i) establish and enforce rules defining, or specifications detailing, trading procedures to be used in entering and executing orders traded on or through its

facilities and (ii) monitor trading in swaps to prevent manipulation, price distortion, and disruptions of the delivery or cash settlement process. The CFTC has implemented this statutory requirement by adopting CFTC Regulation 37.400. The amendments to the OPA are being implemented in furtherance of this Core Principle.

Appendix A provides amendments to the NEX SEF MRAN 2022-05 in blackline format. Appendix B provides a clean version of new NEX SEF MRAN 2024-01.

Pursuant to Section 5c(c) of the CEA and Regulations 37.3(b)(3) and 40.6(a), NEX SEF certifies that the Rule Amendments comply with the Act, as amended, and the Commission's regulations thereunder. There were no substantive opposing views to this proposal.

NEX SEF certifies that this submission has been concurrently posted on the CME Group website at <http://www.cmegroup.com/market-regulation/rule-filings.html>.

If you require any additional information regarding this submission, please contact the undersigned at 312-466-7478 or via email at [CMEGSubmissionInquiry@cmegroup.com](mailto:CMEGSubmissionInquiry@cmegroup.com).

Sincerely,

/s/ Timothy Elliott  
Managing Director and Chief Regulatory Counsel

Attachments: Appendix A – NEX SEF MRAN 2022-05 (blackline format)  
Appendix B – NEX SEF MRAN 2024-01 (clean)

**Appendix A**  
**NEX SEF MRAN**

(additions underscored; deletions ~~struck through~~)

## MARKET REGULATION ADVISORY NOTICE

<b>From</b>	<i>NEX SEF Limited ("NEX SEF")</i>
<b>To</b>	<i>All Participants</i>
<b>Subject</b>	<i>NEX SEF Operational Parameters Annex</i>
<b>Rule References</b>	104, 205, 206, 310
<b>Effective Date</b>	<i>June 20, 2024</i>
<b>Notice Date</b>	<i>June 20, 2024</i>
<b>Notice Number</b>	<i>2024-01</i>

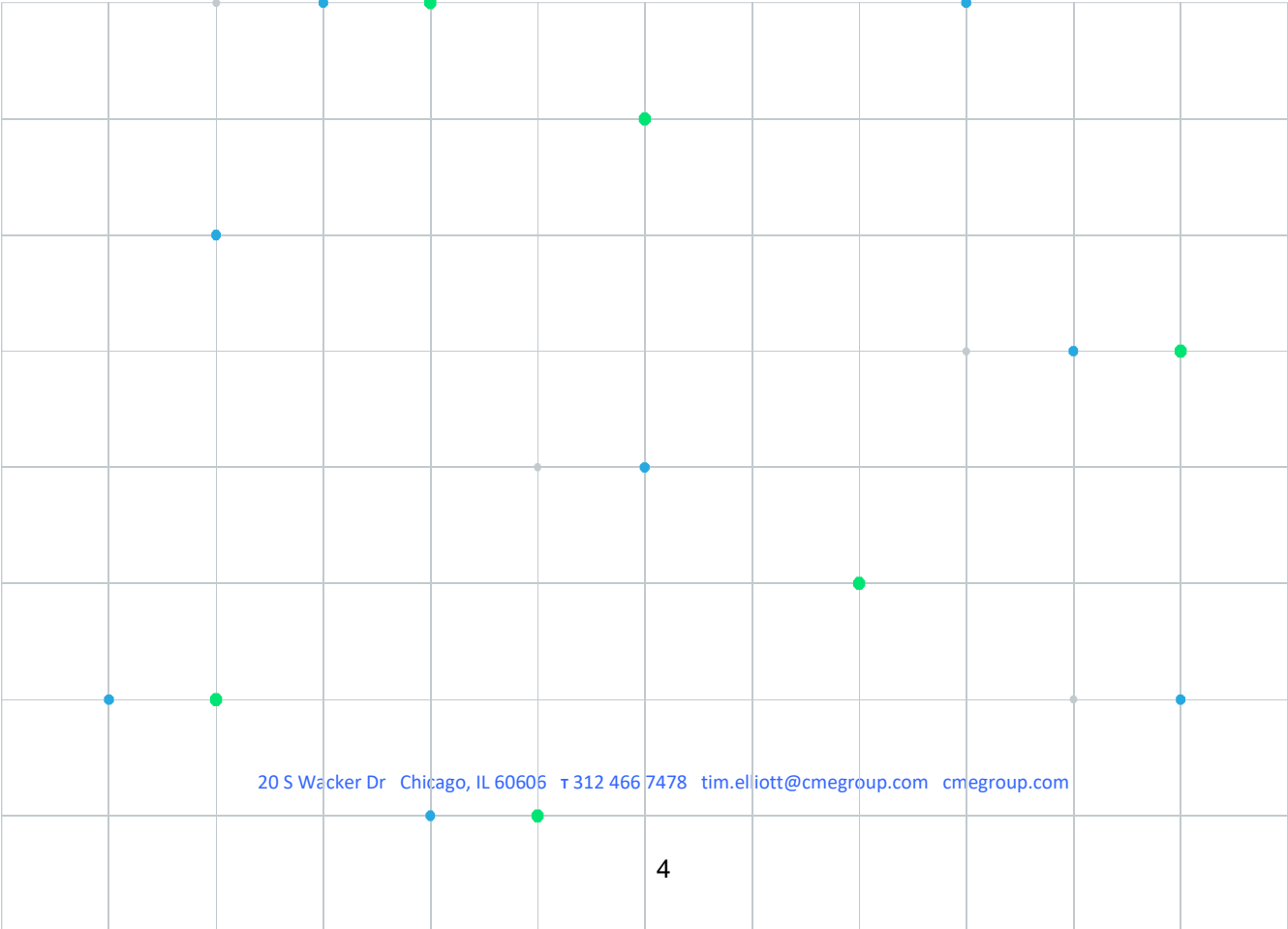
### **NEX SEF | Operational Parameters Annex**

This MRAN supersedes MRAN 2022-05. The policy part of Appendix 1 the NEX SEF Operational Parameters Annex which describes various other arrangements NEX SEF has put in place to ensure the fair and orderly functioning of the market as required under MiFID II / MiFIR and relevant secondary legislation is hereby updated.

Appendix 1

# NEX SEF Operational Parameters Annex

June 2024  
Version 1.3



## **Introduction and Background**

The NEX SEF is a Multilateral Trading Facility under MiFID II. Under MiFID II legislation (Directive 2014/65/EU ("MiFID II") and Regulation 600/2014 ("MiFIR")), and relevant secondary legislation including regulatory technical standards ("RTS"), in particular Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2017/584 ("RTS 7"), as retained in UK law under the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018, NEX SEF Limited ("the Operator") is required to have in place effective systems, procedures and arrangements to ensure the fair and orderly functioning of the markets that it operates.

This Annex describes the various arrangements the Operator has put in place to meet its obligations. Where relevant, further technical details of each arrangement are set out within the Operator's internal operational procedures.

### **1. Pre-Trade and Post-Trade Controls**

As per RTS 7 requirements, the NEX SEF governs the use of its electronic order systems with pre-trade controls on the price, volume and value of orders and order entry messaging thresholds, as well as post-trade controls.

#### **1.1. Pre-Trade controls**

##### **1.1.1. Price Controls**

For iLink, NEX SEF maintains an allowable price range for a given order based on the most recent reference price. Orders submitted outside of the allowable price range are automatically rejected. On the EBS Workstation, participants can set additional price bands which can be clicked-through if necessary. Allowable price ranges are set out in the Reference Data API and in the CME Globex Product Reference available at Client Systems Wiki - GCC Price Banding - EBS Market Price Banding.

##### **1.1.2. Value Controls**

NEX SEF validates order submissions prior to their release to the matching engine.

- Minimum and maximum order values are set per instrument and available in the Reference Data API and in the CME Globex Product Reference available at Client Systems Wiki - GCC Price Banding - EBS Market Price Banding.

- Participants are able to configure maximum order size for each instrument across multiple GUS within the same GFID. Further details are available at [Client Systems Wiki – EBS Market on CME Globex – Maximum Order Size](#).

### **1.1.3. Message Transmission Controls**

#### **1.1.3.1. Order Throttling**

Orders can be rejected if more than a predefined number of messages are sent during a rolling window. If a Participant reaches an initial threshold, new messages are rejected. After a second threshold, the customer's connection is terminated. Messaging thresholds are explained and set out at Client Systems Wiki - Market Integrity Controls - Messaging Controls.

#### **1.1.3.2. Minimum Quote Life**

- A 'Minimum Quote Life' (MQL) is enforced for selected instruments/pairs and is applied to quotes submitted through iLink.
- MQL is designed to increase the likelihood of a viewed quote being available to trade and reduce hyper-active order book participation by implementing a minimum time limit before an order may be modified or cancelled. With MQL, a new order must rest for a pre-defined duration ("MQL timer") before it can be cancelled or modified. The length of time is defined for each instrument / pair individually and communicated via the Reference Data API and in the CME Globex Product Reference available at Client Systems Wiki - GCC Price Banding - EBS Market Price Banding.
- Further details available at Client Systems Wiki - EBS Market on CME Globex - Minimum Quote Life.

#### **1.1.3.3. Self-Match Prevention**

- Through iLink, orders submitted using the same GFID and GUS can be submitted with different self-match prevention ("SMP") IDs and are able to Match. Orders submitted with the same SMP ID will not Match. SMP IDs can be created at a Participant level, and a single SMP ID can be assigned to multiple GFIDs. SMP applies on a per-Order basis on Globex.

[20 S Wacker Dr Chicago, IL 60606](#) [T 312 466 7478](#) [tim.elliott@cmegroup.com](mailto:tim.elliott@cmegroup.com) [cmegroup.com](http://cmegroup.com)

- Further details are available at Client Systems Wiki - EBS Market on CME Globex - Self Match Prevention.

## 1.2. Post-Trade Controls

### 1.2.1. Unexecuted Orders to Transactions Ratio

NEX SEF calculates the ratio of unexecuted orders to transaction entered into the system by each of its participants for every financial instrument traded at the end of every trading session in both volume terms and in number terms:

**Volume terms:** (Total volume of orders/Total volume of transactions) - 1

**Number terms:** (Total number of orders/Total number of transactions) - 1

Unexecuted orders to transaction ratios are monitored against the maximum thresholds, which have been determined taking into account the nature and liquidity of instruments on the NEX SEF and normal trading patterns.

Current thresholds are available at: EBS Market on CME Globex Market Functionality - Market Integrity Controls - Unexecuted Order to Transaction Ratio.

The thresholds are subject to ongoing review and calibration.

### 1.2.2. Messaging Efficiency Program

The Messaging Efficiency Program (“MEP”) is designed to encourage responsible messaging practices and support the quality of quotes at top of book on selected NDF currency pairs on NEX SEF. Participants’ messaging activity is monitored on a monthly basis and the Operator may apply surcharges for those in breach of the MEP parameters.

Further details can be found in Rule 901(j) 7 of the NEX SEF Rulebook and relevant MRAN, available at EBS Regulatory Documents.

## 2. Volatility Interruptions

Article 48(5) MiFID II requires regulated markets to be able to temporarily halt or constrain trading if there is a significant price movement during a short period of time in a financial instrument on that market or a related market.



NEX SEF will monitor for significant price movements during short periods of time. In the event a price movement exceeds either a pre-defined static or dynamic threshold in a specific instrument, NEX SEF will review and determine whether to introduce a trading halt.

### **3. Testing Facilities**

#### **3.1. Overview**

All algorithmic participants trading on the NEX SEF are required, prior to trading in production, to test their algorithmic trading systems for both conformance to NEX SEF specifications as well as to ensure their trading systems will be able to handle, and not contribute to, disorderly trading conditions.

The NEX SEF testing environment is strictly separated from the production environment and is offered to participants, and prospective participants, on a scheduled basis to facilitate testing of their algorithms for conformance and for disorderly trading conditions. Test conditions representative of production, as well as disorderly trading conditions are recreated in the testing environment using test symbols, a web facing testing application and replay injectors capable of replaying production-like messaging at various multiples of the original message rates. Within that environment, in addition to testing all aspects of conformance with NEX SEF specifications, participants can test their algorithms against a number of disorderly market conditions.

Algorithmic participants are required to certify that the algorithms they deploy have been tested to avoid contributing to or creating disorderly trading conditions. Algorithmic participants are required to certify or recertify their algorithms either (i) prior to deployment on the NEX SEF or (ii) prior to a substantial update to the trading algorithm or strategy. Algorithmic participants must provide this certification by completing the Algorithmic Trading Certification Form available via CME Customer Center - User Help System - Algorithmic Trading.

#### **3.2. Fair Usage**

NEX SEF makes the testing environment available to participants and prospective participants for the purpose of conformance testing and to facilitate testing against disorderly trading conditions. There is no charge for the use of the testing facilities.

It is not intended that participants and prospective participants use the NEX SEF testing facilities to evaluate and iterate on the profitability of their trading models. The NEX SEF reserves the right to restrict access to the testing facilities if usage is considered to be outside of expectations.

#### **4. Participant Due Diligence**

Prospective participants of the NEX SEF are required to meet the eligibility criteria and participant obligations set out in the NEX SEF Rulebook upon onboarding and on an on-going basis.

Upon onboarding, NEX SEF will undertake KYC/AML checks and participants are required to complete a participant questionnaire to enable NEX SEF to review and assess the arrangements the participant has in place to meet the rules of the NEX SEF.

In accordance with MiFID II, NEX SEF requires each participant and prospective participant to maintain adequate organisational procedures relating to:

- Pre-trade controls on price and value of orders
- Post-trade controls on credit/clearing and market risk
- Usage controls on message transmission via API
- Software development control and conformance testing to the NEX SEF
- Ability to cancel one or all live orders via use of kill functionality
- Qualified and experienced staff in key positions

NEX SEF conducts a periodic risk-based assessment of its participants to review whether participants continue to meet the participant obligations set out above and in the NEX SEF Rulebook.

#### **5. Disorderly Trading Conditions**

##### **5.1. Overview**

In accordance with MiFID II, NEX SEF has put in place arrangements to prevent disorderly trading including:

- Pre-trade controls on price and value of orders;
- Usage controls on message transmission via iLink;
- Unexecuted orders to transactions ratios;
- Mechanisms to manage volatility; and
- Kill functionality

In the event of disorderly trading conditions, NEX SEF is required to notify the UK Financial Conduct Authority, to inform participants that are subject to market making agreements that their obligations are suspended and to consider and communicate any further action to halt or constrain trading.

## 5.2. Disorderly Trading Indicators

The NEX SEF Rulebook defines disorderly trading conditions as a situation where the maintenance of fair, orderly and transparent execution of trades is compromised.

NEX SEF will consider a number of indicators to determine disorderly trading conditions including but not limited to the following:

- The price discovery process is interfered with over a significant period of time;
- The capacities of the NEX SEF's trading systems are reached or exceeded;
- Market makers and/or liquidity providers repeatedly claim mis-trades; and
- Failure of mechanisms designed to protect against the risk of algorithmic trading.

## 5.3. Process Overview

### **5.3.1. Monitoring**

NEX SEF monitors in real-time order entry rates and significant processes for its trading systems. Automated alerts are distributed when thresholds are breached based on defined internal procedures.

### **5.3.2. Communication Protocol**

Participants will be notified of disorderly trading conditions through the publication of a market-wide broadcast message.

Participants that have entered into a market making agreement for the NEX SEF will be informed of the suspension of their obligations under their market making agreement until normal trading is resumed.

NEX SEF will notify its national competent authority of the disorderly trading conditions via email to the usual supervisory contact.

NEX SEF will consider and communicate any necessary additional measures such as trading halts or messaging restrictions.

### 5.3.3. Resumption of normal trading

Upon resumption of normal trading the communication protocol will be repeated and market making agreement obligations will apply to relevant participants.

### 5.3.4. Post-mortem

The appropriate internal teams conduct a post-mortem incident review for the NEX SEF management body to include the following points:

- Key findings
- Customer experience
- Process improvement

## 6. Kill Functionality

### 6.1. Overview

NEX SEF participants must be able to cancel immediately, as an emergency measure, any or all of their unexecuted orders by means of its kill functionality.

In accordance with RTS 7, NEX SEF operates a kill functionality to cancel unexecuted orders submitted by participants. Unexecuted orders may be cancelled at a single order level, at an instrument level or participant firm level.

NEX SEF's policy on the use of its kill functionality can be divided into three authorities:

1. Participant initiated;
2. Market Operator (i.e. NEX SEF) initiated; and
3. National Competent Authority initiated

### 6.2. Participant Initiated

Participants may request the cancellation of unexecuted orders where the participant is technically unable to delete its own orders. Participants may call into Customer Support and request cancellation of one or many unexecuted orders.

Any such request must be made by an appropriately authorised individual and should include all necessary information relating to the orders to be cancelled.

Participants may be asked to provide further information relating to any technical failures that may have rendered their own kill functionality inoperable.

### 6.3. Market Operator Initiated

NEX SEF may use its kill functionality where required to preserve market integrity in the event of the order book containing erroneous duplicated orders or following a suspension initiated by a market operator or competent authority.

#### 6.4. National Competent Authority Initiated

NEX SEF may use its kill functionality at the initiative of its national competent authority following an instrument suspension or further to an instruction to suspend a specific participant's access to the trading systems.

### **7. Suspension and removal of financial instruments from trading**

The NEX SEF may suspend or remove an instrument from trading, unless such a step would be likely to cause significant damage to the interest of investors or the orderly functioning of the market. Furthermore, the competent authority may demand the suspension of an instrument from trading on the NEX SEF.

#### 7.1. Market Operator Initiated

NEX SEF may decide to suspend or remove an instrument from trading under certain conditions including but not limited to the following:

- An International Securities Identification Number (ISIN – ISO 6166) is no longer assigned to the instrument
- The instrument is no longer available for trading, for example under foreign exchange restrictions
- There is little or no liquidity in an instrument over a significant period of time
- The suspension or removal is unlikely to cause significant damage to investors' interest or the orderly functioning of the market
- If an instrument is suspended or removed, then any derivatives that reference that instrument will also be suspended or removed

NEX SEF may seek the views of participants and the UK Financial Conduct Authority prior to suspending or removing an instrument in order to determine the potential for significant damage to investors' interests or the orderly functioning of the market including the potential to increase systemic risk or where continued availability of the instrument on the NEX SEF is necessary to perform critical post-trade risk management functions.

#### 7.2. National Competent Authority Initiated

NEX SEF may be required to suspend or remove a specific instrument from trading upon notification from the UK Financial Conduct Authority. In this event, NEX SEF is also required to consider whether to extend the decision to include related derivatives or other instruments.

NEX SEF will communicate any instrument suspension or removal to participants through the appropriate channels.

## 8. Transparency waivers and deferrals

NEX SEF has been authorised by the UK FCA to make use of the following MiFID transparency waivers and deferrals:

- Pre-trade transparency waiver: Illiquid instrument (“ILQD”)
- Post-trade transparency deferral: Illiquid instrument (ILQD)

NEX SEF applies the illiquid instrument waiver to all orders entered into the system by its participants and defers the publication of the details of the transactions no later than 19.00 local time on the second working day after the date of the transaction (“T+2”).

## 9. Business Clock Synchronisation

NEX SEF and its participants are required to ensure that the business clocks they use to record the date and time of any reportable event are synchronised with the Coordinated Universal Time (UTC) issued and maintained by the timing centres listed in the latest Bureau International des Poids et Mesures.

NEX SEF adheres to the levels of accuracy set out below taking into account that the gateway-to-gateway latency time of its trading system is above 1 millisecond.

<b>Gateway-to-gateway latency time of the trading system</b>	<b>Maximum divergence from UTC</b>	<b>Granularity of the timestamp</b>
> 1 millisecond	1 millisecond	1 millisecond or better

Participants must ensure that their business clocks adhere to the level of accuracy prescribed in RTS 25 Annex Table 2, which is reproduced below.

<b>Type of trading activity</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Maximum divergence from UTC</b>	<b>Granularity of the timestamp</b>
Activity using high frequency algorithmic trading technique	High frequency algorithmic trading technique	100 microseconds	1 microsecond or better

Activity on voice trading systems	Voice trading systems as defined in Article 5(5) of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2017/583	1 second	1 second or better
Activity on request for quote systems where the response requires human intervention or where the system does not allow algorithmic trading	Request for quotes systems as defined in Article 5(4) of Delegated Regulation (EU) 2017/583	1 second	1 second or better
Activity of concluding negotiated transactions	Negotiated transaction as set out in Article 4(1)(b) of Regulation (EU) No 600/2014.	1 second	1 second or better
Any other trading activity	All other trading activity not covered by this table.	1 millisecond	1 millisecond or better

**Appendix B**

**MARKET REGULATION ADVISORY NOTICE**

<b>From</b>	<i>NEX SEF Limited (“NEX SEF”)</i>
<b>To</b>	<i>All Participants</i>
<b>Subject</b>	<i>NEX SEF Operational Parameters Annex</i>
<b>Rule References</b>	104, 205, 206, 310
<b>Effective Date</b>	<i>June 20, 2024</i>
<b>Notice Date</b>	<i>June 4, 2024</i>
<b>Notice Number</b>	<i>2024-01</i>

**NEX SEF | Operational Parameters Annex**

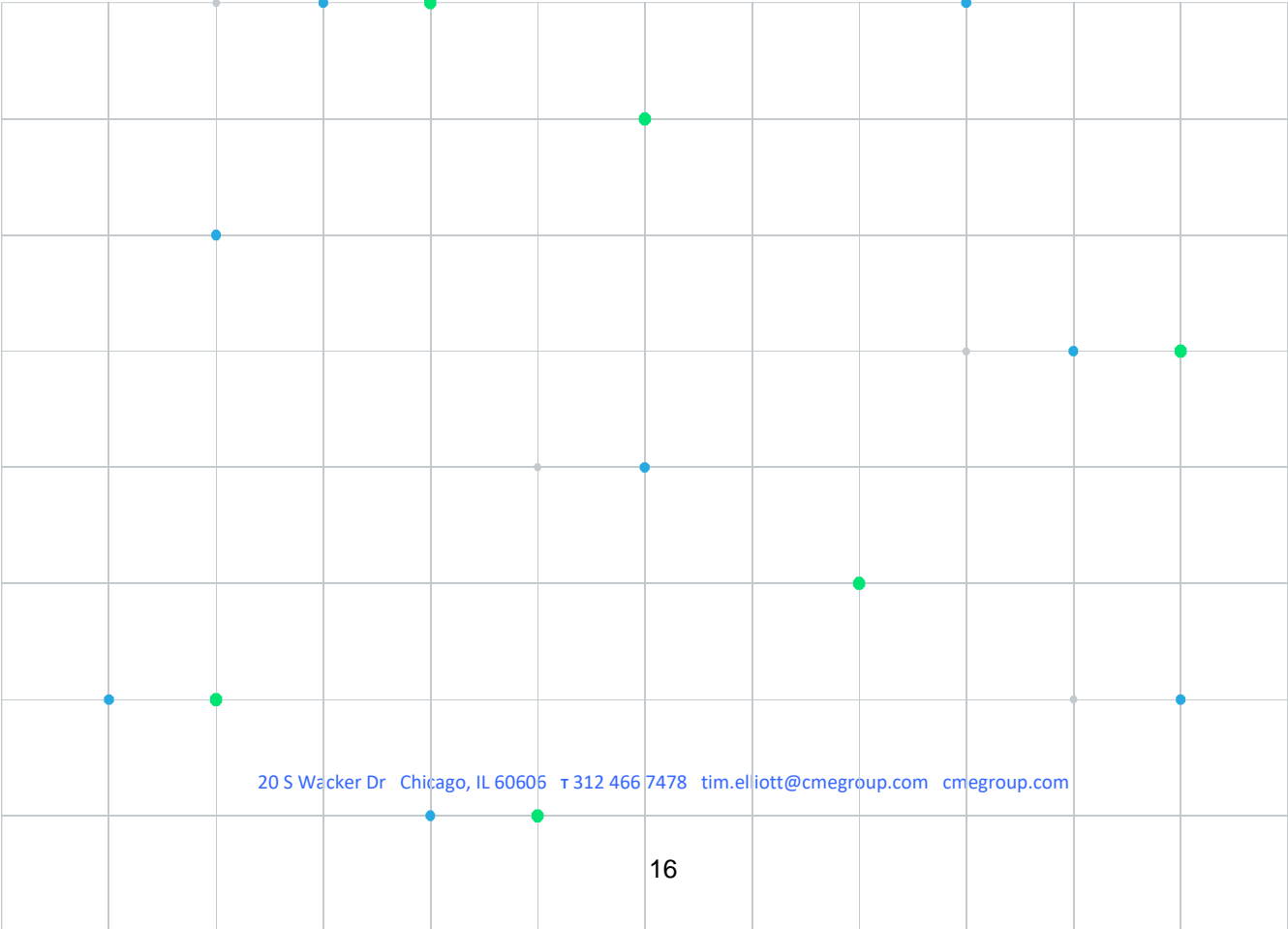
This MRAN supersedes MRAN 2022-05. The policy part of Appendix 1 the NEX SEF Operational Parameters Annex which describes various other arrangements NEX SEF has put in place to ensure the fair and orderly functioning of the market as required under MiFID II / MiFIR and relevant secondary legislation is hereby updated.



Appendix 1

# NEX SEF Operational Parameters Annex

June 2024  
Version 1.3



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## **Pre-Trade and Post-Trade Controls**

As per RTS 7 requirements, the NEX SEF governs the use of its electronic order systems with pre-trade controls on the price, volume and value of orders and order entry messaging thresholds, as well as post-trade controls.

### Pre-Trade controls

## **Price Controls**

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## **Value Controls**

NEX SEF validates order submissions prior to their release to the matching engine.

- Minimum and maximum order values are set per instrument and available in the Reference Data API and in the CME Globex Product Reference available at Client Systems Wiki - GCC Price Banding - EBS Market Price Banding.
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## Message Transmission Controls

### Order Throttling

Orders can be rejected if more than a predefined number of messages are sent during a rolling window. If a Participant reaches an initial threshold, new messages are rejected. After a second threshold, the customer's connection is terminated. Messaging thresholds are explained and set out at Client Systems Wiki - Market Integrity Controls - Messaging Controls.

### Minimum Quote Life

- A 'Minimum Quote Life' (MQL) is enforced for selected instruments/pairs and is applied to quotes submitted through iLink.
- MQL is designed to increase the likelihood of a viewed quote being available to trade and reduce hyper-active order book participation by implementing a minimum time limit before an order may be modified or cancelled. With MQL, a new order must rest for a pre-defined duration ("MQL timer") before it can be cancelled or modified. The length of time is defined for each instrument / pair individually and communicated via the Reference Data API and in the CME Globex Product Reference available at Client Systems Wiki - GCC Price Banding - EBS Market Price Banding.
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## Self-Match Prevention

- Through iLink, orders submitted using the same GFID and GUS can be submitted with different self-match prevention (“SMP”) IDs and are able to Match. Orders submitted with the same SMP ID will not Match. SMP IDs can be created at a Participant level, and a single SMP ID can be assigned to multiple GFIDs. SMP applies on a per-Order basis on Globex.
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### Post-Trade Controls

## Unexecuted Orders to Transactions Ratio

NEX SEF calculates the ratio of unexecuted orders to transaction entered into the system by each of its participants for every financial instrument traded at the end of every trading session in both volume terms and in number terms:

**Volume terms:** (Total volume of orders/Total volume of transactions) - 1

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Unexecuted orders to transaction ratios are monitored against the maximum thresholds, which have been determined taking into account the nature and liquidity of instruments on the NEX SEF and normal trading patterns.

Current thresholds are available at: EBS Market on CME Globex Market Functionality - Market Integrity Controls - Unexecuted Order to Transaction Ratio.

The thresholds are subject to ongoing review and calibration.

## Messaging Efficiency Program

The Messaging Efficiency Program (“MEP”) is designed to encourage responsible messaging practices and support the quality of quotes at top of book on selected NDF currency pairs on NEX SEF. Participants’ messaging activity is monitored on a monthly basis and the Operator may apply surcharges for those in breach of the MEP parameters.

Further details can be found in Rule 901(j) 7 of the NEX SEF Rulebook and relevant MRAN, available at EBS Regulatory Documents.

## **Volatility Interruptions**

Article 48(5) MiFID II requires regulated markets to be able to temporarily halt or constrain trading if there is a significant price movement during a short period of time in a financial instrument on that market or a related market.

NEX SEF will monitor for significant price movements during short periods of time. In the event a price movement exceeds either a pre-defined static or dynamic threshold in a specific instrument, NEX SEF will review and determine whether to introduce a trading halt.

## **Testing Facilities**

### Overview

All algorithmic participants trading on the NEX SEF are required, prior to trading in production, to test their algorithmic trading systems for both conformance to NEX SEF specifications as well as to ensure their trading systems will be able to handle, and not contribute to, disorderly trading conditions.

The NEX SEF testing environment is strictly separated from the production environment and is offered to participants, and prospective participants, on a scheduled basis to facilitate testing of their algorithms for conformance and for disorderly trading conditions. Test conditions representative of production, as well as disorderly trading conditions are recreated in the testing environment using test symbols, a web facing testing application and replay injectors capable of replaying production-like messaging at various multiples of the original message rates. Within that environment, in addition to testing all aspects of conformance with NEX SEF specifications, participants can test their algorithms against a number of disorderly market conditions.

Algorithmic participants are required to certify that the algorithms they deploy have been tested to avoid contributing to or creating disorderly trading conditions. Algorithmic participants are required to certify or recertify their algorithms either (i) prior to deployment on the NEX SEF or (ii) prior to a substantial update to the trading algorithm or strategy. Algorithmic participants must provide this certification by completing the Algorithmic Trading Certification Form available via CME Customer Center - User Help System - Algorithmic Trading.

### Fair Usage

NEX SEF makes the testing environment available to participants and prospective participants for the purpose of conformance testing and to facilitate testing against disorderly trading conditions. There is no charge for the use of the testing facilities.

It is not intended that participants and prospective participants use the NEX SEF testing facilities to evaluate and iterate on the profitability of their trading models. The NEX SEF reserves the right to restrict access to the testing facilities if usage is considered to be outside of expectations.

### **Participant Due Diligence**

Prospective participants of the NEX SEF are required to meet the eligibility criteria and participant obligations set out in the NEX SEF Rulebook upon onboarding and on an on-going basis.

Upon onboarding, NEX SEF will undertake KYC/AML checks and participants are required to complete a participant questionnaire to enable NEX SEF to review and assess the arrangements the participant has in place to meet the rules of the NEX SEF.

In accordance with MiFID II, NEX SEF requires each participant and prospective participant to maintain adequate organisational procedures relating to:

- Pre-trade controls on price and value of orders
- Post-trade controls on credit/clearing and market risk
- Usage controls on message transmission via API
- Software development control and conformance testing to the NEX SEF
- Ability to cancel one or all live orders via use of kill functionality
- Qualified and experienced staff in key positions

NEX SEF conducts a periodic risk-based assessment of its participants to review whether participants continue to meet the participant obligations set out above and in the NEX SEF Rulebook.

### **Disorderly Trading Conditions**

#### Overview

In accordance with MiFID II, NEX SEF has put in place arrangements to prevent disorderly trading including:

- Pre-trade controls on price and value of orders;
- Usage controls on message transmission via iLink;
- Unexecuted orders to transactions ratios;
- Mechanisms to manage volatility; and
- Kill functionality

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In the event of disorderly trading conditions, NEX SEF is required to notify the UK Financial Conduct Authority, to inform participants that are subject to market making agreements that their obligations are suspended and to consider and communicate any further action to halt or constrain trading.

### Disorderly Trading Indicators

The NEX SEF Rulebook defines disorderly trading conditions as a situation where the maintenance of fair, orderly and transparent execution of trades is compromised.

NEX SEF will consider a number of indicators to determine disorderly trading conditions including but not limited to the following:

- The price discovery process is interfered with over a significant period of time;
- The capacities of the NEX SEF's trading systems are reached or exceeded;
- Market makers and/or liquidity providers repeatedly claim mis-trades; and
- Failure of mechanisms designed to protect against the risk of algorithmic trading.

### Process Overview

## **Monitoring**

NEX SEF monitors in real-time order entry rates and significant processes for its trading systems. Automated alerts are distributed when thresholds are breached based on defined internal procedures.

## **Communication Protocol**

Participants will be notified of disorderly trading conditions through the publication of a market-wide broadcast message.

Participants that have entered into a market making agreement for the NEX SEF will be informed of the suspension of their obligations under their market making agreement until normal trading is resumed.

NEX SEF will notify its national competent authority of the disorderly trading conditions via email to the usual supervisory contact.

NEX SEF will consider and communicate any necessary additional measures such as trading halts or messaging restrictions.

## **Resumption of normal trading**

Upon resumption of normal trading the communication protocol will be repeated and market making agreement obligations will apply to relevant participants.

## **Post-mortem**

The appropriate internal teams conduct a post-mortem incident review for the NEX SEF management body to include the following points:

- Key findings
- Customer experience
- Process improvement

## **Kill Functionality**

### Overview

NEX SEF participants must be able to cancel immediately, as an emergency measure, any or all of their unexecuted orders by means of its kill functionality.

In accordance with RTS 7, NEX SEF operates a kill functionality to cancel unexecuted orders submitted by participants. Unexecuted orders may be cancelled at a single order level, at an instrument level or participant firm level.

NEX SEF's policy on the use of its kill functionality can be divided into three authorities:

1. Participant initiated;
2. Market Operator (i.e. NEX SEF) initiated; and
3. National Competent Authority initiated

### Participant Initiated

Participants may request the cancellation of unexecuted orders where the participant is technically unable to delete its own orders. Participants may call into Customer Support and request cancellation of one or many unexecuted orders.

Any such request must be made by an appropriately authorised individual and should include all necessary information relating to the orders to be cancelled.



Participants may be asked to provide further information relating to any technical failures that may have rendered their own kill functionality inoperable.

#### Market Operator Initiated

NEX SEF may use its kill functionality where required to preserve market integrity in the event of the order book containing erroneous duplicated orders or following a suspension initiated by a market operator or competent authority.

#### National Competent Authority Initiated

NEX SEF may use its kill functionality at the initiative of its national competent authority following an instrument suspension or further to an instruction to suspend a specific participant's access to the trading systems.

### **Suspension and removal of financial instruments from trading**

The NEX SEF may suspend or remove an instrument from trading, unless such a step would be likely to cause significant damage to the interest of investors or the orderly functioning of the market. Furthermore, the competent authority may demand the suspension of an instrument from trading on the NEX SEF.

#### Market Operator Initiated

NEX SEF may decide to suspend or remove an instrument from trading under certain conditions including but not limited to the following:

- An International Securities Identification Number (ISIN – ISO 6166) is no longer assigned to the instrument
- The instrument is no longer available for trading, for example under foreign exchange restrictions
- There is little or no liquidity in an instrument over a significant period of time
- The suspension or removal is unlikely to cause significant damage to investors' interest or the orderly functioning of the market
- If an instrument is suspended or removed, then any derivatives that reference that instrument will also be suspended or removed

NEX SEF may seek the views of participants and the UK Financial Conduct Authority prior to suspending or removing an instrument in order to determine the potential for significant damage to investors' interests or the orderly functioning of the market including the potential to increase systemic risk or where continued availability of the instrument on the NEX SEF is necessary to perform critical post-trade risk management functions.

#### National Competent Authority Initiated

NEX SEF may be required to suspend or remove a specific instrument from trading upon notification from the UK Financial Conduct Authority. In this event, NEX SEF is also required to consider whether to extend the decision to include related derivatives or other instruments.

NEX SEF will communicate any instrument suspension or removal to participants through the appropriate channels.

### **Transparency waivers and deferrals**

NEX SEF has been authorised by the UK FCA to make use of the following MiFID transparency waivers and deferrals:

- Pre-trade transparency waiver: Illiquid instrument (“ILQD”)
- Post-trade transparency deferral: Illiquid instrument (ILQD)

NEX SEF applies the illiquid instrument waiver to all orders entered into the system by its participants and defers the publication of the details of the transactions no later than 19.00 local time on the second working day after the date of the transaction (“T+2”).

### **Business Clock Synchronisation**

NEX SEF and its participants are required to ensure that the business clocks they use to record the date and time of any reportable event are synchronised with the Coordinated Universal Time (UTC) issued and maintained by the timing centres listed in the latest Bureau International des Poids et Mesures.

NEX SEF adheres to the levels of accuracy set out below taking into account that the gateway-to-gateway latency time of its trading system is above 1 millisecond.

<b>Gateway-to-gateway latency time of the trading system</b>	<b>Maximum divergence from UTC</b>	<b>Granularity of the timestamp</b>
> 1 millisecond	1 millisecond	1 millisecond or better

Participants must ensure that their business clocks adhere to the level of accuracy prescribed in RTS 25 Annex Table 2, which is reproduced below.

<b>Type of trading activity</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Maximum divergence from UTC</b>	<b>Granularity of the timestamp</b>
Activity using high frequency algorithmic trading technique	High frequency algorithmic	100 microseconds	1 microsecond or better

	trading technique		
Activity on voice trading systems	Voice trading systems as defined in Article 5(5) of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2017/583	1 second	1 second or better
Activity on request for quote systems where the response requires human intervention or where the system does not allow algorithmic trading	Request for quotes systems as defined in Article 5(4) of Delegated Regulation (EU) 2017/583	1 second	1 second or better
Activity of concluding negotiated transactions	Negotiated transaction as set out in Article 4(1)(b) of Regulation (EU) No 600/2014.	1 second	1 second or better
Any other trading activity	All other trading activity not covered by this table.	1 millisecond	1 millisecond or better