SUBMISSION COVER SHEET								
IMPORTANT: Check box if Confidential Treatment is requested								
Registered Entity Identifier Code (optional): <u>23-014</u>								
Organi	Organization: Chicago Mercantile Exchange Inc. ("CME")							
Filing as a: SEF DCO SDR								
	note - only ONE choice allowed.							
	Date (mm/dd/yy): <u>02/28/23</u> Filing Description: <u>Initial Futures</u>	al Listing of Event Contracts on						
Ditcom	Tutures							
-	FY FILING TYPE							
	note only ONE choice allowed per Submission.							
Organi	ization Rules and Rule Amendments							
	Certification	§ 40.6(a)						
	Approval	§ 40.5(a)						
	Notification	§ 40.6(d)						
	Advance Notice of SIDCO Rule Change	§ 40.10(a)						
	SIDCO Emergency Rule Change	§ 40.10(h)						
Rule Nu		4 C1						
New Pi	v I	-						
	Certification	§ 40.2(a)						
	Certification Security Futures	§ 41.23(a)						
\vdash	Certification Swap Class	§ 40.2(d)						
	Approval	§ 40.3(a)						
	Approval Security Futures	§ 41.23(b)						
H	Novel Derivative Product Notification	§ 40.12(a)						
Duoduo	Swap Submission	§ 39.5						
Produc	et Terms and Conditions (product related Rules and	Kule Amenuments)						
	Certification	§ 40.6(a)						
	Certification Made Available to Trade Determination	§ 40.6(a)						
	Certification Security Futures	§ 41.24(a)						
	Delisting (No Open Interest)	§ 40.6(a)						
Щ	Approval	§ 40.5(a)						
	Approval Made Available to Trade Determination	§ 40.5(a)						
	Approval Security Futures	§ 41.24(c)						
	Approval Amendments to enumerated agricultural products	§ 40.4(a), § 40.5(a)						
	"Non-Material Agricultural Rule Change"	§ 40.4(b)(5)						
	Notification	§ 40.6(d)						
Official Rule Nu	Name(s) of Product(s) Affected: umbers:							





February 28, 2023

VIA ELECTRONIC PORTAL

Mr. Christopher J. Kirkpatrick Office of the Secretariat Commodity Futures Trading Commission 3 Lafayette Center 1155 21st Street NW Washington, DC 20581

Re: CFTC Regulation 40.2(a) Certification. Initial Listing of Event Contracts on Bitcoin

Futures.

CME Submission No. 23-014

Dear Mr. Kirkpatrick:

Chicago Mercantile Exchange Inc. ("CME" or the "Exchange") certifies to the Commodity Futures Trading Commission ("CFTC" or "Commission") the initial listing of Event Contracts on Bitcoin Futures (the "Event Contracts") for trading on the CME Globex electronic trading platform ("CME Globex") effective on Sunday, March 12, 2023 for trade date Monday, March 13, 2023, as more specifically described below.

Contract Title	Contract Title Rulebook Chapter		Underlying Futures Contract/Rulebook Chapter/Commodity Code	
Event Contracts on Bitcoin Futures	<u>CME 23</u>	ECBTC	Bitcoin Futures / <u>CME 350</u> / BTC	

Event Contracts are daily-expiring, cash settled, European style options on futures contracts, offering short-term trading opportunities for persons seeking to take a position on daily price moves on futures using smaller-value contracts.

Each Event Contract is valued at \$20 and has a fixed payout. In contrast to a traditional option on a futures contract, the Event Contracts settle in reference to the daily settlement prices of futures contracts listed on the CME Group Exchanges. Event Contracts do not exercise into underlying futures positions nor exercise into delivery of a physical commodity. If an Event Contract expires "in the money" in reference to the underlying futures settlement price, the short position holder pays, and the long position holder receives, a payment of \$20. Event Contracts are subject to premium style margining, which means that a person establishing a long position in an Event Contract will pay the full premium amount for each contract. Thus, the maximum risk on a long position in an Event Contract will be the amount of money the market participant pays as the premium for that option. Due to the fixed payout feature, the maximum per contract risk for a short position is \$20 minus the premium received for selling the option.

Depending on the front-end system used to submit orders, the opportunity to trade an Event Contract may be expressed to a market participant as a "yes/no" choice. In that case, the 'Yes' contract shall mean: will

the daily settlement price for the specified futures contract be above X, and the 'No' contract shall mean: will the daily settlement price for the specified futures contract be at or below X. When presented in this fashion, executing a 'Yes' trade constitutes purchasing a fixed payout call option on the futures contract daily settlement price, and executing a 'No' trade constitutes purchasing a fixed payout put option on the futures contract daily settlement price.

CME Group Exchange reminds all market participants that they are required to abide by applicable local regulations with respect to trading in Event Contracts. Market participants that trade or wish to trade Event Contracts, and brokers that seek to sell or distribute such products, must therefore comply with any applicable restrictions or prohibitions imposed by such market participant's home jurisdiction, including where applicable, and without limitation, the prohibitions on marketing, offering or distribution of such products to retail customers in the United Kingdom and the European Union.

Section 1 – Contract Specifications

Contract Title/	Contract Title	Rulebook	CME Globex							
Rulebook Chapter	5 10 1 5 5 1	Chapter	Code							
/ Commodity Code	Event Contracts on Bitcoin Futures CME 23 ECBTC									
CME Globex	All times are in Central Prevailing Time (CPT)									
Trading Hours										
	CME Globex: Sunday 5:00 p.m Friday 3:00 p.m Next day's Event Contract	ct will list at 5:00	p.m.							
Contract Size	1 contract = \$20									
Price Quotation	U.S. Dollars									
Listing Schedule	One daily contract listed on the Principal Contract Month of the Underlying F	utures contract								
Settlement Method	Financial									
Minimum Price	0.25 = \$0.25									
Fluctuation										
Value Per Tick	\$1 x 0.25 = \$0.25									
Strike Price Listing	4 strikes in \$250.00 increments above and below the at-the-money strike, the	en 2 strikes at \$	500.00 increment							
Schedule	above and below the highest and lowest \$250.00 increment strike. Upon den	nand and at the	discretion of the							
	exchange, additional strikes added in \$250.00 increments.									
Option Style	European									
Exercise	Exact At-The-Money Characteristics (with no contrary instructions)									
Procedure										
Exact At the	Exercise puts, calls expire with no value									
Money										
Characteristics										
Termination of	Daily products: trading will terminate at the end of the daily settlement period of	of the Underlying	Futures contract.							
Trading										
Final Settlement	Auto-exercised against daily settlement of underlying futures contract									
Process										
Underlying	Underlying Futures Contract	Rulebook	CME Globex							
Futures Contract		Chapter	Code							
Rulebook Chapter										
/ Commodity Code	0.00									
Final Settlement	\$0 or \$20									
Maximum Order Quantity	250 contracts									
Accountability	Each Event Contract will have its own Single Month Accountability Level of 1	2,500 contracts								
Level										
Block Eligible	No									
CME Globex	F: First In First Out (FIFO)									
Matching										
Algorithm										

Event Contracts will be subject to premium style margining. A person establishing a long position in an Event Contract will pay its futures commission merchant ("FCM") the full premium amount for each such

contract when purchased. This is the maximum amount that a purchaser can lose and, thus, Event Contracts are not purchased on leverage.¹ Although short positions will be margined (i.e., leveraged), the leveraged exposure is of short duration because Event Contracts have a same-day term. Thus, a person holding a short out-of-the money position when trading closes will incur final settlement payment obligations that its clearing member will have to pay to the clearing house with the next settlement cycle. Due to the fixed payment structure of the Event Contracts, a person's maximum risk for a short position in a single Event Contract will be \$20 minus the premium the seller receives for selling the option.

Section 2 – Underlying Futures

Underlying Market Overview

The Event Contracts are daily-expiring, cash settled, European Style options on futures contracts. Event Contracts will be listed on the corresponding designated contract market ("DCM"), where the underlying futures contract is listed. The Event Contracts will not exercise into underlying futures positions and will not exercise into delivery of a physical commodity. Rather, they will cash settle in reference to the daily settlement prices of futures contracts listed on the CME Group Exchanges.

The Event Contracts are options on futures under the Commodity Exchange Act ("CEA" or the "Act"). First, these types of event-based contracts have clearly been treated as "options" under the CEA by the Commission in other contexts.² Second, the options are based on the daily price moves of underlying referenced futures contracts that are listed on the CME Group Exchanges.

Section 1a(47)(B)(i) of the Act provides that "options on futures" are excluded from the definition of the term "swap" in the Act.³ This exclusion is not limited only to options on a future if the particular option exercises into a future. Rather, the exclusion applies to any "option" on "such a futures contract." Separately, the term "options on futures" itself is defined very broadly in the Act to include any transaction "involving" contracts of sale of a commodity for future delivery which is of the character commonly known as an option.⁴ Therefore, the Event Contracts are clearly "options" and, further, because they refer to futures contract prices, they are options on futures.

Finally, this classification of the Event Contracts is consistent with the CME Group Exchange's classification of other cash-settled options on futures it has listed that settle against futures prices in lieu of exercising into a futures contract, which the Commission accepted.⁵

Given that the Event Contracts are cash settled contracts based on daily settlement prices for futures, the underlying cash market overview will be the settlement practices for each underlying futures contract. The Daily Settlement Methodology is time tested, solid, transparent, and well-documented on the CME website.

Proposed Accountability Levels

Accountability Levels: Each Event Contract listed by CME will have its own Single Month Accountability Level of 12,500 Event Contracts (\$20), equal to a notional value of \$250,000 USD.

¹ The CME Group Exchanges anticipate that market participants other than market makers are likely to establish long positions in put or call Event Contracts and sell Event Contracts to liquidate an open long position.

² See, e.g., In the Matter of: Blockratize, Inc. d/b/a Polymarket.com, CFTC Docket No. 22-09.

³ More specifically, the relevant provision provides: "[t]he term 'swap' does not include – (i) any contract of sale of a commodity for future deliver (or option on such contract)."

⁴ Se Section 2(a)(1)(A) of the Act.

⁵ See, e.g., Natural Gas Weekly Financial Options, Chapter 1006, NYMEX Rulebook.

Trading activity in the Event Contracts shall be subject to monitoring and surveillance by the Market Regulation Department, which has the authority to exercise its investigatory and enforcement power where potential rule violations are identified.

Hypothetical Example Describing a Single Trade

Below is a hypothetical example describing at a summary level how a trade for an Event Contract in CME's E-mini Standard and Poor's 500 Stock Price Index Futures contract might occur, using historical settlement prices.

For this example, the final daily settlement price for a CME-listed futures contract (product code ES) was 4158.75 at the end of the regular trading session on June 7th. Hypothetically, after this value is established, CME then lists an Event Contract referencing the ES futures for trading on the next day of June 8th. Finally, presume that one strike price available to trade for the newly listed June 8th ES Event Contract is 4150.

CME Globex will now begin to accept orders for the newly listed option contract in the same manner that it currently accepts orders for other options contracts listed on the CME Group Exchanges, that is, traders with connections to CME Globex can begin to enter bids and offers for the call and separate bids and offers for the put. Trading in the Event Contract will close at the same time as trading of the ES contract.

It is expected that brokers who would like to offer retail clients trading in the newly listed Event Contract options might develop capabilities to show their clients the market in non-traditional ways. For example, if a market maker had entered orders to establish the inside market in the hypothetical ES Event Contract described above, then a broker could show its retail clients a screen expressing that market as, for example:

"Will the price of ES be above 4150 at 3:00 PM CT on June 8th? Yes - \$11.25 No - \$9.00"

In this example, the \$11.25 value represents an offer resting on the call book at that price (and the \$9.00 value represents an offer resting on the put book at that price). If the broker's client had a view that the value of the ES futures contract would be above 4150 at the end of the regular trading session for ES on the date of June 8th, then that client could enter an order with its broker for "yes," thus buying the call at \$11.25.

For this example, the final daily settlement price for the ES futures contract on the date of June 8th was later established at 4110. This value would be established per the specifications of trading in the ES futures contract, that is, the Exchange would take a VWAP measurement of trading activity during the last 30 seconds of trading in the ES futures contract prior to 3:00 p.m. CT.

Because the 4110 value of the ES futures contract at the end of the regular trading session for the ES futures contract is less than the 4150 strike price for the call option in the applicable Event Contract, the client's call option in the ES Event Contract expires out of the money. The full amount of the \$11.25 premium posted by the Clearing Member for that client would then be passed on to the call option seller's Clearing Member through the clearing process.

If, in contrast, the daily settlement price of the underlying ES futures contracts was established above the 4150 strike price of the retail client's Event Contract, then the client's call option would expire in the money and that client would receive the Settlement Value of \$20.00, which would include return of its \$11.25 plus \$8.75.

Section 3 – Compliance with Core Principles

The Exchange reviewed the designated contract market core principles ("DCM Core Principles") as set forth in the Act and identified that the following DCM Core Principles may be impacted as follows:

Core Principle 2 - Compliance with Rules

Trading in the Event Contracts shall be subject to CME Rulebook Chapter 4, which includes prohibitions against fraudulent, noncompetitive, unfair, and abusive practices. Additionally, trading in the Event Contracts shall be subject to the Exchange's trade practice rules, the majority of which are contained in Chapter 5 and Chapter 8 of the Rulebook. Trading activity in the Event Contracts shall be subject to monitoring and surveillance by CME Group's Market Regulation Department, which has the authority to exercise its investigatory and enforcement power where potential rule violations are identified.

Core Principle 3 – Contracts Not Readily Subject to Manipulation

The Exchange certifies that the underlying settlement rate for Event Contracts is not readily subject to manipulation. The large size and liquidity of the underlying market reduces the susceptibility of these cash-settled contracts to possible manipulation.

In the case of an option that cash settles based on the price of a futures contract, the "underlying market" is the futures market price series that determines the options settlement (i.e., trading activity in the futures contract settlement period).

The Exchange is satisfied that the volume of the transactions and/or number of participants in the cash settlement is sufficiently high. The Exchange generally considers average daily volumes, average volume executed during the settlement period, and the number of participants active during the periods. The greater the participation and volume, the more difficult it would be to manipulate the settlement.

The volume of transactions and number of participants in the settlement periods gives the Exchange comfort that the settlement periods are sufficiently active to support Event Contracts.

CME's current surveillance of both the options and underlying futures market is useful to detect and prevent manipulation in this contract.

Core Principle 4 – Prevention of Market Disruption

Trading in Event Contracts will be subject to CME Rulebook Chapters 4 and 8, which include prohibitions on manipulation, price distortion, and disruption to the expiration and assignment process. As with any new product listed for trading on a CME Group designated contract market, trading activity in Event Contracts certified herein will be subject to monitoring and surveillance by CME Group's Market Regulation Department.

Core Principle 5 – Position Limits or Accountability

Each Event Contract will have its own Single Month Accountability Level of 12,500 Event Contracts (\$20), equal to a notional value of \$250,000 USD, which shall be reset daily.

Trading activity in Event Contracts shall be subject to monitoring and surveillance by CME Group's Market Regulation Department, which has the authority to exercise its investigatory and enforcement power where potential rule violations are identified.

Core Principle 7 – Availability of General Information

The Exchange shall disseminate a Special Executive Report ("SER") that sets forth information in regard to specifications, terms, and conditions of the Event Contracts. The SER will also be published on the Exchange's website.

Core Principle 8 – Daily Publication of Trading Information

The Exchange shall publish trading volumes and price information daily of the Event Contracts on the CME Group website and through quote vendors.

Core Principle 9 – Execution of Transactions

The Event Contracts will be listed for trading on the CME Globex which provides for competitive and open execution of transactions. CME Globex affords the benefits of reliability and global connectivity.

Core Principle 10 – Trade Information

All requisite trade information shall be included in the audit trail and will suffice for the Market Regulation Department to monitor for market abuse.

Core Principle 11 – Financial Integrity of Transactions

The Event Contracts shall be cleared by CME Clearing, which is registered with the Commission as a derivative clearing organization, and which is subject to all CFTC regulations related thereto.

Core Principle 12 – Protection of Markets and Market Participants

Chapters 4 and 5 in the CME Rulebook set forth multiple strictures that preclude intermediaries from disadvantaging their customers. These Rules apply to trading in the Exchange's competitive trading venues and will apply to transactions in the Event Contracts.

Core Principle 13 – Disciplinary Procedures

Chapter 4 of the CME Rulebook provide for the Exchange to discipline, suspend, or expel members or market participants who violate the rules of the Exchange. Trading in the Event Contracts shall be subject to these provisions. The Exchange's Market Regulation Department has the authority to exercise its powers of enforcement, in the event that rule violations in the Event Contracts are identified.

Core Principle 14 – Dispute Resolution

Disputes in respect of the Event Contracts shall be subject to the arbitration provisions set forth in Chapter 6 of the CME Rulebook, which allow all nonmembers to submit to arbitration claims for financial loss resulting from transactions on the Exchange. Pursuant to these provisions, any member named as a respondent in any such claim submitted by a nonmember is required to participate in arbitration proceedings. Additionally, the Exchange requires members to resolve via arbitration all disputes concerning transactions on the Exchange.

Pursuant to Section 5c(c) of the Act and Regulation 40.2(a), the Exchange certifies that the Event Contracts comply with the Act, including all regulations thereunder. There were no substantive opposing views to this proposal.

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

Should you have any questions concerning the above, please contact the undersigned at (212) 299-2200 or CMEGSubmissionInquiry@cmegroup.com.

Sincerely,

/s/ Christopher Bowen
Managing Director and Chief Regulatory Counsel

Attachments: Appendix A CME Rulebook Chapter 23 ("Event Contracts") (blackline format)

Appendix B Position Limit, Position Accountability, and Reportable Level Table,

CME Rulebook Chapter 5 (attached under separate cover)

Appendix C Strike Price Listing and Exercise Procedures Table

Limits Table

Appendix E Exchange Fees

Appendix A

CME Rulebook Chapter 23 Event Contracts (additions underscored)

2304. **EVENT CONTRACTS AND RELATED UNDERLYING FUTURES CONTRACTS**

	Event Contract Title	Underlying Futures Contract	Underlying Futures Contract Rulebook Chapter	
1.	Event Contracts on E-mini Standard and Poor's 500 Stock Price Index Futures	E-mini Standard and Poor's 500 Stock Price Index Futures	CME 358	
2.	Event Contracts on E-mini Nasdaq- 100 Index Futures	E-mini Nasdaq-100 Futures	CME 359	
3.	Event Contracts on E-mini Russell 2000 Index Futures	E-mini Russell 2000 Futures	CME 393	
4.	Event Contracts on Euro/U.S. Dollar (EUR/USD) Futures	Euro/U.S. Dollar FX Futures	CME 261	
<u>5</u>	Event Contracts on Bitcoin Futures	Bitcoin Futures	CME 350	

[End of Chapter.]

Appendix B

CME Rulebook Chapter 5

("Trading Qualifications and Practices") Position Limit, Position Accountability, and Reportable Level Table

(attached under separate cover)

Appendix C

Strike Price Listing and Exercise Procedures Table

Strike Price	Listing and E	xercise Proc	edures Table as of 1.	3/03/2023											
Exchange	Commodity Code	CME Globex Code	Contract Title	Product Group	Product Subgroup		Rulebook Chapter	Strike Price Listing Rule	Option Style	Contrary Instructions	Exact At-The- Money Characteristics	Underlying Futures	Underlying Futures Commodity Code	Futures	Principal Contract Month Rule
СМЕ	ECBTC	ECBTC	Event Contracts on Bitcoin Futures	Cryptocurrency	Event Contracts	CME	23	4 strikes in \$250.00 increments above and below the atthe-money strike, then 2 strikes at \$500.00 increment above and below the highest and lowest \$250.00 increment strike. Upon demand and at the discretion of the exchange, additional strikes added in \$250.00 increments.	European	No	Exercise puts. calls expire with no value	Bitcoin Futures	BTC	CME 350	Nearest Calendar month. Underlying Contract. Month rolls to the following month effective one business day prior to the expiration of the underlying futures' month,

Appendix D

CME Rulebook Chapter 5

("Trading Qualifications and Practices")
Rule 589. – Special Price Fluctuation Limits and Daily Price Limits Table

(additions underscored)

Product	Rulebook Commodity Chapter		Primary/Associated	Associated With	Daily Price Limit	
Event Contracts on Bitcoin Futures	<u>23</u>	<u>ECBTC</u>	<u>Associated</u>	<u>BTC</u>	Daily Price Limit Table	

Appendix E

Exchange Fees*

Membership Type	Venue/Transaction Type	Fee
Individual Members Clearing Members	CME Globex	\$0.01
Rule 106.J Equity Member Firms & Rule 106.J Qualified Subsidiaries Rule 106.I Members & Rule 106.I Qualified Affiliates Rule 106.S Member Approved Funds	Cash Settlement**	\$0.10
Rule 106.D Lessees	CME Globex	\$0.03
Rule 106.F Employees	Cash Settlement**	\$0.15
Dula 400 D Electronia Oceanorate Manchese	CME Globex	\$0.03
Rule 106.R Electronic Corporate Members	Cash Settlement**	\$0.15
Rule 106.H and 106.N Firms	CME Globex	\$0.03
Rule 106.H and 106.N Films	Cash Settlement**	\$0.15
International Incentive Program (IIP) Participants International Volume Incentive Program (IVIP) Participants Central Bank Incentive Program (CBIP) Participants	CME Globex	\$0.05
Latin American Fund Manager Incentive Program (FMIP) Participants CBOE Members CTA/Hedge Fund Incentive Program Participants Members Trading Outside of Division Non-Members	Cash Settlement**	\$0.20

Processing Fees	Fee
Give-Up Surcharge	\$0.05
Position Adjustment/Position Transfer	\$0.10

*Exchange Fee Waivers: CME Globex Transaction Fees:

• CME transaction fees waived through 8/31/2023

Cash Settlement Fees:

• CME Cash Settlement Fees waived through 8/31/2023

^{**}Cash Settlement Fees: applies only to long in the money and short out of the money contracts. Settlement precisely at a strike will result in puts being treated in-the-money and calls out-of-the-money.