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Christopher Bowen Managing Director and Chief Regulatory Counsel Legal Department

November 16, 2011

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARIAT

## VIA E-MAIL

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

RE: Latin America Commodity Commercial Incentive Program CME/CBOT/NYMEX/COMEX Submission No. 11-427

Dear Mr. Stawick:

Chicago Mercantile Exchange Inc ("CME"), the Board of Trade of the City of Chicago, Inc ("CBOT"), the New York Mercantile Exchange, Inc ("NYMEX"), and the Commodity Exchange, Inc ("COMEX") (CME, CBOT, NYMEX, and COMEX collectively the "Exchanges") hereby notifies the Commodity Futures Trading Commission ("Commission") of the implementation of an Incentive Program in support of certain agricultural, energy and metals products traded on Globex® ("LACIP" or "Program"). The proposed Program will become effective on December 4, 2011.

Exhibit 1 sets forth the terms of the proposed Program.

The Exchanges' business staff responsible for the Program and the Exchanges' legal department collectively reviewed the designated contract market core principles ("Core Principles") as set forth in the Commodities Exchange Act ("CEA"). During the review, the Exchanges' staff identified the following Core Principles as potentially being impacted; Prevention of Market Disruption, Execution of Transactions, Protection of Market Participants and Compliance with Rules and Record Keeping.

The proposed Program's incentive structure does not incentivize manipulative trading or market abuse and does not impact the Exchanges' ability to perform its trade practice and market surveillance obligations under the CEA. The Exchanges' market regulation staff will nevertheless continue to monitor all market participants that trade under the Program to prevent manipulative trading and market abuse. The incentives in the proposed Program do not impact the Exchanges' order execution. Participants in the Program will be selected by the Exchanges' staff using criteria as further stated in Exhibit 1. Chapter 4 of the Exchanges' rules includes prohibitions against fraudulent, non-competitive, unfair or abusive practices. The proposed Program is subject to these rules. The proposed Program will be subject to the Exchanges' record retention policies which comply with the CEA.

CME, CBOT, NYMEX, and COMEX certify that the Program complies with the Commodity Exchange Act and the regulations thereunder. There were no substantive opposing views to this Program.

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The Exchanges certify that this submission has been concurrently posted on the Exchanges' website at http://www.cmegroup.com/market-regulation/rule-filings.html

If you require any additional information regarding this submission, please contact Robert Lev at 312-930-3019 or via e-mail at <u>robert.lev@cmegroup.com</u>, or contact me at 212-299-2200. Please reference our CME/CBOT/NYMEX/COMEX Submission No. 11-427 in any related correspondence.

Sincerely,

/s/ Christopher Bowen Managing Director, Chief Regulatory Counsel

Attachments

# EXHIBIT 1

# LATIN-AMERICA-COMMODITY COMMERCIAL INCENTIVE PROGRAM

## Program Purpose.

The purpose of this Program is to incentivize commercial hedgers in Latan American countries to trade the products listed below on the CME Globex Platform. The resulting increase in liquidity in the products listed below benefits all participant segments in the market.

#### **Product Scope**

All CME Agricultural futures and options on Globex®, all CBOT standard-sized and mini-sized Agricultural products on t Globex®, all NYMEX standard-size Energy products on Globex® and all NYMEX/COMEX standard sized Energy futures products on Globex® ("Products").

#### **Eligible Participants**

There is no limit to the amount of participants that may be selected in the Program. All approved CME, CBOT, NYMEX and COMEX non-members may participate. Additionally participants must meet the following criteria:

### To qualify for LACIP, a commercial hedger must:

- Be located in a Latin American country. (See below)
- Be a commercial firm involved in the physical agriculture, energy or metals commodity markets, defined as a firm whose primary business involves at least one of the following: extracting, growing, processing, refining and/or merchandising of commodities. Provide information justifying this status, for example any industry association membership, annual report, etc.
- Have all traders physically located in Latin America.
- Complete an LACIP application and be approved by the Exchanges.
- Execute all trades in the LACIP participant's name.
- Register all participating traders who must be owners, bona fide employees or independent contractors of the LACIP participant.
- Have a relationship with an Exchange clearing member.

# The following countries qualify for the LACIP:

French Guiana Argentina Aruba Guadeloupe Belize Guatemala Bolivia Guyana Brazil Haiti Chile Honduras Colombia Jamaica Costa Rica Martinique Dominican Republic Mexico Ecuador El Salvador Nicaragua

Netherlands Antilles

Panama Paraguay Peru Puerto Rico Saint Martin

Saint Pierre and Miguelon

Suriname Uruquay Venezuela

# **Program Term**

Start date is December 4, 2011. End date is December 31, 2012.

#### <u>Hours</u>

The incentives will apply to all trades made in the Products regardless of the execution time.

# **Program Incentives:**

Once accepted into the Program, participants will be eligible to receive the following incentives:

<u>Fee Discounts.</u> Participants will be eligible to receive fee discounts for the Products that are traded on Globex® in accordance with the following table:

Product Category	LACIP fees
(For Executed trades on Globex only)	(per side)
CME Agricultural Products - Futures	\$1.50
CME Agricultural Products - Options	\$0.81
CBOT Agricultural Products - Standard size contracts	\$1.35
CBOT Agricultural Products - Mini-sized contracts	\$0.81
NYMEX Energy Products - Standard size contracts	\$1.00
COMEX Metals Products – Standard size contracts (futures only)	\$1.00

# **Monitoring and Termination of Status**

The Exchanges shall monitor trading activity and participants' performance 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 or fails to meet the obligations of the Program.