

	Trading – Interest Rate Derivatives		Back-office - Options
	Trading – Equity and Index Derivatives	\boxtimes	Technology
\boxtimes	Back-office – Futures		Regulation

CIRCULAR 085-14 June 13, 2014

SELF-CERTIFICATION

EXECUTION OF CROSS TRANSACTIONS FOR EQUITY OPTION STRATEGIES

AMENDMENTS TO THE PROCEDURES APPLICABLE TO THE EXECUTION OF CROSS TRANSACTIONS AND THE EXECUTION OF PREARRANGED TRANSACTIONS

AND

PROCEDURES APPLICABLE TO THE EXECUTION OF STRATEGIES INVOLVING OPTIONS

The Rules and Policies Committee of Bourse de Montréal Inc. (the Bourse) has approved amendments to the *Procedures Applicable to the Execution of Cross Transactions and the Execution of Prearranged Transactions* ("Cross Procedures"), and the *Procedures Applicable to the Execution of Strategies Involving Options* ("Option Strategy Procedures") of the Bourse in order to permit the execution of cross transactions for the benefit of equity option strategies executed via the Bourse's Intra-Day User Defined Strategy (UDS) trade facility.

The amended procedures, herein attached, will take effect on **June 16, 2014**. Please note that these procedures will also be available on the Bourse's website (www.m-x.ca).

For additional information, please contact Mr. Antonio Discenza, Director, Market Operations at 514 871-3548 or by e-mail at ADiscenza@m-x.ca.

M^e Pauline Ascoli Vice President, Legal Affairs, Derivatives



PROCEDURES APPLICABLE TO THE EXECUTION OF STRATEGIES INVOLVING OPTIONS

1. OBJECTIVE

The objective of these procedures is to provide and facilitate the trading of strategies involving equity options for approved participants. For the purposes of these procedures, equity options also include options on indices, currencies and exchange-traded funds. Approved participants may create user-defined strategies ("UDS") via individual trading terminals which allow customized strategies to be disseminated and traded. When not feasible, an approved participant must contact Bourse de Montréal Inc.'s ("Bourse") Market Operations Department ("MOD") at 1 866 576-8836 or 514 871-7877 for assistance in creating a UDS, or in presenting an options strategy to designated market makers and, when applicable, ensuring its manual execution in the Bourse's trading system.

2. DESCRIPTION

Creation by Approved Participant

An approved participant requests the creation of a UDS instrument by sending a message to the Bourse's trading system in any of the supported protocols (SAIL, FIX or STAMP). This message contains the parameters of the strategy the approved participant wishes to display.

Bourse will determine from time to time the strategy types that will be accepted by the UDS functionality, and will notify the market of such acceptance criteria.

The UDS functionality will validate that the strategy created is among those that are accepted by the system. If accepted, the newly created strategy instrument will be broadcast to the market via Bourse's High Speed Vendor Feed, similar to the broadcast of any instrument. If the strategy is not accepted by the UDS functionality, an error message will be returned to the approved participant submitting the message.

A throttling mechanism is engaged in order to limit the number of strategy instruments created by an approved participant. Each approved participant is configured by MOD with a maximum number of instrument creation requests per trading day. Bourse will determine that maximum number depending on the capacity of its systems and will notify the market of such number. If the counter falls to zero, the approved participant is not able to create any new strategy instrument on that day. Conversely, the counter is credited if a newly created strategy instrument generates at least one trade during that trading session.

Creation by MOD

If an approved participant does not have the capability to create a UDS, the approved participant may contact the MOD and request the creation of the UDS. The UDS must conform to the acceptance criteria as determined by Bourse from time to time.

The UDS functionality will validate that the strategy created is among those that are accepted by the system. If accepted, the newly created strategy instrument will be broadcast to the market via the Bourse's High Speed Vendor Feed, similar to the broadcast of any instrument.

In such cases, the MOD's assistance is limited to creating the UDS. Approved participants are responsible for entering orders.

Execution by MOD

If a strategy can not be created and broadcasted using the UDS because the strategy type is not accepted by Bourse, or because the approved participant does not have the capability to create and place orders on a UDS, the approved participant may submit a strategy order using the following procedure:

- A) The approved participant must contact the MOD and indicate its option strategy. The information provided must include the option series involved, the quantity ratio, the price and the total quantity of the order. Approved participants must have received and time-registered their order prior to contacting the MOD. If the intended strategy includes an equity leg, the approved participant must also indicate the reference price of the underlying interest and the number of shares to be executed in the strategy.
- B) The MOD will contact qualifying market makers assigned to the option class. A qualifying market maker is defined as a market maker that is showing a bid/ask market no wider than the no-bust range of that instrument, with a minimum of ten contracts per side. The MOD will respect the following procedure:
 - (i) For strategies involving less than 50 contracts per leg, market makers will be contacted individually as their turn comes up, according to a rotation kept by the MOD;
 - (ii) For strategies involving between 50 and 99 contracts per leg, market makers will be contacted by groups of two, according to their rank on the rotation;
 - (iii) For strategies involving 100 contracts or more per leg, all qualifying market makers will be contacted.

In the event that a strategy is comprised of multiple legs, the MOD will take into account the option with the furthest expiry to determine which participating market makers will be contacted. Qualifying market makers will be contacted and shown the strategy as submitted by the approved participant. If the market maker(s) accepts the prices provided by the MOD, the transaction will be entered and broadcast to all relevant parties (approved participants, market makers, and stock exchange, if necessary).

- C) The market makers may provide responding bids, offers and quantities:
 - (i) If market makers choose to participate on the strategy, they must be willing to trade all parts inherent to the transaction (all series, shares) but they will not be obligated to trade the entire quantity
 - (ii) If a particular market maker is not available within 15 seconds of the market supervisor of the MOD initiating the telephone call, no additional attempts to contact him will be made. The market maker should provide an answer to the MOD within approximately 30 seconds of the strategy description given by the MOD. Allowance will be made for a longer response time in the case of a particularly complex strategy. If all attempts fail the order will be rejected.

D) In some situations where the strategy cannot be executed, the MOD may inform the approved participant of the best corresponding bid/offer as well as the corresponding quantities obtained by market makers. Once the details of the transaction are negotiated and confirmed, information on the transaction will be entered into the Bourse's trading system by the MOD and broadcast to the marketplace. The strategy trade will be broadcast via the Bourse's Web site and the leg prices and volumes will be disseminated via the Bourse's data feed. If the transaction includes an equity leg and the option leg has been executed, the MOD will submit the equity portion of the strategy to the venue where the equity is traded.

<u>Execution of a cross transaction Cross Transaction on a strategy involving options – Strategies Involving Options</u>

- 1) Cross Transactions with a 50% guaranteed minimum will not be accepted electronically Please refer to the Procedures Applicable to the Execution of Cross Transactions and the Execution of Prearranged Transactions.
- 2) Cross transactions on equity options strategies **without** a 50% guaranteed minimum will be accepted electronically Please refer to the *Procedures Applicable to the Execution of Cross Transactions and the Execution of Prearranged Transactions.*



PROCEDURES APPLICABLE TO THE EXECUTION OF STRATEGIES INVOLVING OPTIONS

1. OBJECTIVE

The objective of these procedures is to provide and facilitate the trading of strategies involving equity options for approved participants. For the purposes of these procedures, equity options also include options on indices, currencies and exchange-traded funds. Approved participants may create user-defined strategies ("UDS") via individual trading terminals which allow customized strategies to be disseminated and traded. When not feasible, an approved participant must contact Bourse de Montréal Inc.'s ("Bourse") Market Operations Department ("MOD") at 1 866 576-8836 or 514 871-7877 for assistance in creating a UDS, or in presenting an options strategy to designated market makers and, when applicable, ensuring its manual execution in the Bourse's trading system.

2. DESCRIPTION

Creation by Approved Participant

An approved participant requests the creation of a UDS instrument by sending a message to the Bourse's trading system in any of the supported protocols (SAIL, FIX or STAMP). This message contains the parameters of the strategy the approved participant wishes to display.

Bourse will determine from time to time the strategy types that will be accepted by the UDS functionality, and will notify the market of such acceptance criteria.

The UDS functionality will validate that the strategy created is among those that are accepted by the system. If accepted, the newly created strategy instrument will be broadcast to the market via Bourse's High Speed Vendor Feed, similar to the broadcast of any instrument. If the strategy is not accepted by the UDS functionality, an error message will be returned to the approved participant submitting the message.

A throttling mechanism is engaged in order to limit the number of strategy instruments created by an approved participant. Each approved participant is configured by MOD with a maximum number of instrument creation requests per trading day. Bourse will determine that maximum number depending on the capacity of its systems and will notify the market of such number. If the counter falls to zero, the approved participant is not able to create any new strategy instrument on that day. Conversely, the counter is credited if a newly created strategy instrument generates at least one trade during that trading session.

Creation by MOD

If an approved participant does not have the capability to create a UDS, the approved participant may contact the MOD and request the creation of the UDS. The UDS must conform to the acceptance criteria as determined by Bourse from time to time.

The UDS functionality will validate that the strategy created is among those that are accepted by the system. If accepted, the newly created strategy instrument will be broadcast to the market via the Bourse's High Speed Vendor Feed, similar to the broadcast of any instrument.

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In such cases, the MOD's assistance is limited to creating the UDS. Approved participants are responsible for entering orders.

Execution by MOD

If a strategy can not be created and broadcasted using the UDS because the strategy type is not accepted by Bourse, or because the approved participant does not have the capability to create and place orders on a UDS, the approved participant may submit a strategy order using the following procedure:

- A) The approved participant must contact the MOD and indicate its option strategy. The information provided must include the option series involved, the quantity ratio, the price and the total quantity of the order. Approved participants must have received and time-registered their order prior to contacting the MOD. If the intended strategy includes an equity leg, the approved participant must also indicate the reference price of the underlying interest and the number of shares to be executed in the strategy.
- B) The MOD will contact qualifying market makers assigned to the option class. A qualifying market maker is defined as a market maker that is showing a bid/ask market no wider than the no-bust range of that instrument, with a minimum of ten contracts per side. The MOD will respect the following procedure:
 - (i) For strategies involving less than 50 contracts per leg, market makers will be contacted individually as their turn comes up, according to a rotation kept by the MOD:
 - (ii) For strategies involving between 50 and 99 contracts per leg, market makers will be contacted by groups of two, according to their rank on the rotation;
 - (iii) For strategies involving 100 contracts or more per leg, all qualifying market makers will be contacted.

In the event that a strategy is comprised of multiple legs, the MOD will take into account the option with the furthest expiry to determine which participating market makers will be contacted. Qualifying market makers will be contacted and shown the strategy as submitted by the approved participant. If the market maker(s) accepts the prices provided by the MOD, the transaction will be entered and broadcast to all relevant parties (approved participants, market makers, and stock exchange, if necessary).

- C) The market makers may provide responding bids, offers and quantities:
 - (i) If market makers choose to participate on the strategy, they must be willing to trade all parts inherent to the transaction (all series, shares) but they will not be obligated to trade the entire quantity
 - (ii) If a particular market maker is not available within 15 seconds of the market supervisor of the MOD initiating the telephone call, no additional attempts to contact him will be made. The market maker should provide an answer to the MOD within approximately 30 seconds of the strategy description given by the MOD. Allowance will be made for a longer response time in the case of a particularly complex strategy. If all attempts fail the order will be rejected.

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D) In some situations where the strategy can not be executed, the MOD may inform the approved participant of the best corresponding bid/offer as well as the corresponding quantities obtained by market makers. Once the details of the transaction are negotiated and confirmed, information on the transaction will be entered into the Bourse's trading system by the MOD and broadcast to the marketplace. The strategy trade will be broadcast via the Bourse's Web site and the leg prices and volumes will be disseminated via the Bourse's data feed. If the transaction includes an equity leg and the option leg has been executed, the MOD will submit the equity portion of the strategy to the venue where the equity is traded.

Execution of Cross Transaction on Strategies Involving Options

- 1) Cross Transactions with a 50% guaranteed minimum will not be accepted electronically Please refer to the *Procedures Applicable to the Execution of Cross Transactions and the Execution of Prearranged Transactions*.
- 2) Cross transactions on equity options strategies **without** a 50% guaranteed minimum will be accepted electronically Please refer to the *Procedures Applicable to the Execution of Cross Transactions and the Execution of Prearranged Transactions*.

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PROCEDURES APPLICABLE TO THE EXECUTION OF CROSS TRANSACTIONS AND THE EXECUTION OF PREARRANGED TRANSACTIONS

In accordance with the provisions of article 6380 of the Rules of Bourse de Montréal Inc. (the Bourse) regarding the execution of cross transactions and prearranged transactions, the following are the eligible products, the prescribed exposure time delays between the input of two orders and the minimum volume thresholds.

Table 1: Prescribed time delays and minimum volume thresholds for eligible securities and derivative instruments

ELIGIBLE PRODUCTS	PRESCRIBED TIME DELAY	MINIMUM VOLUME THRESHOLD				
Three-Month Canadian Bankers' Acceptance Futures Contracts (BAX):						
1 st four quarterly months – not including serial months	5 seconds	No threshold				
Remaining expiry months and strategies	15 seconds	No threshold				
Thirty-Day Overnight "Repo" Rate Futures Contracts (ONX):						
Front month	5 seconds	No threshold				
Remaining expiry months and strategies	15 seconds	No threshold				
Overnight Index Swap (OIS):						
Front month	5 seconds	No threshold				
Remaining expiry months and strategies	15 seconds	No threshold				
Government of Canada Bond Futures Contracts:						
All expiry months and strategies	5 seconds	No threshold				
Futures Contracts on S&P/TSX Indices:						
All expiry months	0 second	≥ 100 contracts				
All expiry months and strategies	5 seconds	< 100 contracts				
Futures Contracts on the FTSE Emerging Markets	Index:					
All expiry months	0 second	≥ 100 contracts				
All expiry months and strategies	5 seconds	< 100 contracts				
Futures Contracts on Canada Carbon Dioxide Equivalent (CO₂e) Units:						
All expiry months and strategies	5 seconds	No threshold				
Futures Contracts on Canadian Crude Oil:						
All expiry months and strategies	5 seconds	No threshold				
Options on Three-Month Canadian Bankers' Acceptance Futures Contracts:						
All expiry months and strategies	0 second	≥ 250 contracts				
All expiry months and strategies	5 seconds	< 250 contracts				

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Options on Ten-Year Government of Canada	Bond Futures Contract	s (OGB):
All expiry months and strategies	0 second	≥ 250 contracts
All expiry months and strategies	5 seconds	< 250 contracts
Equity and Currency Options:		
All expiry months	0 second	≥ 100 contracts
All expiry months	5 seconds	< 100 contracts
All UDS Strategies	<u>5 seconds</u>	No Threshold
Index Options:		
All expiry months	0 second	≥ 50 contracts
All expiry months	5 seconds	< 50 contracts
All UDS Strategies	5 seconds	No Threshold
Canadian Share Futures Contracts:		
All expiry months and strategies	0 seconds	≥ 100 contracts
All expiry months and strategies	5 seconds	< 100 contracts
Futures and Options on Futures Inter-Group	Strategies	
All strategies	5 seconds	No threshold

Chronological priority of orders must be respected with regards to the posting of the originating order first, when executing a cross or prearranged transaction.

The market participant must ensure that all existing orders in the central order book, regardless of the type of orders, which are at limit prices better than or equal to the cross or prearranged transaction price are executed before completing such transaction.

EQUITY OPTIONS, INDEX OPTIONS AND CURRENCY OPTIONS CONTRACTS

Cross transactions and prearranged transactions can only be executed in accordance with one of the following procedures:

Procedure with a prescribed time delay for a volume smaller than the eligible volume threshold

A market participant wishing to execute a cross or a prearranged transaction must enter the order into the trading system for the total intended transaction volume. The participant must then respect a delay equal to the prescribed time delay before executing an offsetting transaction on the residual volume.

The **residual volume** is the portion of the original volume remaining after orders entered in the book with limit prices better than or equal to the intended transaction price have been filled. If no orders have been executed, the residual volume is equal to the original intended transaction volume.

Procedure without a prescribed time delay for a volume equal to or greater than the eligible volume threshold

If a market participant has a cross or prearranged order between the bid and ask:

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- the participant can use a specific system function to enter a zero-second cross; or
- the participant can enter one side of the order and immediately trade against it if he wishes that the trade be executed directly on the market (with the possibility of execution risk).

Procedure for strategies executed via the User Defined Strategy (UDS) Facility

A market participant wishing to execute a cross or a prearranged transaction on a strategy via the UDS facility must enter the order into the trading system for the total intended transaction quantity. The participant must then respect a delay equal to the prescribed time delay before executing an offsetting transaction on the residual quantity.

The **residual quantity** is the portion of the original quantity remaining after orders entered in the book with limit prices better than or equal to the intended transaction price have been filled. If no orders have been executed, the residual quantity is equal to the original intended transaction quantity.

Note: The bundling of orders to meet the admissible minimum volume threshold is not permitted.

Transactions with a 50% guaranteed minimum

If a market participant wishes to execute a cross or a prearranged transaction on an option strategy, he must contact a market official and provide details of the intended transaction: total volume, price, side(s) of the transaction on which the approved participant is required to give priority.

Market makers will be permitted to participate on the transaction up to a total maximum of 50% of the volume of the intended transaction.

The market participant will be permitted to execute the transaction for the remaining volume (a minimum of 50% plus any volume not taken of the 50% that had been offered to the market makers.)

MISCELLANEOUS

Eligible products, their respective minimum volume thresholds and time delays will be modified from time to time in order to take into account the evolution of the trading environment and operational practices of the Bourse. A circular will be issued by the Bourse every time a modification or revision is made to either one of these criteria.

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PROCEDURES APPLICABLE TO THE EXECUTION OF CROSS TRANSACTIONS AND THE EXECUTION OF PREARRANGED TRANSACTIONS

In accordance with the provisions of article 6380 of the Rules of Bourse de Montréal Inc. (the Bourse) regarding the execution of cross transactions and prearranged transactions, the following are the eligible products, the prescribed exposure time delays between the input of two orders and the minimum volume thresholds.

Table 1: Prescribed time delays and minimum volume thresholds for eligible securities and derivative instruments

ELIGIBLE PRODUCTS	PRESCRIBED TIME DELAY	MINIMUM VOLUME THRESHOLD				
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Front month	5 seconds	No threshold				
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Government of Canada Bond Futures Contracts:						
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Futures Contracts on S&P/TSX Indices:						
All expiry months	0 second	≥ 100 contracts				
All expiry months and strategies	5 seconds	< 100 contracts				
Futures Contracts on the FTSE Emerging Markets	Index:					
All expiry months	0 second	≥ 100 contracts				
All expiry months and strategies	5 seconds	< 100 contracts				
Futures Contracts on Canada Carbon Dioxide Equivalent (CO₂e) Units:						
All expiry months and strategies	5 seconds	No threshold				
Futures Contracts on Canadian Crude Oil:						
All expiry months and strategies	5 seconds	No threshold				
Options on Three-Month Canadian Bankers' Acceptance Futures Contracts:						
All expiry months and strategies	0 second	≥ 250 contracts				
All expiry months and strategies	5 seconds	< 250 contracts				

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Options on Ten-Year Government of Canada Bond Futures Contracts (OGB):					
All expiry months and strategies	0 second	≥ 250 contracts			
All expiry months and strategies	5 seconds	< 250 contracts			
Equity and Currency Options:					
All expiry months	0 second	≥ 100 contracts			
All expiry months	5 seconds	< 100 contracts			
All UDS Strategies	5 seconds	No Threshold			
Index Options:					
All expiry months	0 second	≥ 50 contracts			
All expiry months	5 seconds	< 50 contracts			
All UDS Strategies	5 seconds	No Threshold			
Canadian Share Futures Contracts:					
All expiry months and strategies	0 seconds	≥ 100 contracts			
All expiry months and strategies	5 seconds	< 100 contracts			
-					
Futures and Options on Futures Inter-Group Strategies					
All strategies	5 seconds	No threshold			

Chronological priority of orders must be respected with regards to the posting of the originating order first, when executing a cross or prearranged transaction.

The market participant must ensure that all existing orders in the central order book, regardless of the type of orders, which are at limit prices better than or equal to the cross or prearranged transaction price are executed before completing such transaction.

EQUITY OPTIONS. INDEX OPTIONS AND CURRENCY OPTIONS CONTRACTS

Cross transactions and prearranged transactions can only be executed in accordance with one of the following procedures:

Procedure with a prescribed time delay for a volume smaller than the eligible volume threshold

A market participant wishing to execute a cross or a prearranged transaction must enter the order into the trading system for the total intended transaction volume. The participant must then respect a delay equal to the prescribed time delay before executing an offsetting transaction on the residual volume.

The **residual volume** is the portion of the original volume remaining after orders entered in the book with limit prices better than or equal to the intended transaction price have been filled. If no orders have been executed, the residual volume is equal to the original intended transaction volume.

Procedure without a prescribed time delay for a volume equal to or greater than the eligible volume threshold

If a market participant has a cross or prearranged order between the bid and ask:

the participant can use a specific system function to enter a zero-second cross; or

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• the participant can enter one side of the order and immediately trade against it if he wishes that the trade be executed directly on the market (with the possibility of execution risk).

Procedure for strategies executed via the User Defined Strategy (UDS) Facility

A market participant wishing to execute a cross or a prearranged transaction on a strategy via the UDS facility must enter the order into the trading system for the total intended transaction quantity. The participant must then respect a delay equal to the prescribed time delay before executing an offsetting transaction on the residual quantity.

The **residual quantity** is the portion of the original quantity remaining after orders entered in the book with limit prices better than or equal to the intended transaction price have been filled. If no orders have been executed, the residual quantity is equal to the original intended transaction quantity.

Note: The bundling of orders to meet the admissible minimum volume threshold is not permitted.

Transactions with a 50% guaranteed minimum

If a market participant wishes to execute a cross or a prearranged transaction on an option strategy, he must contact a market official and provide details of the intended transaction: total volume, price, side(s) of the transaction on which the approved participant is required to give priority.

Market makers will be permitted to participate on the transaction up to a total maximum of 50% of the volume of the intended transaction.

The market participant will be permitted to execute the transaction for the remaining volume (a minimum of 50% plus any volume not taken of the 50% that had been offered to the market makers.)

MISCELLANEOUS

Eligible products, their respective minimum volume thresholds and time delays will be modified from time to time in order to take into account the evolution of the trading environment and operational practices of the Bourse. A circular will be issued by the Bourse every time a modification or revision is made to either one of these criteria.

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