

# INDEX GUIDELINE

Solactive USD Corporate Benchmark Index Family

Version 1.1

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## INTRODUCTION

This document (the "Guideline") is to be used as a guideline with regard to the composition, calculation and maintenance of the Solactive USD Corporate Benchmark Index Family (the "INDEX"). Any amendments to the rules made to the Guideline are approved by the Oversight Committee as specified in the Bond Index Methodology. The INDEX is owned, calculated, administered and published by Solactive AG ("Solactive") assuming the role as administrator (the "INDEX ADMINISTRATOR") under the Regulation (EU) 2016/1011 (the "Benchmark Regulation" or "BMR"). The name "Solactive" is trademarked.

The Guideline and the policies and methodology documents referenced herein contain the underlying principles and rules regarding the structure and operation of the INDEX. Solactive does not offer any explicit or tacit guarantee or assurance, neither pertaining to the results from the use of the INDEX nor the level of the INDEX at any certain point in time nor in any other respect. Solactive strives to the best of its ability to ensure the correctness of the calculation. There is no obligation for Solactive – irrespective of possible obligations to issuers of financial instruments or investment funds referencing the INDEX under a valid license – to advise third parties, including investors and/or financial intermediaries, of any errors in the INDEX. The publication of the INDEX by Solactive does not constitute a recommendation for capital investment and does not contain any assurance or opinion of Solactive regarding a possible investment in a financial instrument based on this INDEX.

## 1. INDEX SPECIFICATIONS

#### 1.1. SCOPE OF THE INDEX

- The Solactive USD IG Corporate Index is a rules-based, market value weighted index engineered to mirror the performance of investment grade bonds denominated in USD. The issuer's domicile is not relevant. The index is comprised of USD denominated IG-rated corporate bonds with a time to maturity of at least 18 months. The Index is a Total Return Index, i.e. coupon payments will be reinvested in the index on each rebalancing day. There are five currency versions in GBP, DKK, EUR, NOK and SEK.
- The Solactive USD HY Corporate Index is a rules-based, market value weighted indices and engineered to mirror the performance of bonds with a high-yield rating denominated in USD. The issuer's domicile is not relevant. The index is comprised of USD denominated high yield corporate bonds with a time to maturity of at least 18 months. The Index is a Total Return Index, i.e. coupon payments will be reinvested in the index on each rebalancing day. There are four currency versions in DKK, NOK, SEK and EUR.



#### 1.2. IDENTIFIERS AND PUBLICATION

The INDEX is published under the following identifiers:

Name	ISIN	Currency	Туре	Calculation Formula	RIC	BBG ticker
Solactive USD IG Corporate Index	DE000SLA3B58	USD	TR	Periodic	.SOLUSIGC	SOLUSIGC
Solactive USD IG Corporate DKK Hedged Index	DE000SL0AMS1	DKK	СН	Periodic	.SOLUIGDH	-
Solactive USD IG Corporate DKK Index	DE000SL0AF98	DKK	TR	Periodic	.SOLUIGDK	-
Solactive USD IG Corporate EUR Hedged Index	DE000SL0AMW3	EUR	СН	Periodic	.SOLUIGEH	-
Solactive USD IG Corporate EUR Index	DE000SL0AF80	EUR	TR	Periodic	.SOLUIGEU	-
Solactive USD IG Corporate GBP Hedged Index	DE000SL0CPP6	GBP	СН	Periodic	.SOLUSIGHG	-
Solactive USD IG Corporate GBP Index	DE000SL0CPN1	GBP	TR	Periodic	.SOLUSIGG	-
Solactive USD IG Corporate NOK Hedged Index	DE000SL0AMQ5	NOK	СН	Periodic	.SOLUIGNH	-
Solactive USD IG Corporate NOK Index	DE000SL0AGB9	NOK	TR	Periodic	.SOLUIGNO	-
Solactive USD IG Corporate SEK Hedged Index	DE000SL0AMR3	SEK	СН	Periodic	.SOLUIGSH	-
Solactive USD IG Corporate SEK Index	DE000SL0AGA1	SEK	TR	Periodic	.SOLUIGSE	-
Solactive USD HY Corporate Index	DE000SLA2XA1	USD	TR	Periodic	.SOLUSHYC	SOLUSHYC
Solactive USD HY Corporate DKK Hedged Index	DE000SL0AMP7	DKK	СН	Periodic	.SOLUHYDH	-
Solactive USD HY Corporate DKK Index	DE000SL0AGD5	DKK	TR	Periodic	.SOLUHYDK	-
Solactive USD HY Corporate EUR Hedged Index	DE000SL0AMX1	EUR	СН	Periodic	.SOLUHYEH	-
Solactive USD HY Corporate EUR Index	DE000SL0AGC7	EUR	TR	Periodic	.SOLUHYEU	-
Solactive USD HY Corporate NOK Hedged Index	DE000SL0AMM4	NOK	СН	Periodic	.SOLUHYNH	-
Solactive USD HY Corporate NOK Index	DE000SL0AGF0	NOK	TR	Periodic	.SOLUHYNO	-
Solactive USD HY Corporate SEK Hedged Index	DE000SL0AMN2	SEK	СН	Periodic	.SOLUHYSH	-
Solactive USD HY Corporate SEK Index	DE000SL0AGE3	SEK	TR	Periodic	.SOLUHYSE	-
Solactive USD HY Corporate GBP Index	DE000SL0EMA1	GBP	TR	Periodic	.SOLUSGBC	-

<sup>\*</sup>The calculation formula refers to the index calculation's dependency on cash reinvestment, based on whether the cash reinvestment occurs on a daily/direct basis or periodically.

The INDEX is published on the website of the INDEX ADMINISTRATOR (www.solactive.com) and is, in addition, available via the price marketing services of Boerse Stuttgart GmbH and may be distributed to all of its affiliated vendors. Each vendor decides on an individual basis as to whether it will distribute or display the INDEX via its information systems.

Any publication in relation to the INDEX (e.g. notices, amendments to the GUIDELINE) will be available at the website of the INDEX ADMINISTRATOR: <a href="https://www.solactive.com/news/announcements/">https://www.solactive.com/news/announcements/</a>.

<sup>\*</sup>TR means that the INDEX is calculated as Total Return index as described in the Bond Index Methodology, which is available on the Solactive website: https://www.solactive.com/documents/bond-index-methodology/

<sup>\*</sup>CH means that the Index is calculated as Currency Hedge Index, as described in the Currency Hedged Index Methodology, which is available on the SOLACTIVE website: <a href="https://www.solactive.com/documents/currency-hedged-general-methodology/">https://www.solactive.com/documents/currency-hedged-general-methodology/</a>



#### 1.3. INITIAL LEVEL OF THE INDEX

The initial level of the Solactive USD IG Corporate Index on April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2017 is 1000. Levels of the INDEX published for a period prior to this date have been back-tested. Historical values from the April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2017 will be recorded in accordance with Article 8 of the BMR.

The initial level of the Solactive USD HY Corporate Index on December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2016 is 1000. Levels of the INDEX published for a period prior to this date have been back-tested. Historical values from the December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2016 will be recorded in accordance with Article 8 of the BMR.

#### 1.4. PRICES AND CALCULATION FREQUENCY

The Index is calculated and distributed once every Business Day based on the Evaluated Bid Price of the Index Components. Bonds added in a rebalancing (see Section 3) are included the Index at the Evaluated Ask Price on the relevant Rebalance Day. Bonds which are excluded from the Index in a rebalance are reflected in the calculation of the level of the Index for the Rebalance Day at the Evaluated Bid Price on the relevant Rebalance Day. Index analytical values are calculated each Business Day using the Last Evaluated Bid Price based on Fixing Time.

The currency hedged indices are calculated based on Trading Prices on the exchanges on which the Underlying Index Components are listed. Trading Prices of the Underlying Index Components not listed in the Index Currency are converted using the current Intercontinental Exchange (ICE) spot foreign exchange rate. Should there be no current Trading Price for an Index Component, the later of: (i) the most recent Closing Price; or (ii) the last available Trading Price for the preceding Trading Day is used in the calculation.

In addition to the intraday calculation a closing level of the INDEX for each CALCULATION DAY is also calculated. This closing level is based on the CLOSING PRICES for the underlying index and 4:00 PM London WM Spot and Forward Fixings quoted by Reuters. If there is no 4:00 PM London time WM Fixing for the relevant CALCULATION DAY, the last available 4:00 PM London time WM Fixing will be used for the closing level calculation.

## 2. INDEX SELECTION

On each Selection Day, all bonds which meet the Index Component Requirements are eligible for inclusion in the Index and will be added as Index Component on the Rebalance Day. Additionally, on each Selection Day, it will be evaluated whether all current Index Components still meet the Index Component Requirements. Each Index Component that does not meet the Index Component Requirements will be removed from the Index on the next Rebalance Day.

#### 2.1. SELECTION OF THE INDEX COMPONENTS

The initial composition of each INDEX, as well as any selection for a rebalance (as specified in Section 3) is determined using the following rules:

a) USD denominated corporate debt issues only



- b) Amount outstanding of at least 400 million USD
- c) Remaining time to maturity of at least 18 months
- d) The following bond types are included:
  - a. Fixed rate coupon bonds
  - b. Sinkable and amortizing bonds
  - c. Bearer bonds
  - d. Zero coupon Bonds
  - e. Callable and puttable bonds (bonds with an announced call for the upcoming month are excluded)
  - f. Covered bonds
  - g. Fix to float bonds that are in the fixed rate phase and are at least one year from their reset date
  - h. (Callable) Perpetual fixed rate bonds (must be at least one year from their first call date)
  - i. Securities with alternative coupon mechanisms are also included (i.e. rating driven coupon schedules, step-up bonds with known schedules at issuance, and PIK)
- e) The following market types are eligible for inclusion:
  - a. Global issues
  - b. US domestic issues
  - c. Private Placements (144a)
  - d. Yankee
  - e. MTN (issuer must be domiciled in the USA)

For the Solactive IG Corporate Index Family:

a) The issue must be rated investment grade (at least BBB- / Baa3) by both Standard & Poor's and Moody's. In case only one rating is available, it must be investment grade.

For the Solactice HY Corporate Index Family:

- a) The issue must be rated below investment grade (BBB- / Baa3) by at least one of these two rating agencies: Standard & Poor's and Moody's.
- b) The issuer must have risk exposure to the G10 currencies, countries within the Western Europe and Others Group (WEOG) of the UN, or to the territories of the US / Western Europe.

A price from the Pricing Provider must be available for each INDEX COMPONENT on each SELECTION DAY.



#### 2.1.1 SELECTION OF THE INDEX CURRENCY COMPONENTS

Based on the INDEX CURRENCY UNIVERSE, the initial composition of the INDEX as well as any selection for an ordinary rebalance is determined on the Selection Day in accordance with the following rules (the "INDEX CURRENCY COMPONENT REQUIREMENTS"):

• All of the currencies from the INDEX CURRENCY UNIVERSE

#### 2.2. WEIGHTING OF THE INDEX COMPONENTS

On each Selection Day each Index Component is weighted using the market value based on the Last Evaluated Bid Price and accrued interest as on the Selection Day in order to achieve the aim of the Index.

#### 2.2.1 WEIGHTING OF THE INDEX CURRENCY COMPONENTS

On each Selection Day, the weight of each Index Currency Component is assigned according to the aggregated weights of all the Underlying Index Components quoted in the respective currency.

## 3. ORDINARY REBALANCE

In order to reflect the new selection of the INDEX COMPONENTS determined on the SELECTION DAY (in accordance with Section 2.1) the INDEX is adjusted on the REBALANCE DAY after CLOSE OF BUSINESS.

For more information on the rebalance procedure please refer to the Bond Index Methodology, which is incorporated by reference and available on the Solactive website: https://www.solactive.com/documents/bond-index-methodology/.

SOLACTIVE will publish any changes made to the INDEX COMPONENTS with sufficient notice before the REBALANCE DAY on the SOLACTIVE webpage.

## 4. CORPORATE ACTIONS

As part of the INDEX maintenance Solactive will consider various events — also referred to as corporate actions — which result in an adjustment to the INDEX between two regular REBALANCE DAYS. Such events have a material impact on the price, weighting or overall integrity of INDEX COMPONENTS. Therefore, they need to be accounted for in the calculation of the INDEX. Adjustments to the INDEX to account for corporate actions will be made in compliance with the Bond Index Methodology.



## 5. DEFINITIONS

"BENCHMARK REGULATION" shall have the meaning as defined in Section "Introduction".

"BMR" shall have the meaning as defined in Section "Introduction".

"Business Day" is with respect to the INDEX each day, Monday to Friday, except banking holidays as defined by New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) and SIFMA US.

"CLOSE OF BUSINESS" is a time stamp when an INDEX is calculated.

"CLOSING PRICE" in respect of an INDEX COMPONENT and a TRADING DAY is a security's final regular-hours TRADING PRICE published by the exchange and determined in accordance with the exchange regulations. If the exchange has no or has not published a CLOSING PRICE in accordance with the exchange rules for an INDEX COMPONENT, the last TRADING PRICE will be used.

"Currency Hedge Index" represent the return resulting from the sum of an underlying index performance and the performance of the hedge of this index using currency forward contracts.

"GUIDELINE" shall have the meaning as defined in Section "Introduction".

"INDEX" shall have the meaning as defined in Section "Introduction".

"INDEX ADMINISTRATOR" shall have the meaning as defined in Section "Introduction".

"INDEX CALCULATOR" is SOLACTIVE or any other appropriately appointed successor in this function.

"INDEX COMPONENT" is each bond reflected in the INDEX.

"INDEX COMPONENT REQUIREMENTS" shall have the meaning as defined in Section 2.1.

"INDEX CURRENCY" is the currency specified in the column "Currency" in the table in Section 1.2.

"Index Currency Components" is each currency on which Underlying Index Component trades in the market.

"INDEX CURRENCY COMPONENT WEIGHT" is value resultant from the sum of all the UNDERLYING INDEX COMPONENT'S weights quoted in the respective currency.

"INDEX CURRENCY UNIVERSE" is the sum of all currencies which fulfill the INDEX CURRENCY UNIVERSE REQUIREMENTS.

"INDEX CURRENCY UNIVERSE REQUIREMENTS" shall have the meaning as defined in Section 2.1.1

"ISSUER" is the issuing entity of the respective bond.

"OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE" shall have the meaning as defined in the Bond Index Methodology.

"PRICING PROVIDER" is Intercontinental Exchange ("ICE").

"REBALANCE DAY" is the last Business Day of each month.

"SELECTION DAY" is 3 BUSINESS DAYS before the scheduled REBALANCE DAY, disregarding any potential change of the REBALANCE DAY

For currency hedged indices, the selection day is equal to the rebalance day.

"SOLACTIVE" shall have the meaning as defined in Section "Introduction".



"TRADING DAY" is with respect to an INDEX COMPONENT included in the INDEX at the REBALANCE DAY and every INDEX COMPONENT included in the INDEX at the CALCULATION DAY immediately following the REBALANCE DAY (for clarification: this provision is intended to capture the Trading Days for the securities to be included in the INDEX as new INDEX COMPONENTS with close of trading on the relevant EXCHANGE on the REBALANCE DAY) a day on which the relevant EXCHANGE is open for trading (or a day that would have been such a day if a market disruption had not occurred), excluding days on which trading may be ceased prior to the scheduled EXCHANGE closing time and days on which the EXCHANGE is open for a scheduled shortened period. The INDEX ADMINISTRATOR is ultimately responsible as to whether a certain day is a Trading Day.

"Trading Price" in respect of an Index Component and a Trading Day is the most recent published price at which the Index Component was traded on the respective Exchange.

"Underlying Index Component" is each security reflected in the composition of the Underlying Index.

Please note that the definitions included in the Bond Index Methodology apply to this guideline. In case of a discrepancy, the definition presented in the guidelines should prevail.

## 6. HISTORY OF INDEX CHANGES

Version	Date	Description
1.0	26 March 2024	Index Family Guideline creation (initial version)
1.1	7 August 2024	Added .SOLUSGBC to the Guideline



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