

INDEX GUIDELINE

Solactive Euro IG Corporate Index

Version 1.5

2020-05-11



TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	4
1 INDEX SPECIFICATIONS	5
1.1 SCOPE OF THE INDEX	5
1.2 IDENTIFIERS AND PUBLICATION	5
1.3 INITIAL LEVEL OF THE INDEX	5
1.4 PRICES AND CALCULATION FREQUENCY	5
1.5 LICENSING	6
1.6 CONFLICTS OF INTEREST	6
2 INDEX SELECTION	6
2.1 SELECTION OF THE INDEX COMPONENTS	6
2.2 WEIGHTING OF THE INDEX COMPONENTS	7
3 REBALANCE	8
3.1 ORDINARY REBALANCE	8
3.2 EXTRAORDINARY REBALANCE	8
4 CALCULATION OF THE INDEX	8
4.1 INDEX FORMULA	8
4.2 ACCURACY	9
4.3 ADJUSTMENTS	9
4.4 CORPORATE ACTIONS	9



Index Guideline

4.5	RECALCULATION	10
4.6	MARKET DISRUPTION	10
5	MISCELLANEOUS	10
5.1	DISCRETION	10
5.2	METHODOLOGY REVIEW	10
5.3	CHANGES IN CALCULATION METHOD	11
5.4	TERMINATION	11
5.5	OVERSIGHT	11
6	DEFINITIONS	11



INTRODUCTION

This document (the “**GUIDELINE**”) is to be used as a guideline with regard to the composition, calculation and maintenance of the Solactive Euro IG Corporate Index (the “**INDEX**”). Any amendments to the rules made to the **GUIDELINE** are approved by the **OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE** specified in Section 5.5. 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 text uses defined terms which are formatted with “SMALL CAPS”. Such Terms shall have the meaning assigned to them as specified in Section 6 (Definitions) or in the [Bond Index Methodology](#).

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** – 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 Euro IG Corporate Index is a rules-based, market value weighted index engineered to mirror the performance of investment grade bonds denominated in EUR. The issuer's domicile is not relevant.
- > The index is comprised of EUR denominated IG-rated corporate bonds with a time to maturity of at least 12 months.
- > The Index is part of the Solactive Euro Index family.
- > The Index is a Total Return Index, i.e. coupon payments will be reinvested in the index on each Rebalance day.

1.2 IDENTIFIERS AND PUBLICATION

The INDEX is published under the following identifiers:

Name	ISIN	Currency	Type	RIC	BBG ticker
Solactive Euro IG Corporate Index	DE000SLA8MS3	EUR	GTR*	.SOLEUIGC	SOLEUIGC Index

*GTR means that the INDEX is calculated as gross total return index as described in the [Bond Index Methodology](#).

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](#).

1.3 INITIAL LEVEL OF THE INDEX

The initial level of the INDEX on the 2015-08-04 is 1000.00. Historical values from the 2006-12-31 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 LAST EVALUATED BID PRICE of the INDEX COMPONENTS. Bonds added in a rebalancing (see Section 3) are included the INDEX at the LAST EVALUATED ASK PRICE



Index Guideline

on the relevant REBALANCE DAY (as specified in Section 3.3). 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 LAST 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.

1.5 LICENSING

Licenses to use the INDEX as the underlying value for financial instruments, investment funds and financial contracts may be issued to stock exchanges, banks, financial services providers and investment houses by Solactive AG.

1.6 CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

There are no conflicts of interest identified for this index.

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:

- > Corporate bonds denominated in EUR (euros).
- > Amount Outstanding of at least 500 m EUR.
- > Time to maturity of at least 18 months for new issues entering the index. The minimum time to maturity for bonds in the index is 12 months.
- > Bonds that switch from fixed to floating rate coupons qualify provided they are callable within the fixed rate period and have at least one year prior to the date the bond transitions from a fixed to a floating rate coupon structure.
- > A minimum rating of BBB- by Standard & Poor's or Baa3 by Moody's Investors Service is required. For the avoidance of doubt if one of the rating agencies rates the bond as Investment Grade it is eligible for inclusion in the index.



Index Guideline

- > Fixed Coupon Bonds, Zero Coupon Bonds, Callable and puttable bonds (bonds with an announced call for the upcoming month are excluded), Payment-In-Kind Bonds and Step-Up Coupon Bonds are eligible for inclusion in the index.
- > Bearer Bonds are eligible for inclusion in the index.
- > For a bond to be included in the index, a price must be available from a recognized bond price provider as determined by the Index Committee.
- > Sinking Fund Bonds, Floating Rate Bonds, Convertible Bonds, Inflation-linked Bonds, Contingent Capital Securities, Covered Bonds, Preferred Securities, Securitized or Collateralized Bonds or Collateralized Debt Obligations (CDOs) are not eligible for inclusion in the index
- > Callable perpetual securities qualify for inclusion in the index provided they are at least one year from the next call date.
- > Bonds sold by supranational entities are not eligible for inclusion.
- > Bonds sold by entities that are 100%-owned by national governments or their departments, or that are guaranteed by them are excluded from the index. Bonds sold by entities which carry out government-sponsored roles, particularly in the public sphere, are also excluded.
- > Private placements are not eligible for inclusion in the index.
- > Only one bond per tranche with exactly the same parameters (coupon, maturity, etc) will be selected for inclusion in the index. If several tranches (with the same parameters) are available bonds that are issued domestically, and under Euro MTN program are preferred. REGS securities will be preferred over 144a
- > A price from the PRICING PROVIDER must be available for each INDEX COMPONENT on each SELECTION DAY.

(the “**INDEX COMPONENT REQUIREMENTS**“)

2.2 WEIGHTING OF THE INDEX COMPONENTS

On each REBALANCE 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. The weighting of the INDEX COMPONENTS will be as follows:

The Index Components are weighted according to their respective Market Values in proportion to the aggregated Market Value of all Index Components in the index.



3 REBALANCE

3.1 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.

SOLACTIVE will publish any changes made to the INDEX COMPONENTS with sufficient notice before the REBALANCE DAY on the SOLACTIVE webpage under the [Section "Announcement"](#).

3.2 EXTRAORDINARY REBALANCE

The INDEX is not rebalanced extraordinarily.

4 CALCULATION OF THE INDEX

4.1 INDEX FORMULA

The INDEX is calculated as a gross total return.

The calculation is performed according to the [Bond Index Methodology](#), which is available on the SOLACTIVE website.

A gross total return index seeks to replicate the overall return from holding an index portfolio, thus considering both coupon payments and Corporate Action proceeds in addition to the price changes adjusted for any accrued interest. Coupon and other cash payments will be reinvested on the monthly basis.

The periodic reinvestment formula implies a periodic reinvestment in the INDEX of proceeds resulting from corporate actions and coupon payments in respect of the INDEX COMPONENTS on the next regular REBALANCE DAY following such events. For the period until reinvestment the proceeds are held in a cash component. On the REBALANCE DAY the proceeds are reinvested in the INDEX proportionately to the weights of the INDEX COMPONENTS. The periodic reinvestment formula tracks the performance of the INDEX COMPONENTS relative to their market value on the immediately preceding REBALANCE DAY. The market value for an individual INDEX COMPONENT on a REBALANCE DAY is based on the price for the respective bond and its face value on the SELECTION DAY associated with the REBALANCE DAY.

A more detailed description of the mechanics of the periodic reinvestment formula can be found in the [Bond Index Methodology](#) under Section 1.2.2.



4.2 ACCURACY

The level of the index will be rounded to 2 decimal places.

4.3 ADJUSTMENTS

Under certain circumstances, an adjustment of the INDEX may be necessary between two regular REBALANCE DAYS. Basically, such adjustment is need to be made if a corporate action (as specified in Section 4.4 below) in relation to an INDEX COMPONENT occurs. Such adjustment may need to be done in relation to an INDEX COMPONENT and/or may also affect the number of INDEX COMPONENTS and/or the weighting of certain INDEX COMPONENTS and will be made in compliance with the [Bond Index Methodology](#), which is available which is available on the SOLACTIVE website.

4.4 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. Corporate actions will be implemented from the cum-day to the ex-day of the corporate action, so that the adjustment to the INDEX coincides with the occurrence of the price effect of the respective corporate action.

Adjustments to the INDEX to account for corporate actions will be made in compliance with the [Bond Index Methodology](#), which is available which is available on the SOLACTIVE website. This document contains for each corporate action a brief definition and specifies the relevant adjustment to the INDEX variables.

While SOLACTIVE aims at creating and maintaining its methodology for treatment of corporate actions as generic and transparent as possible and in line with regulatory requirements, it retains the right in accordance with the Bond Index Methodology to deviate from these standard procedures in case of any unusual or complex corporate action or if such a deviation is made to preserve the comparability and representativeness of the INDEX over time.

Solactive considers following, but not conclusive, list of corporate actions as relevant for INDEX maintenance:

- > Early Redemption (an event that leads to a redemption of a bond before the regular maturity date)
- > Flat Trading (e.g. a bond ISSUER fails to meet its coupon payment obligation)
- > Bond Default (e.g. when the ISSUER fails to meet its coupon payment obligation or repay the principal at maturity)
- > Tender Offers (a holder of a bond is invited to tender the bond for a specific price at a specific time before the regular maturity date)
- > Exchange Offers (type of a tender offer where the ISSUER offers its bondholders to exchange their existing bonds for an asset other than cash)
- > Distressed Debt Exchange (form of debt exchange when bondholders agree to reduce the principal amount of debt securities in order to obtain higher payment priority in the form of secured debt)



Index Guideline

- > Bond Funge (bond issue that is attached to an existing one (parent bond). On a defined date the parent bond absorbs the funged bond)
- > Payment-in-Kind Bonds (a situation where a bond pay interest in additional bonds rather than in cash)
- > Conversion of Bonds
- > Bond Maturity

4.5 RECALCULATION

SOLACTIVE makes the greatest possible efforts to accurately calculate and maintain its indices. However, errors in the determination process may occur from time to time for variety reasons (internal or external) and therefore, cannot be completely ruled out. SOLACTIVE endeavors to correct all errors that have been identified within a reasonable period of time. The understanding of "a reasonable period of time" as well as the general measures to be taken are generally depending on the underlying and is specified in the [Solactive Correction Policy](#).

4.6 MARKET DISRUPTION

Market stress can arise due to a variety of reasons, but generally results in inaccurate or delayed prices for one or more INDEX COMPONENTS. The determination of the INDEX may be limited or impaired at times of illiquid or fragmented markets and market stress.

5 MISCELLANEOUS

5.1 DISCRETION

Any discretion which may need to be exercised in relation to the determination of the INDEX (for example the determination of the INDEX COMPONENTS or any other relevant decisions in relation to the INDEX) shall be made in accordance with strict rules regarding the exercise of discretion or expert judgement established by the INDEX ADMINISTRATOR.

5.2 METHODOLOGY REVIEW

The methodology of the INDEX is subject to regular review, at least annually. In case a need of a change of the methodology has been identified within such review (e.g. if the underlying market or economic reality has changed since the launch of the INDEX, i.e. if the present methodology is based on obsolete assumptions and factors and no longer reflects the reality as accurately, reliably and appropriately as before), such change will be made in accordance with the [Methodology Policy](#).

Such change in the methodology will be announced on the SOLACTIVE webpage under the [Section 'Announcement'](#). The date of the last amendment of this INDEX is contained in this GUIDELINE.



5.3 CHANGES IN CALCULATION METHOD

The application by the INDEX ADMINISTRATOR of the method described in this document is final and binding. The INDEX ADMINISTRATOR shall apply the method described above for the composition and calculation of the INDEX. However, it cannot be excluded that the market environment, supervisory, legal, financial or tax reasons may require changes to be made to this method. The INDEX ADMINISTRATOR may also make changes to the terms and conditions of the INDEX and the method applied to calculate the INDEX that it deems to be necessary and desirable in order to prevent obvious or demonstrable error or to remedy, correct or supplement incorrect terms and conditions. The INDEX ADMINISTRATOR is not obliged to provide information on any such modifications or changes. Despite the modifications and changes, the INDEX ADMINISTRATOR will take the appropriate steps to ensure a calculation method is applied that is consistent with the method described above.

5.4 TERMINATION

SOLACTIVE makes the greatest possible efforts to ensure the resilience and continued integrity of its indices over time. Where necessary, SOLACTIVE follows a clearly defined and transparent procedure to adapt index methodologies to changing underlying markets (see Section 5.2 'Methodology Review') in order to maintain continued reliability and comparability of the indices. Nevertheless, if no other options are available the orderly cessation of the INDEX may be indicated. This is usually the case when the underlying market or economic reality, which the INDEX is set to measure or to reflect, changes substantially and in a way not foreseeable at the time of inception of the INDEX, the INDEX rules, and particularly the selection criteria, can no longer be applied coherently or the INDEX is no longer used as the underlying value for financial instruments, investment funds and financial contracts.

SOLACTIVE has established and maintains clear guidelines on how to identify situations in which the cessation of the INDEX is unavoidable, how stakeholders are to be informed and consulted and the procedures to be followed for a termination or the transition to an alternative index. Details are specified in the [Solactive Termination Policy](#).

5.5 OVERSIGHT

An oversight committee composed of staff from SOLACTIVE and its subsidiaries (the 'OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE') is responsible for decisions regarding any amendments to the rules of the INDEX. Any such amendment, which may result in an amendment of the GUIDELINE, must be submitted to the OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE for prior approval and will be made in compliance with the [Methodology Policy](#).

6 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 is any day Monday to Friday, except holidays as defined by the European Banking Holidays.



Index Guideline

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

'**FIXING TIME**' is the time when the prices for the INDEX COMPONENTS are fixed for index calculation. This is specified in the [Bond Index Methodology](#), which is available on the SOLACTIVE website.

'**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.

'**ISSUER**' is the issuing entity of the respective bond.

'**LAST EVALUATED ASK PRICE**' the last available evaluated ask price by the designated PRICING PROVIDER.

'**LAST EVALUATED BID PRICE**' the last available evaluated bid price by the designated PRICING PROVIDER.

'**LAST EVALUATED MID PRICE**' is the average between LAST EVALUATED ASK PRICE and LAST EVALUATED BID PRICE.

'**OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE**' shall have the meaning as defined in Section 5.5.

'**PRICING PROVIDER**' is Interactive Data Corporation part of the ICE group.

'**REBALANCE DAY**' is the last BUSINESS DAY of the month.

'**SELECTION DAY**' is 3 BUSINESS DAYS before the scheduled REBALANCE DAY.

'**SELECTION PARTY**' is Solactive AG.

'**SOLACTIVE**' shall have the meaning as defined in Section 'Introduction'.

"**Bearer Bonds**" are unregistered debt securities. This means they are not registered to a holder and do not identify a holder on the face of the bonds or in the records of the Issuer or its agents. Coupon payments and redemption proceeds are due to whomever is considered to be the owner of the bonds in accordance with applicable laws.

"**CALL**" means that a bond with a callable feature will be redeemed before the actual maturity date of the bond. The callable feature allows the issuer of the bond to retain the privilege of redeeming the bond before the actual maturity date.

"**CoCo**" are bonds that will be converted into equity if a certain trigger event takes place or written down.

"**Convertible Bonds**" are bonds that can be converted into a predetermined amount of the company's equity at certain times during its life.



Index Guideline

“Covered Bonds” are bonds backed by a ring-fenced pool of assets such as mortgages or public-sector loans. The Issuer retains the responsibility to maintain the quality of the underlying asset pool.

“Early redemption” includes every event that leads to a redemption of a bond before the actual maturity date.

“Floating Rate Notes” are bonds with a floating coupon rate, i.e. their coupon payments fluctuate in line with the underlying level of a pre-specified interest rate.

“FUNGIBLE BOND” is a new issue that has all the same specifications as an existing issue (bonds with the same parameters can be issued in different tranches). At a specific date, the tranches will be combined into one bond. After this date, the parent tranche will include the Amount Outstanding of all new tranches.

“Inflation-linked Bonds” are bonds whose principal and coupon payments are indexed to inflation.

“Investment Grade” are all ratings of at least BBB- by Standard & Poor's and Fitch or Baa3 by Moody's Investors Service or BBB by DBRS.

“Perpetual Bonds” are bonds with no maturity date

“Securitized Bonds” are bonds secured against specific assets or receivables (ABS), mortgages (MBS) or cash flows.

“Putable Bonds” (or put bonds, puttable or retractable bonds) are bonds with an embedded put option.

“Private Placements” involve the sale of securities to a relatively small number of select investors. Investors targeted include wealthy accredited investors, large banks, mutual funds, insurance companies and pension funds.

“Sinkable Bonds” are bonds that are backed by a fund that sets aside money on a regular basis. A sinkable bond issuer is required to buy a certain amount of the bond back from the purchaser at various points throughout the life of the bond.

“Step-Up Coupon Bonds” are bonds whose coupons increase while the bond is outstanding. The coupon amounts are determined at issuance.

“Time to maturity” is measured from the REBALANCE DAY.

“Zero Coupon Bonds” means bonds which do not pay interest but are issued at a discount.

CONTACT

Solactive AG
German Index Engineering
Platz der Einheit 1
60327 Frankfurt am Main
Germany

Tel.: +49 (0) 69 719 160 00
Fax: +49 (0) 69 719 160 25
Email: info@solactive.com
Website: www.solactive.com

© Solactive AG