

# **Execution** Quality Report

From January 1 to December 31, 2017

QUANTITATIVE INVESTMENT ENGINEERING

The Execution Quality Report covers transactions in financial instruments that Quoniam Asset Management GmbH (hereinafter "Quoniam") executed in the period from 1 January until 31 December 2017 as part of the financial portfolio management for its customers. The Execution Principles published in this period form the basis for this report.

In accordance with Section 82, paragraph 9 of the Securities Trading Act in conjunction with Article 3 paragraph 1 and 3 of the Delegated Regulation (EU) 2017/576, the necessary information was shown for all respective categories of financial instruments and supplemented by an overview of the most important trading venues/intermediaries in each case.

# 1. Equities — shares and depositary receipts

Orders for shares and depositary receipts are forwarded via an electronic trading system to intermediaries for execution on organised markets, multilateral trading facilities, systematic internalisers or, if applicable, other providers of liquidity.

The weighting of the execution criteria in the selection of the intermediaries is not static but depends on the respective circumstances of the individual case, in particular on the market environment at the time of trading.

For orders in shares and depositary receipts, the execution criteria are weighted according to the following priority:

- 1. Market access
- 2. Price

The further execution criteria – *costs, speed, probability, processing and scope and nature of the order* – have no significant influence on the decision to execute the orders based on their weighting.

No orders were forwarded to affiliated companies for execution.

No special agreements were reached with intermediaries regarding monetary benefits granted or received, including rebates or discounts. Other non-monetary benefits in the form of research or specialist events were received by Quoniam in compliance with the internal principles.



New intermediaries are assessed with regard to their aptitude and approved during an acceptance process. Intermediaries approved for trading are subject to ongoing monitoring. This incorporates, among others, their credit worthiness and financial stability as well as fulfilment of organisational and statutory requirements and those under supervisory law. In the respective period, there were no changes with regard to the intermediaries used.

Our Execution Principles do not include any deviating regulations depending on the customer category. We did not carry out any customer orders for retail clients.

A review of the quality of execution was carried out on a quarterly basis. For this purpose, an independent transaction costs analysis (TCA) from an external provider was used. Furthermore, the type, scope and quality of the research provided, as well as a qualitative evaluation of the algorithms operated by the intermediary and provided for trading and the associated access to sources of liquidity were included in the assessment. In addition, the integrity of the price was reviewed independently for each transaction on each day of trading.

The usage of reports from consolidated data providers within the meaning of Article 65 of the Directive 2014/65/EU was not possible for the respective period of time.

## 2. Debt instruments – bonds

The trade itself is predominantly done on the basis of price requests (Request for Quote – RFQ) that are communicated electronically or by telephone.

The weighting of the execution criteria in the selection of the intermediaries is not static but depends on the respective circumstances of the individual case, in particular on the market environment at the time of trading.

Unless otherwise stated, the execution criteria for orders in debt instruments are weighted according to the following priority:

- 1. Market access
- 2. Probability
- 3. Price

The further execution criteria – *speed*, *processing and type and scope of the order* – have no significant influence based on their weighting. The execution criterion – *costs* – is not relevant in the absence of any explicit transaction costs.

The financial instrument as a weighting factor has an influence on the *probability* of the execution. For government bonds, there is generally the following prioritisation in the weighting of the execution criteria:

- 1. Market access
- 2. Price

Orders were executed with DZ Bank AG as an affiliated company. Trading with affiliated companies is subject to our Execution Principles. With requests for quote, DZ BANK AG was exposed to competition, taking into account the execution criteria. Any conflicts of interest were thus avoided.



No special agreements were reached with intermediaries regarding monetary benefits granted or received, including rebates or discounts. Other non-monetary benefits in the form of research or specialist events were received by Quoniam in compliance with the internal principles.

New intermediaries are assessed with regard to their aptitude and approved during an acceptance process. Intermediaries approved for trading are subject to ongoing monitoring. This incorporates, among others, their credit worthiness and financial stability as well as fulfilment of organisational and statutory requirements and those under supervisory law. In the respective period of time, ABN AMRO Bank N.V. (BFXS5XCH7N0Y05NIXW11) was approved as an intermediary. The new intermediary was primarily admitted to expand market access.

Our Execution Principles do not include any deviating regulations depending on the customer category. We did not carry out any customer orders for retail clients.

The integrity of the price was reviewed independently for each transaction on each day of trading and the quality of execution of the intermediaries assessed on this basis.

The usage of reports from consolidated data providers within the meaning of Article 65 of the Directive 2014/65/EU was not possible for the respective period of time.

#### 3. Interest rates derivatives

The futures and options (admitted to trading on a trading venue) orders are forwarded to intermediaries for execution via an electronic trading system. These are liquid financial instruments that are executed on an organised market. The choice of the intermediary to whom orders are forwarded depends on the customer's contractual specifications. Orders must therefore always be forwarded to the Clearing Broker. The use of another intermediary (Executing Broker) requires the conclusion of a Give-Up Agreement between the parties.

The weighting of the execution criteria in the selection of the intermediaries is not static but depends on the respective circumstances of the individual case, in particular on the market environment at the time of trading.

For all orders where execution is not restricted to the Clearing Broker, the execution criteria are weighted according to the following priority:

- 1. Market access
- 2. Costs
- 3. Price

The further execution criteria – *speed, probability,* 

processing and extent and nature of the order – have no significant influence on the decision to execute the orders based on their weighting.



Orders were forwarded to DZ Bank AG as an affiliated company for execution. Trading with affiliated companies is subject to the Execution Principles of Quoniam. DZ BANK AG was selected as an intermediary, taking into account the execution criteria. Any conflicts of interest were thus avoided.

No special agreements were reached with intermediaries regarding monetary benefits granted or received, including rebates or discounts. Other non-monetary benefits in the form of research or specialist events were purchased by Quoniam in compliance with the internal principles.

New intermediaries are assessed with regard to their aptitude and approved during an acceptance process. Intermediaries approved for trading are subject to ongoing monitoring. This incorporates, among others, their credit worthiness and financial stability as well as fulfilment of organisational and statutory requirements and those under supervisory law. In the respective period, there were no changes with regard to the intermediaries used.

Our Execution Principles do not include any deviating regulations depending on the customer category. We did not carry out any customer orders for retail clients.

The execution quality was assessed in particular by means of an analysis of the pricing structures of the intermediaries; the results are reflected in the execution criteria.

The usage of reports from consolidated data providers within the meaning of Article 65 of the Directive 2014/65/EU was not possible for the respective period of time.

#### 4. Credit derivatives

The trading itself was predominantly based on price requests (Request for Quote – RFQ). The price quotes of the intermediaries contacted and the acceptance were done by telephone.

The weighting of the execution criteria in the selection of the intermediaries is not static but depends on the respective circumstances of the individual case, in particular on the market environment at the time of trading.

For the trading of credit derivatives, the execution criteria are weighted according to the following priority:

- 1. Market access
- 2. Price

The further execution criteria – *costs, speed, probability, processing and extent and nature of the order* – have no significant influence on the decision to execute the orders based on their weighting.

DZ Bank AG as an affiliated company is approved as an intermediary. Trading with affiliated companies is subject to our Execution Principles. Any conflicts of interest were thus avoided. There was no trading with DZ Bank AG in the respective period.

No special agreements were reached with intermediaries regarding monetary benefits granted or received, including rebates or discounts. Other non-monetary benefits in the form of research or specialist events were purchased by Quoniam in compliance with the internal principles.



New intermediaries are assessed with regard to their aptitude and approved during an acceptance process. Intermediaries approved for trading are subject to ongoing monitoring. This incorporates, among others, their credit worthiness and financial stability as well as fulfilment of organisational and statutory requirements and those under supervisory law. In the respective period, there were no changes with regard to the intermediaries used.

Our execution principles do not include any deviating regulations depending on the customer category. We did not carry out any customer orders for retail clients.

The integrity of the price was reviewed independently for each transaction on each day of trading and the quality of execution of the intermediaries assessed.

The usage of reports from consolidated data providers within the meaning of Article 65 of the Directive 2014/65/EU was not possible for the respective period of time.

### 5. Currency derivatives

i. Futures (admitted to trading on a trading venue)

At this point, we refer to the description under 3. Interest rates derivatives.

ii. Swaps, forwards and other currency derivatives

The trading itself was predominantly based on price requests (Request for Quote – RFQ) to all approved intermediaries. The price quotes of the intermediaries and their acceptance are usually done in electronic form. The intermediaries approved for trading may be specified based on the contractual arrangements with the customers.

The weighting of the execution criteria in the selection of the intermediaries is not static but depends on the respective circumstances of the individual case, in particular on the market environment at the time of trading.

The subsequent weighting of the execution criteria is therefore based on the premise that more than one intermediary is authorised to execute:

- 1. Market access
- 2. Price

The further execution criteria – *costs*, *speed*, *probability*, *processing and extent and nature of the order* – have no significant influence on the decision to execute the orders based on their weighting.



DZ Bank AG and DZ Privatbank S.A. as affiliated companies are approved as intermediaries. Trading with affiliated companies is subject to our Execution Principles. With price requests, the affiliated companies were exposed to competition, taking into account the execution criteria. Any conflicts of interest were thus avoided.

No special agreements were reached with intermediaries regarding monetary benefits granted or received, including rebates or discounts. Other non-monetary benefits in the form of research or specialist events were received by Quoniam in compliance with the internal principles.

New intermediaries are assessed with regard to their aptitude and approved during an acceptance process. Intermediaries approved for trading are subject to ongoing monitoring. This incorporates, among others, their credit worthiness and financial stability as well as fulfilment of organisational and statutory requirements and those under supervisory law. In the respective period, there were no changes with regard to the intermediaries used.

Our Execution Principles do not include any deviating regulations depending on the customer category. We did not carry out any customer orders for retail clients.

The integrity of the price was reviewed by independently for each transaction on each day of trading and the quality of execution of the intermediaries assessed. In addition, an independent transaction costs analysis (TCA) from an external provider was used for the review. The usage of reports from consolidated data providers within the meaning of Article 65 of the Directive 2014/65/EU was not possible for the respective period of time.

#### 6. Equity derivatives

i. Futures and options (admitted to trading on a trading venue)

At this point, we refer in general to the description under 3. Interest rates derivatives.

The execution quality is assessed on the basis of the review of the integrity of the price. The review is done independently for each transaction on each day of trading.

ii. Swaps and other equity derivatives
Only swaps in the form of a non-standard
OTC derivative are used, the terms of which, including costs, were agreed bilaterally with an intermediary. The choice of the intermediary is regularly dependent on the contractual specifications of the customer.
For the aforementioned reasons, the criteria for execution do not apply to this financial instrument.

No orders were forwarded to affiliated companies for execution.

No special agreements were reached with intermediaries regarding monetary benefits granted or received, including rebates or discounts. Other non-monetary benefits in the form of research or specialist events were received by Quoniam in compliance with the internal principles.

Our Execution Principles do not include any deviating regulations depending on the customer category. We did not carry out any customer orders for retail clients.



The usage of reports from consolidated data providers within the meaning of Article 65 of the Directive 2014/65/EU was not possible for the respective period of time.

# 7. Exchange traded products – exchange traded funds

At this point, we refer to the description under 1. Equity – shares and depositary receipts.

## 8. Other financial instruments

The investment funds taken into account within the financial portfolio management are not admitted to trading on a trading venue. The orders are therefore purchased or sold through the investment company / transfer agent on the terms and conditions set for share certificate transactions. In individual cases, the order is issued pursuant to the customer specifications via the custodian bank / depository to the transfer agent. The execution criteria therefore have no effect on the execution of these orders.

The orders are normally issued to Union Investment Financial Services S.A. as an affiliated company. Conflicts of interests are avoided through processing in compliance with defined conditions for share certificate transactions.

No special agreements were reached with intermediaries regarding monetary benefits granted or received, including rebates or discounts. Other non-monetary benefits were not received by Quoniam. Our Execution Principles do not include any deviating regulations depending on the customer category. We did not carry out any customer orders for retail clients.

The usage of reports from consolidated data providers within the meaning of Article 65 of the Directive 2014/65/EU was not possible for the respective period of time.

Quoniam Asset Management GmbH