



**Borsa Italiana**

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Oggetto : Derivatives markets: MiFIR/MiFID II:  
METHODOLOGY FOR THE  
CONVERSION OF SSTI AND LIS  
THRESHOLDS FROM NOTIONAL VALUE  
INTO LOTS

*Testo del comunicato*

See the annex

*Disposizioni della Borsa*

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**To: Borsa Italiana market participants**

**Borsa Italiana – Derivatives markets**

**MiFIR / MiFID II: METHODOLOGY FOR THE CONVERSION OF SSTI AND LIS  
THRESHOLDS FROM NOTIONAL VALUE INTO LOTS**

Dear Customer,

Commission Delegated Regulation 2017/583 (formerly RTS 2 of MiFIR/MiFID II) determines the pre- and post-trade LIS (large-in-scale) and SSTI (size specific to the instrument) thresholds for derivatives in monetary (notional) value. Borsa Italiana, as permitted by Article 13(9) of RTS 2, converts notional value thresholds into a corresponding number of lots. The calculated values are used by Borsa Italiana, for liquid derivatives contracts, in order to determine the permitted negotiated transactions in accordance with MiFIR pre/post-trade transparency waivers<sup>1</sup>.

As required by question #19 of ESMA Q&A on MiFID II and MiFIR transparency topics dated 5 December 2019, Borsa Italiana is publishing the methodology to be used to convert notional value thresholds into a corresponding number of lots.

This methodology will be used starting from the next update of the MiFIR / MiFID II annual transparency calculations for derivatives, to be published by ESMA by 1 April 2020.

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<sup>1</sup> For additional information regarding (a) order types benefiting from a MiFIR pre-trade transparency waiver, and (b) available waivers to post-trade transparency, please refer to the IDEM Guide to the Trading System: <https://www.borsaitaliana.it/borsaitaliana/gestione-mercati/migrazioneidem/migrazioneidem.en.htm>

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# Market Notice

3 March 2020

## Methodology for the conversion of SSTI and LIS thresholds from notional value into lots

In order to convert LIS and SSTI notional value thresholds into lot, the following methodology is used:

1. a unique LIS threshold in lots (the “**Threshold**”) is determined for each group of derivatives (a “**Group**”). A Group includes all derivatives instruments (series) that:
  - for equity derivatives, belong to the same sub-asset class of derivatives, as defined by RTS 2 and having the same underlying instrument;
  - for commodity derivatives, belong to the same sub-asset class of derivatives and segmentation criteria, as defined by RTS 2.

The list of available Groups is provided in Annex I.

2. The calculated Threshold is applied to all series in the same Group, including those series whose lot size has been adjusted following a corporate action;
3. Thresholds for all Groups are calculated once per year, and are made public within 15 working days after the day when ESMA publishes the annual transparency calculations for derivatives (the “**ESMA Publication Day**”). The conversion is calculated using:
  - for futures, the average of the closing price of the underlying in the 12 months of the calendar year preceding the ESMA Publication Day;
  - for options, the underlying closing prices on the ESMA Publication Day.
4. Thresholds are maintained until the application of the results of the next calculations performed in accordance with Article 13(17) of RTS 2. Thresholds may be modified during the course of the year in the case of both pre-determined ordinary and extraordinary revisions of the lot sizes of the underlying derivative contracts communicated by Borsa Italiana. The results of any revision will be published by Borsa Italiana by Market Notice.
5. For Groups where the notional value is not expressed in Euros, before applying the conversion formulas described in point 6, ESMA thresholds are converted to the notional value currency at the ECB official exchange rate on the ESMA Publication Day.
6. Thresholds are determined by applying the formulas indicated in question #19 of ESMA Q&A on MiFID II and MiFIR transparency topics dated 5 December 2019 and reported in Annex II, with the specifications described in paragraphs from 7 to 10.
7. For equity derivatives that are not index dividend futures or dividend stock futures:
  - when the underlying is available for trading on MTA, the “closing price” is defined as the closing auction price for the instrument. In case of unavailability of the closing price, the methodology described in Art. 4.3.9 of Borsa Italiana Rules is used;
  - for equity underlyings that are not traded on MTA, the “closing price” is derived from the most relevant market in term of liquidity (“MRMTL”) as indicated by ESMA in the FITRS database;

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# Market Notice

3 March 2020

- for indices, the “closing price” is the last published index value for the trading day;
  - for options: the “at-the-money” option strike price is the strike price available on the “front expiry” whose value is: (a) higher than, and (a) closest to the closing price of the underlying at the date when the conversion is calculated. The “front expiry” is defined as the next monthly maturity for each Group;
8. For index dividend and equity dividend futures, the ESMA Q&A methodology for futures contracts is used, where the closing price of the underlying is replaced by the reference price of the next expiry of the future contract itself, as defined in Art. 5.3.6 of Borsa Italiana’s rules.
9. As concerns liquid contracts on power futures (IDEX) and durum wheat futures (Agrex):
- the ESMA Q&A methodology for futures contracts is used, where the closing price of the underlying is replaced by the reference price of the future contract itself, as defined in Art. 5.3.6 of Borsa Italiana’s rules. The average price in the previous 12 months is calculated at the arithmetical average of the daily reference prices for all futures belonging the same Group across the whole period.
10. As concerns power futures (IDEX):
- the lot size is calculated as the product between the unit of trading for IDEX product (1MW) and the standard number of hours in the delivery period as defined by ESMA Q&A on commodity derivatives topics dated (section “Position Limits”, question 2), and reported in Annex I.

The minimum quantity for:

- orders to execute a negotiated transaction, including large-in-scale legs of package transactions;
- deferred publication of an executed trade;

may be defined by Borsa Italiana at a value that is equal or higher than the Thresholds determined according to this conversion methodology.

# Market Notice

3 March 2020

## Annex I: Groups of derivatives, according to classifications in Annex III of RTS 2.

### Equity derivatives:

<i>Sub-asset class of derivatives</i>	<i>Underlying</i>	<i>Group</i>
Index futures	FTSE MIB Index	Futures on FTSE MIB index (includes FIB and miniFIB)
Index futures	FTSE Italia Mid Cap PIR Total Return Index	Futures on FTSE Italia Mid Cap PIR Total Return Index
Index options	FTSE MIB Index	Options on FTSE MIB index
Index dividend futures	FTSE MIB Dividend index	Futures on FTSE MIB Dividend index
Equity futures	..	1 Group for each underlying share (by ISIN)
Equity options	..	1 Group for each underlying share (by ISIN)
Equity dividend futures	..	1 Group for each underlying dividend (by ISIN)

### Commodity derivatives:

Sub asset class of derivatives: Energy commodity futures/forwards

Segmentation criterion #1 (energy type): Electricity

Segmentation criterion #2 (underlying energy): NA

Segmentation criterion #3 (notional currency): Euro

Segmentation criterion #5 (delivery/cash settlement location): 10YIT-GRTN-----B

<i>Segmentation criterion #4 (load type)</i>	<i>Segmentation criterion #6 (time to maturity)</i>	<i>Group</i>	<i>Standard number of hours in the delivery period</i>	<i>Lot size</i>
Baseload	1m-1y	IDEX monthly baseload futures	720 h (30 d)	720 MWh
		IDEX quarterly baseload futures	2160 h (90 d)	2,160 MWh
	1m-1y, or 1y-2y <sup>2</sup>	IDEX yearly baseload futures	8,760 h (365 d)	8,760 MWh
Peakload <sup>2</sup>	1m-1y	IDEX monthly peakload futures <sup>2</sup>	264 h (20 d)	264 MWh
		IDEX quarterly peakload futures	792 h (60 d)	792 MWh
		IDEX yearly peakload futures	3,168 h (240 d)	3,168 MWh

Sub asset class of derivatives: Agricultural commodity futures/forwards

Segmentation criterion #1 (underlying agricultural commodity): Durum wheat<sup>2</sup>

Segmentation criterion #2 (notional currency): Euro

<i>Segmentation criterion #3 (time to maturity)</i>	<i>Group</i>
1y-2y	Agrex futures

<sup>2</sup> Market segment currently classified as "Not liquid".

# Market Notice

3 March 2020

## Annex II: Formulas for the conversion of the LIS/SSTI thresholds into lots

From ESMA Q&A on transparency topics dated 15.12.2019, section "Non equity transparency", question 19

Contract type	Formula for the conversion of the LIS/SSTI thresholds into lots
Futures/forwards	$\text{Thresholds in lots} = \frac{\text{Notional value of the threshold}}{\text{Lot size} * \text{Arithmetical average closing price of the underlying}}$ <p>where the notional value is the notional value in the trading currency of the derivative contract, the lot size is the contract size (price multiplier in the case of index futures/forwards) determined by the trading venue for that derivative contract and the arithmetical average closing price of the underlying is determined by the value resulting from the average of the available closing prices of the underlying (or, when not available, the reference value determined by the relevant market of the underlying) during the 12-months of the previous year, or in the case of corporate actions, the available actual or theoretical underlying price(s) taking account the corporate action adjustment. In all cases, the threshold in lots resulting from the division shall be rounded to the minimum tradable number of lots for orders. The value can be rounded up or down, but the type of rounding shall be determined by the end-value that is closer to the pre-rounding value.</p>
Options	$\text{Thresholds in lots} = \frac{\text{Notional value of the threshold}}{\text{Lot size} * \text{Strike price}}$ <p>where the notional value is the notional value in the trading currency of the derivative contract, the lot size is the contract size (price multiplier in the case of index options) determined by the trading venue for that derivative contract and the strike price is the strike price of the at-the-money option determined on the basis of the closing price of the underlying instrument as of the trading day before the conversion is performed, or in the case of corporate actions, the available actual or theoretical underlying price taking account of the corporate action adjustment. In all cases, the threshold in lots resulting from the division shall be rounded to the minimum tradable number of lots for orders. The value can be rounded up or down, but the type of rounding shall be determined by the end-value that is closer to the pre-rounding value.</p>
Other derivatives	No need for a formula/no formula provided for the time being.