

Harmonisation of critical OTC derivatives data elements (other than UTI and UPI) – third batch – consultative report

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General comments on the report

Citadel LLC (“Citadel”) appreciates the opportunity to provide comments on the Consultative Report relating to the harmonisation of key OTC derivatives data elements. Citadel is a significant participant in the OTC derivatives markets and firmly supports the successful implementation of the G20 reforms. As such, it is critically important that global regulators and policymakers have access to high quality, standardised data that can be used to evaluate implementation progress and to inform future policy decisions.

2.1 Collateral portfolio

Comments on the data element “collateral portfolio”:

2.2 Collateral portfolio code

Q1: With reference to the alternatives proposed to capture information on portfolio code(s) (Section 2.2):

- (a) In your view, how prevalent is the situation in which different transactions concluded under the same Master Agreement are associated with different CSAs (for initial margin posted, initial margin received and variation margin)?

- (b) The definition proposed in Alternative 1 is based on the assumption that, in the event of default, the entirety of the collateral provided under the given Master Agreement would be used to cover the loss of the non-defaulting counterparty, whether or not separate CSAs (for initial margin posted, initial margin received and variation margin) might be linked to that Master Agreement and whether or not all the transactions concluded under that Master Agreement would be associated with each of these CSAs. Is this assumption correct? If not, please clarify how the respective obligations would be resolved in the case of default. Please provide examples.

(c) Are the differences in authorities' use of the two alternatives clearly illustrated in Table 2?

(d) Which of the proposed harmonisation alternatives should be supported and why?

Other comments on the data element "Collateral portfolio code":

2.3 Portfolio containing non-reportable component

Comments on the data element "Portfolio containing non-reportable component":

2.4–2.28 Data elements related to margins

Q2: The purpose of the data element "Initial margin settlement timing" (Section 2.10) is to allow authorities to better understand the difference between "Initial margin required to be posted by the reporting counterparty" (Section 2.17) and the "Initial margin posted by the reporting counterparty" (Section 2.5) as this difference may be due to the timing of when the required margin is determined and when the margin is posted. In the absence of information on the margin settlement timing, the difference in the margin required and margin posted amounts could be interpreted as over- or under-collateralisation. Information on the settlement timing of margin collected would serve the same purpose for global aggregation of initial margin collected (Sections 2.8 and 2.19).

- (a) Are there challenges linked to the data element "Initial margin settlement timing" as defined above? Is there an alternative, more effective, way to represent this information, such as the date on which the initial margin posted (or collected) has been settled?

- (b) How prevalent is the existence of different settlement timings (T+0, T+1, T+2, T+3) within a given jurisdiction? Would the settlement timing for the initial margin posted differ from the one for initial margins collected?

Other comments on the data elements related to margins:

2.29 Indicator of intraday variation margin calls

Comments on the data element "Indicator of intraday variation margin calls":

2.30 Collateralisation category

Comments on the data element "Collateralisation category":

2.31–2.35 Data elements related to counterparty rating trigger

Q3: With reference to the data elements "Counterparty rating trigger indicator", "Counterparty rating threshold", "Incremental collateral required", "Threshold rating for automatic termination provision" and "Closeout payment for automatic termination provisions" (Sections 2.31–2.34):

- (a) For each alternative of the data element "Counterparty rating trigger indicator", do definitions and allowable values accurately reflect provisions contained in collateral agreements or master agreements covering OTC derivative transactions to protect parties from counterparty credit deterioration? How prevalent currently are counterparty collateral rating triggers or comparable automatic-termination provisions in collateral agreements or master agreements? How, if at all, have recent changes to market practices affected the

prevalence or the form of counterparty collateral rating triggers or comparable automatic termination provisions?

- (b) Are the advantages and disadvantages of the proposed harmonisation alternatives of the data element "Counterparty rating trigger indicator" appropriately defined? If not, which aspects should be revised and how? Which of the proposed harmonisation alternatives should be supported and why?

Q4: With reference to the alternatives proposed for the data element "Counterparty rating threshold" (Section 2.32):

- (a) Are the advantages and disadvantages of the proposed harmonisation alternatives appropriately defined? If not, which aspects should be revised and how?

- (b) Which of the proposed harmonisation alternatives should be supported and why?

Q5: The definition of the data element "Incremental collateral required" (Section 2.33) relies on the assumption that the effects of multiple-notch downgrades are roughly linear. Are there instances in which the effects increase more than linearly with the number of notches in a hypothetical downgrade? If so, how could multiple scenarios be encompassed in the definition?

Other comments on the data elements "Counterparty rating trigger indicator", "Counterparty rating threshold", "Incremental collateral required", "Threshold rating for automatic termination provision" and "Closeout payment for automatic termination provisions" (Sections 2.31–2.35):

2.36 Clearing obligation in the jurisdiction of the reporting counterparty

Comments on the data element "Clearing obligation in the jurisdiction of the reporting counterparty":

We agree that it would be useful for regulators and policymakers to collect data on whether a specific transaction is required to be cleared pursuant to applicable regulatory requirements. However, the proposed definition for this data element is too narrow and would lead to misleading information being reported for cross-border transactions.

Specifically, it is proposed that this data element would only be marked "Y" if both counterparties to the transaction are subject to a clearing obligation under the rules of the jurisdiction of the reporting counterparty. However, for cross-border transactions involving counterparties located in two different jurisdictions, the rules of both jurisdictions must be considered when determining whether the transaction is required to be cleared. For example, a transaction between an EU liquidity provider and a US client must be cleared if the US client is subject to a clearing obligation under US rules (notwithstanding how the US client would theoretically be treated under EU rules).

We urge that this data element be revised to instead refer to whether the specific transaction is subject to a clearing obligation. Both counterparties will know the answer to this question pre-trade based on their assessment of applicable regulatory requirements.

2.37–2.41 Data elements related to “Price”

Q6: With reference to the data element “Price” (Section 2.37), are there OTC derivative transactions products where the price or a concept of price is not captured under the “Price” data element or any other data element including “Fixed rate”, “Spread”, “Strike price”, “Option premium” and “Other payment type (upfront payment)”? If so, please provide detailed examples of those products. Would the industry benefit from additional guidance for the “price” data element?

Q7: With reference to the data element “Price notation” (Section 2.40), is it clear and unambiguous which price notation (amount or percentage) should be applicable to each price? If not, which ones? Are there additional price notations that should be allowed? If so, which ones? Would the industry rather benefit from additional guidance for the “price notation” data element?

Q8: With reference to the data element "Price unit of measure" (Section 2.41):

- (a) Can commodity derivatives be negotiated in different unit of measures for the price and quantity? If so, would industry support two separate data elements for the (1) Price unit of measure and (2) Quantity unit of measure?

- (b) The list of allowable values in Table 4 in Annex 1 encompasses all the values included in ISO 20022's Unit Of Measure Code and four additional values.
- (i) Are the values useful for reporting the Quantity Unit of Measure and the Price Unity of Measure?
 - (ii) If not, which ones are less useful and why?
 - (iii) Are there other values that should be added? Which ones, and why?
 - (iv) Are there duplicates or similar values that should be removed?

Other comments on the data element "Price", "Price schedules", "Price currency", "Price notation" and "Price unit of measure":

2.42–2.50 Data elements related to "Fixed rate", "Strike price" and "Option premium"

Q9: With reference to the data element "Spread notation" (Section 2.45), is it clear and unambiguous which notation (amount or percentage) should be applicable to each spread? If not, which ones? Are there additional spread notations that should be allowed? If so, which ones? Would the industry benefit from additional guidance for the "spread notation" data element?

Other comments on the data element "Fixed rate", "Spread", "Spread currency", "Spread notation", "Strike price", "Strike price currency", "Strike price schedules", "Option premium", "Option premium payment date":

2.51–2.52 Data elements related to "Exchange rate"

Comments on the data element "Exchange rate" and "Exchange rate basis":

2.53–2.54 Notional amount and Notional amount schedules

Q10: With reference to the data element "Notional amount" (Section 2.53), are there particular cases where the notional amount may not always be known when a new transaction is reported and may be updated later? If so, which ones?

Other comments on the data element "Notional amount" and "Notional amount schedules":

2.55–2.57 Data elements related to “Total notional quantity”

Comments on the data element “Notional quantity schedules”, “Total notional quantity” and “Quantity unit of measure”:

2.58–2.63 Data elements related to “Other payments”

Comments on the data elements “Other payment amount”, “Other payment type”, “Other payment currency”, “Other payment date”, “Other payment payer”, “Other payment receiver”:

2.64–2.71 Data elements related to “Packages”

Q11: With reference to the data element “Package trade price” (Section 2.66), could it be agreed that two possible situations may arise: (i) a package price does exist because all the transactions that represent individual components of the package are priced jointly, or (ii) a package price is not available because all the transactions that represent individual components of the package are priced individually? Is more clarity needed regarding the reporting of “Package trade price” and prices of individual components?

In our experience, packages including OTC derivatives are priced and executed as a single trade in the vast majority of cases.

Other comments on the data elements “Package ID”, “Package trade price”, “Package containing non-reportable components”, “Package trade price currency”, “Package trade price notation”, “Package trade spread”, “Package trade spread currency” and “Package trade spread notation”:

We strongly support efforts to improve the reporting of package transactions, as this information will assist regulators and policymakers in evaluating how certain regulatory requirements should apply to package transactions. The proposed data elements should significantly improve current reporting practices in this regard.

We note that the proposed definition for the “package containing non-reportable components” data element suggests that instruments other than OTC derivatives would always be considered “non-reportable components”. However, that may be too broad, as under certain regulatory frameworks, other instruments (such as futures) may be reported in a manner that would allow the same Package ID to be specified.

We also think it is worth considering including a data element that specifies how many components are included in a specific package. This will, along with the Package ID field, help reconcile separately reported transactions and provide a sense of how many non-reportable components are included.

2.72 Prior UTI

Q12: With reference to the data element “Prior UTI” (Section 2.74), how is “Prior UTI” represented when clearing and allocation happen at the same point in time? And how is “Prior UTI” represented when clearing

and compression happen at the same point in time, as a single event? Do such cases of clearing and compression and clearing and allocation as a single event happen frequently?

For cleared derivatives, allocations by investment managers tend to occur either (i) pre-trade (resulting in the simultaneous execution of several already-allocated transactions that are then cleared) or (ii) post-clearing (after the unallocated "block" transaction is executed and cleared in a temporary suspense or "bunched order" clearing account at a CCP). Therefore, we do not believe that allocations should raise material issues for the use of the "Prior UTI" data element.

Similarly, compression exercises for cleared OTC derivatives will relate to transactions that have already been cleared. However, as these compression exercises typically occur on a portfolio basis, it will be challenging to always link a new resulting transaction back to a single trade that was terminated during compression. It may be worth instead having a separate data element specifically for compression that specifies whether an existing trade was terminated during compression and whether a new trade was created during compression.

Other comments on the data element "Prior UTI":

We believe this data element is critical to ensuring regulators can link all of the transaction reports that relate to a single cleared OTC derivative, including any original alpha report (representing the intended-to-be-cleared derivative prior to clearing) and subsequent beta and gamma reports (representing the same derivative after acceptance for clearing).

However, we note that an alpha report may not always exist for a cleared OTC derivative. For example, if a derivative is executed anonymously on a trading venue, both trading counterparties immediately face the CCP and at no time will a bilateral trade exist prior to clearing. As a result, the "Prior UTI" field may not be filled-in for all cleared OTC derivatives. However, all transactions should be taken into account when calculating overall trading activity in the market, and therefore it would also be useful to ensure that the beta and gamma reports that relate to a single cleared OTC derivative can always be linked (irrespective of whether an alpha report exists).

2.73–2.77 Data elements related to "Custom baskets"

Q13: With reference to the data element "Basket constituents unit of measure" (Section 2.74) the list of allowable values in Table 4 in Annex 1 encompasses all the values included in ISO 20022's Unit Of Measure Code and four additional values.

- (a) Are the values useful for reporting the "Basket constituents unit of measure"? If not, which ones are less useful and why?

(b) Are there other values that should be added? Which ones, and why?

Q14: With reference to the data element “Custom basket code” (section 2.75)

(a) would it be preferable to separate the information on the LEI of the basket issuer and the unique alphanumeric code assigned by such issuer to the custom basket? If so, please explain why this would be preferable for global aggregation.

- (b) are there types of custom basket for which the "issuer of the custom basket" is not clear? If so, please provide detailed examples of those custom baskets. Would the industry benefit from additional guidance for the term "issuer" in the "Custom basket code" data element?

- (c) are 52 alphanumeric characters after the LEI of the basket issuer enough?

Other comments on the data elements related to custom baskets:

Other comments