

Quality of Execution Report

Debt instruments – Bonds

Period covering 1 January 2017 – 31 December 2017

## Investment Service - Portfolio Management/Reception and Transmission Professional Clients

Class of Instrument	Debt instruments - Bonds				
Notification if < 1 average trade per business day in the previous year	N				
Top five execution venues ranked in terms of trading volumes (descending order)	Proportion of volume traded as a percentage of total in that class	Proportion of orders executed as percentage of total in that class	Percentage of Passive orders	Percentage of Aggressive orders	Percentage of Directed orders
JP MORGAN SECURITIES PLC - K6Q0W1PS1L1O4IQL9C32	10.96	9.11	0.00	0.00	0.00
HSBC BANK PLC - MP6I5ZYBZEU3UXPYFY54	7.23	6.44	0.00	0.00	0.00
CITIGROUP GLOBAL MARKETS LIMITED - XKZZ2JZF41MRHTR1V493	5.86	5.53	0.00	0.00	0.00
DEUTSCHE BANK AG - 7LTFWZYICNSX8D621K86	5.72	4.92	0.00	0.00	0.00
MERRILL LYNCH INTERNATIONAL - GGDZP1UYGU9STUHRDP48	5.68	5.67	0.00	0.00	0.00

### Note:

- The reporting period covered is from 1 January 2017 – 31 December 2017.
- Class of Instrument (Debt instruments – Bonds) contains corporate, government, municipal and inflation protected bonds.
- Notification of < 1 average trade per business day in the previous year is indicated with 'Y' for Yes where there was less than 1 trade on average per business day in 2017. 'N' indicates there was more than 1 trade on average per business day.

## Investment Service - Order Execution Professional Clients

Class of Instrument	Debt instruments - Bonds				
Notification if < 1 average trade per business day in the previous year	N				
Top five execution venues ranked in terms of trading volumes (descending order)	Proportion of volume traded as a percentage of total in that class	Proportion of orders executed as percentage of total in that class	Percentage of Passive orders	Percentage of Aggressive orders	Percentage of Directed orders
MAEL - MARKETAXESS EUROPE LIMITED	64.51	77.04	0.00	0.00	0.00
BMTF - BLOOMBERG TRADING FACILITY LIMITED	22.37	10.34	0.00	0.00	0.00
TREU - TRADEWEB EUROPE LIMITED	13.12	12.62	0.00	0.00	0.00

### Note:

- The reporting period covered is from 1 January 2017 – 31 December 2017.
- Class of Instrument (Debt instruments – Bonds) contains corporate, government, municipal and inflation protected bonds.
- Notification of < 1 average trade per business day in the previous year is indicated with 'Y' for Yes where there was less than 1 trade on average per business day in 2017. 'N' indicates there was more than 1 trade on average per business day.

## Quality of Execution Report, period covering 1 January 2017 – 31 December 2017

### Portfolio Management / Reception and Transmission and Order Execution

Neuberger Berman Europe Limited (NBEL) has published for each class of financial instrument, that it has either traded in or placed with a counterparty for execution, a summary of its analysis and the conclusions drawn from detailed monitoring of the quality of execution obtained for all client orders during 2017.

The following qualitative information is a summary analysis based on NBEL, and relevant Neuberger Berman group affiliates, detailed ongoing monitoring of execution quality for **debt instruments – bonds**.

#### Requirement

(a) an explanation of the relative importance NBEL and its group affiliates gave to the execution factors of price, costs, speed, likelihood of execution or any other consideration including qualitative factors when assessing the quality of execution;

NBEL's central focus is the best execution for all NBEL clients. The considerations which will be taken into account when trading in this asset class are a combination of the following factors:

- Price – the spread between the market's mid-price and the executable price shown by the counterparty or venue. The size of the trade is also taken into account in order to define the fair bid-offer spread expected.
- Likelihood of execution – for larger trade sizes, our assessment of the counterparty and/or venue's capacity to handle the trade in size, and at a fair price, is an important factor. Not getting the trade executed at the optimal time is highly likely to raise the final trading cost.
- Market impact – the ability of the counterparty and/or venue to absorb the trade without impacting the wider market through information leakage.
- Consistency of execution – in respect of pricing, speed of execution, reliability (robustness of electronic systems and ability to show competitive prices during times of high market volatility) and the operational aspects of order execution – interaction with middle-office, system and settlement issues, as well as

## Requirement

connectivity.

The relative importance of the execution factors above is variable, and will depend on market conditions and other execution considerations. That said, the particular combination of total consideration (price of the instrument and costs of execution, both implicit and explicit) and size are usually the most considered factors when setting our execution strategy. Our goal will always be to treat all of our clients fairly in achieving the best possible execution outcome.

- (b) a description of any close links, conflicts of interests, and common ownerships with respect to any execution venues used to execute orders;

NBEL and/or any other Neuberger Berman group affiliates do not trade with or have any close links or common ownership with any execution venues or counterparties used to execute orders.

- (c) a description of any specific arrangements with any execution venues regarding payments made or received, discounts, rebates or non-monetary benefits received;

NBEL and/or any other Neuberger Berman group affiliates will not receive payments, discounts or rebates in its bond trading arrangements.

Certain non-monetary benefits are given and received by NBEL, but will comply with internal policies which deal with gift and entertainment scenarios, research materials received, as well as the creation of any potential conflicts of interest that may arise.

- (d) an explanation of the factors that led to a change in the list of execution venues listed in NBEL's execution policy, if such a change occurred;

NBEL will assess on an on-going basis whether counterparties and/or execution venues are continuing to enable NBEL to consistently meet its best execution obligations. NBEL reviews the criteria applied when originally approving an execution venue and evaluates whether changing market conditions and operational factors have impacted that choice. The monitoring might include access to market liquidity, stability of the company, ability to integrate into the existing infrastructure in order to minimise operational risks and other factors.

In 2017, for this asset class, we have not changed execution venues as the existing ones are considered appropriate for the business undertaken.

## Requirement

All NBEL clients are treated the same. However, the efficiency of NBEL's process can be constrained in this asset class for certain clients by:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <p>(e) an explanation of how order execution differs according to client categorisation, where NBEL treats categories of clients differently and where it may affect the order execution arrangements;</p>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The availability of counterparties due to limited legal arrangements in place (i.e. ISDA Master Agreements and CSA), which may impact the ability to trade efficiently in block trades on behalf of several accounts.</li> <li>• Counterparty risk limits – where clients require counterparty risk exposure controls, trading could be constrained and mean less flexibility to trade. In some cases, certain trades may be split among several different counterparties in order to limit concentration risk, but this may not provide for best execution.</li> <li>• Limited venue and/or counterparty availability – certain clients may limit the ability to transact to certain venues or counterparties. In such cases, any decision to execute or place an order with a particular counterparty or venue will be made from the available set of counterparties/venues for that client.</li> </ul> |
| <p>(f) an explanation of whether other criteria were given precedence over immediate price and cost when executing retail client orders and how these other criteria were instrumental in delivering the best possible result in terms of the total consideration to the client;</p> | <p>This is not applicable, as NBEL does not trade retail client orders.</p>  |
| <p>(g) an explanation of how NBEL has used any data or tools relating to the quality of execution, including any data published under Delegated Regulation (EU) 2017/575 – RTS27;</p>  | <p>NBEL has hired an independent TCA (transaction costs analysis) provider to help with detailed monitoring of the quality of execution obtained across the counterparties where we execute and/or place client orders for execution.</p> <p>Data published in line with the Delegated Regulation/RTS27 is not yet available for the period under review, so cannot be considered at this time.</p>  |
| <p>(h) where applicable, an explanation of how NBEL has used output of a consolidated tape provider.</p>   | <p>This is not applicable, as there are currently no consolidated tape providers in Europe.</p>  |