U.S. Trading Activities in Europe: The Impact of New EU Transaction Reporting and Position Limit Rules

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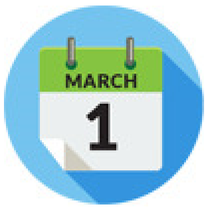

Futures 101: An Introduction to U.S. Futures Markets and Regulation

March 1, 2016 | 2:00 PM - 6:00 PM ET | In-Person Event at New York Law School

Moderator: Ronald H. Filler, New York Law School

Panelists: Tammy Botsford of JPMorgan Chase & Co., Gary DeWaal of Katten Muchin Rosenman LLP, Kimberly Johns and Bonnie Litt of Goldman Sachs, Tom Lasala of CME Group, Katie Trkla of Foley & Lardner LLP

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FIA Webinar: U.S. Trading Activities in Europe

The webinar will be recorded and posted to the FIA website following the conclusion of the live webinar.

A question and answer period will conclude the presentation.

- Please use the “question” function on your webinar control panel to ask a question to the moderator or speakers. Questions will be answered at the conclusion of the webinar.

Overview - Timeline

- May 2014
  - revised Markets in Financial Instruments Directive (“**MiFID II**”) and Markets in Financial Instruments Regulation (“**MiFIR**”) adopted
- December 2014
  - publication of Consultation Paper for draft regulatory technical standards (“**RTS**”) and implementing technical standards (“**ITS**”)
  - publication of final technical advice to European Commission (“**EC**”)
- September 2015
  - publication of some, but not all, final RTS
  - EC has 3 months to decide whether to adopt the RTS, subject to right of European Parliament and European Council to object
- December 2015
  - originally intended date for publication of remaining RTS, ITS and Guidelines
- 3 July 2016
  - Current deadline for EU Member State transposition into national law
  - Proposal to be pushed back by 1 year to July 2017
- 3 January 2017 (anticipated)
  - Current date for MiFID II and MiFIR take effect
  - Likely to be pushed back by 1 year to January 2018

Overview – Outline

- MiFID II and MiFIR:
  - touch nearly all aspects of the European financial markets, with an emphasis on transparency, market structure, trading, and transaction reporting; and
  - are drafted so as to complement other European financial legislation such as EMIR, MAR and REMIT.

- This presentation focuses on two topics of particular relevance to U.S market participants:
  - the amendments to the transaction reporting regime; and
  - the introduction of an EU-wide position limit and position management regime.

Part I: Transaction Reporting

Transaction Reporting - Overview

1. Wider application;
   - (1) Branches of third country firms and (2) trading venues (where transactions are executed through their venues by firms not subject to MiFIR) are now captured under MiFID II/MiFIR.
2. Additional financial instruments;
   - MiFIR extends the reporting obligation to (1) instruments admitted to a trading venue; (2) instruments where the underlying financial instrument is traded on a trading venue; and (3) instruments where the index or basket of financial instruments is traded on a trading venue.
3. Increased number of fields and data required in reports.
   - Annex II to ESMA's December Guidelines increases the transaction report to 65 fields (compared to 25 under the existing FCA Handbook SUP 17 Annex requirements).

Application

The EU/UK transaction reporting regime applies to:

- Investment firms;
- Credit institutions providing investment services or performing investment activities (Article 1(2) of MiFIR);
- Branches of third country firms (as per Article 14 of the draft RTS 22);
- Trading venues (where transactions are executed through their venues by firms not subject to MiFIR).

<u>But note</u>, there are wider implications for third country firms (like those in the US) trading with EU/UK firms subject to the transaction reporting regime. In order to comply with the reporting requirements, the above firms may request increased amounts of information from counterparties.

Obligation and Timing

Article 26(1) of MiFIR

Investment firms which *execute transactions* in financial instruments shall report complete and accurate details of such transactions to the competent authority as quickly as possible, and;

no later than the close of the following working day.

Article 26(5) of MiFIR

Requires trading venue operators to report details of transactions in financial instruments traded on its platform,

which are executed through its systems by a firm which is not subject to MiFIR.

Financial Instruments

Under Article 25 of MiFID, the requirement to report transactions applied to '*any financial instruments admitted to trading on a regulated market*'.

Article 26(2) of MiFIR expands the scope of instruments captured to include:

I. financial instruments which are admitted to trading or traded on a trading venue or for which a request for admission to trading has been made;
II. financial instruments where the underlying is a financial instrument traded on a trading venue; and
III. financial instruments where the underlying is an index or a basket composed of financial instruments traded on a trading venue.

'**Trading venue**' means a regulated market, an MTF or an OTF.

Meaning of ‘transaction’

‘Transaction’ - Article 2 of the draft RTS 22

- the conclusion of an *acquisition* or *disposal* of a financial instrument shall constitute a transaction.

- ‘acquisition’ includes:
  - a purchase of a financial instrument;
  - entering into a derivative contract in a financial instrument;
  - an increase in the notional amount for a derivative contract that is a financial instrument.

- ‘disposal’ includes:
  - sale of a financial instrument;
  - closing out of a derivative contract in a financial instrument;
  - a decrease in the notional amount for a derivative contract that is a financial instrument.

- ‘transaction’ shall also include a simultaneous acquisition and disposal of a financial instrument where there is no change in the ownership of that financial instrument, but post-trade publication is required under Articles 6, 10, 20 or 21 of MiFIR.

Meaning of ‘execution of a transaction’

<u>‘Execution of a transaction’</u> – Article 3 of the draft RTS 22

Where an investment firm performs any of the following services or activities that result in a transaction within the meaning of Article 2, it shall have executed that transaction:

(i) Reception and transmission of orders in relation to one or more financial instruments;

(ii) Execution of orders on behalf of clients;

(iii) Dealing on own account;

(iv) Making an investment decision in accordance with a discretionary mandate given by a client;

(v) Transfer of financial instruments to or from accounts.

Excludes ‘transmitted orders’ transmitted in accordance with Article 4 of the draft RTS 22.

Transmission of Orders

What about firms that ‘transmit’ orders?

Article 26(4) of MiFIR

Investment firms which *transmit orders* shall either:

- include in the transmission of that order all the details specified in Article 26(1) and (3); or
- report the transmitted order, provided the transaction report states state that it pertains to a transmitted order.

However note the requirements of Article 4 of the draft RTS 22

Content of Transaction Reports

MiFID	MiFIR
Article 25(4) of MiFID	**Article 26(3) of MiFIR**
1. Names and numbers of the instruments bought or sold; 2. the quantity; 3. dates and times of execution; and 4. transaction prices and means of identifying the investment firms concerned.	1. Names and numbers of the financial instruments bought or sold; 2. the quantity; 3. the dates and times of execution; 4. the transaction prices; 5. a designation to identify the clients on whose behalf the investment firm has executed that transaction, 6. a designation to identify the persons and the computer algorithms within the investment firm responsible for the investment decision and the execution of the transaction; 7. a designation to identify the applicable waiver under which the trade has taken place; 8. means of identifying the investment firms concerned; 9. a designation to identify a short sale as defined in Article 2(1)(b) of *Regulation (EU) No 236/2012* in respect of any shares and sovereign debt within the scope of Articles 12, 13 and 17 of that Regulation 10. For transactions not carried out on a trading venue, the reports shall include a designation identifying the types of transactions in accordance with the measures to be adopted; 11. For commodity derivatives, reports shall indicate whether the transaction reduces risk in an objectively measurable way;

Transaction Report Fields

- Under the FCA's existing SUP 17 requirements, transaction reports have 25 fields to be provided to the FCA.

- However Annex II to ESMA's December Guidelines increases the transaction report to 65 fields.

Transaction Report Fields

ESMA data validation fields

1. Report status
2. Transaction Reference Number
3. Trading venue transaction identification code **(*)**
4. Executing entity identification code
5. Investment Firm covered by Directive 2014/65/EU **(*)**
6. Submitting entity identification code **(*)**
7. Buyer identification code
8. Country of the branch for the buyer **(*)**
9. Buyer - first name(s) **(*)**
10. Buyer - surname(s) **(*)**
11. Buyer - date of birth **(*)**
12. Buyer decision maker code **(*)**
13. Buy decision maker - First Name(s) **(*)**
14. Buy decision maker – Surname(s) **(*)**
15. Buy decision maker - Date of birth **(*)**
16. Seller identification code
17. Country of the branch for the seller **(*)**
18. Seller - first name(s) **(*)**
19. Seller - surname(s) **(*)**
20. Seller - date of birth **(*)**
21. Seller decision maker code **(*)**
22. Sell decision maker - First Name(s) **(*)**
23. Sell decision maker – Surname(s) **(*)**
24. Sell decision maker - Date of birth **(*)**
25. Transmission of order indicator **(*)**
26. Transmitting firm identification code for the buyer **(*)**
27. Transmitting firm identification code for the seller **(*)**
28. Trading date time
29. Trading capacity
30. Quantity
31. Quantity currency
32. Derivative notional increase/decrease **(*)**
33. Price
34. Price Currency
35. Net amount **(*)**
36. Venue
37. Country of the branch membership **(*)**
38. Up-front payment **(*)**
39. Up-front payment currency **(*)**
40. Complex trade component ID **(*)**
41. Instrument identification code
42. Instrument full name
43. Instrument classification
44. Notional currency 1 **(*)**
45. Notional currency 2 **(*)**
46. Price multiplier
47. Underlying instrument code
48. Underlying index name **(*)**
49. Term of the underlying index **(*)**
50. Option type
51. Strike price
52. Strike price currency **(*)**
53. Option exercise style **(*)**
54. Maturity date
55. Expiry date **(*)**
56. Delivery type **(*)**
57. Investment decision within firm **(*)**
58. Country of the branch responsible for the person making the investment decision **(*)**
59. Execution within firm **(*)**
60. Country of the branch supervising the person responsible for the execution **(*)**
61. Waiver indicator **(*)**
62. Short selling indicator **(*)**
63. OTC post-trade indicator **(*)**
64. Commodity derivative indicator **(*)**
65. Securities financing transaction indicator **(*)**

(*) Indicates new fields (or no comparable existing field) introduced under MiFID II (as at December 2015), in comparison to the FCA Handbook - SUP 17 – Annex I

Consequences of Breach

- The FCA uses data provided by transaction reports for market surveillance purposes and to identify potential instances of market abuse and or manipulation.

- Since implementing the transaction reporting regime, the FCA has issued 10+ fines for reporting failures.

- Enforcement notices show firms must not only provide *complete* transaction reports, but also ensure the systems and controls relied on to produce transaction reports are reliable and *accurate*.

Part II: Position Limits Regime

Position Limits – Overview

- MiFID I
  - To date there has been no comprehensive EU-wide position limit or position management regime.
  - Where such limits have been established they have been applied at the level of individual exchanges.
    - Example: Section P of ICE Futures Europe Rules
- MiFID II
  - A new three-pillar framework: (1) position limits; (2) position management; and (3) position reporting.
  - Regime applies to commodity derivatives and economically-equivalent OTC ("**EEOTC**") contracts.
  - Excludes physically-settled gas and electricity forwards covered by REMIT that are traded on OTFs.

Position Limits

- <u>Article 57(1) of MiFID II</u>
  - National regulators will be responsible for establishing and applying position limits on the size of the net position that a person may hold on commodity derivatives traded on venues and EEOTC contracts.
  - EEOTC contracts are defined as contracts with "identical contractual specifications and terms and conditions" as exchange-traded contracts.
  - Limits to be set for spot and all non-spot months.
    - *Compare* CFTC regime with spot and all-month limits.
  - Net position calculations do <u>not</u> apply to contracts traded on third-country venues (*e.g.*, a US futures exchange).

Position Limits

- Position limits apply to the net position of a "person" as well as positions held at an "aggregate group level".
  - The scope of the term "person" is unclear, but appears intended to reach through to the end-client, similar to the notion of "trader" under the CFTC regime.
  - ESMA has proposed a top-down aggregation rule, *i.e.* a person must aggregate its positions with those of its subsidiaries.
  - In relation to funds, where an investor does not control the fund's trading decisions, the fund's position need not be aggregated with that of the investor.
    - *Compare* the independent account controller regime under the CFTC rules.

Position Limits

- <u>Bona Fide Hedging Exemption</u>
  - Trades by a non-financial entity that are objectively measurable as reducing risks directly relating to the commercial activities of that entity are not counted towards the limit.
  - Aligns the test for identifying hedging trades with the test in EMIR and as interpreted in ESMA's EMIR Q&A.
  - <u>However</u>, separate MiFID II amendments will require many commodity firms to be authorised, and hence "financial entities" and therefore unable to rely on this exemption.

Position Limits

- <u>Contracts Traded in Multiple Member States</u>
  - Where the “same” commodity derivative is traded in “significant volumes” on venues in multiple Member States, the national regulator of the trading venue with the largest volume shall set a single position limit to be applied to all trading in that contract.
    - To be the “same” commodity derivative, both contracts must be economically-equivalent and form part of a single fungible pool of open interest.
    - To be traded in “significant volume”, a contract must have average daily open interest of 10,000 lots in the spot and non-spot months over a consecutive 3-month period. (Securitised commodity derivatives are treated somewhat differently, and must exceed an average daily units x price threshold of €1 million.)
  - Supervision of a single position limit requires cooperation arrangements between national regulators.
  - ESMA is responsible for resolving disputes between national regulators.

Position Limits

- Procedure
  – ESMA establishes the methodology for national regulators to set limits.
  – National regulators submit proposed limits to ESMA, which has 2 months to issue an opinion.
- Spot Month
  – "Spot month" refers to the contract next to expire; an EEOTC contract is in the spot month when its equivalent contract is in its spot month.
  – Limits to be based on deliverable supply (or, where there is no deliverable supply, on open interest).
  – Baseline set at 25%, with scope for national regulators to set a limit from 5% to 35% based on certain factors.
  – Trading venues will provide information on deliverable supply in the spot month.

Position Limits

- <u>Non-Spot Months</u>
  - Refers to the remainder of the contract curve (*i.e.*, not all months).
  - Limits to be based on open interest.
  - Baseline set at 25%, with scope for national regulators to set a limit from 5% to 35% based on certain factors.
- <u>Factors for Raising/Lowering Baseline</u>
  - Maturity
  - Deliverable supply
  - Open interest (ex-correlated instruments)
  - Volatility
  - Number and size of participants
  - Underlying commodity markets
  - New/Illiquid contracts

Position Limits

- <u>Monitoring and Enforcement Authority</u>
  - National regulators to have the authority to require persons to liquidate their positions or prevent persons from entering further transactions in contracts.
  - ESMA is responsible for monitoring how national regulators establish and enforce position limits.
  - ESMA is given emergency backstop authority to impose position limits and force position-holders to liquidate their positions or prevent further transactions in contracts where the national regulator is unable or unwilling to do so.

Position Monitoring

- <u>Article 57(8) of MiFID II</u>
  - Requires operators of trading venues (i.e., RMs, MTFs, and OTFs) to apply position management controls including:
    - monitoring the open interest of “persons”;
    - access information and documentation from “persons” regarding the size and purpose of a position and cash-market activities;
    - require a “person” to exit or reduce a position; and
    - require a “person” to provide controlled liquidity back into the market.
  - Position management arrangements must be disclosed to the relevant venue’s national regulator.

Position Reporting

- <u>Article 58(1) of MiFID II</u>
  - Requires trading venues to publish weekly reports of the aggregate positions held by the following categories of persons for the different commodity derivatives listed on the venue:
    - investment firms or credit institutions;
    - investment funds (AIFs or UCITS);
    - other financial institutions;
    - commercials; and
    - persons subject to EU emissions rules (for emissions contracts).
  - Reports must contain:
    - number of long and short positions per category of person;
    - changes since the previous report;
    - percentage of open interest attributable to each category;
    - number of persons in each category.

Position Reporting

- Article 58(2) of MiFID II
  - Requires an investment firm that trades commodity derivatives OTC to submit a daily report to either:
    - the national regulator of the trading venue where the commodity derivative(s) are traded; or
    - the national regulator of the trading venue where the most significant volume of such commodity derivative(s) are traded.
  - Reports must contain a "complete breakdown" of:
    - the firm's positions taken in commodity derivatives traded on-exchange and EEOTC contracts; and
    - such positions for the firm's clients, and the clients of those clients "until the end-client is reached".
  - Similar reports to be filed with the relevant trading venue(s).

FIA Webinar: U.S. Trading Activities in Europe

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