

Explanatory Note for Clients re RTS28
Providing Quantitative and Qualitative
Assessment of Quality of Execution of
Orders for Retail and Professional Clients
for year ended 31 December 2017

Effective Date April 30<sup>th</sup> 2018



### **Qualitative Assessment**

#### A. Introduction

<u>Order Execution – Regulatory Technical</u> <u>Standards 28 ("RTS 28")</u>

Directive 2014/65/EU in financial instruments (MIFID II) requires investment firms who execute client orders to summarise and make public on an annual basis, for each class of financial instruments the top five execution venues used in terms of trading volumes where there were executed client orders in the preceding year and information on the quality of execution obtained.

The purpose of this requirement is to provide all clients with increased transparency on how firms execute client orders in relation to venues selected on an annual basis.

Cantor Fitzgerald Ireland ("Cantor") has carried out an analysis of our trading for the period January 1 to December 31 2017 and has listed key information concerning our top five execution venues used during this period. Cantor has also published a statement of information on the quality of execution obtained during this same period.

Cantor has an obligation under Article 3(3) of RTS 28 to provide a qualitative summary of the analysis and conclusions drawn from our detailed monitoring of the quality of execution obtained on the execution venues we use and third party brokers where we executed client orders in the previous year.

The purpose of the report is to allow Retail and Professional clients to ascertain the likely effectiveness of the execution of orders placed with us based on where and how we execute those orders.

B. Relative importance given to price, costs, speed, likelihood of execution or other considerations used by Cantor when assessing the quality of execution.

The importance of the various execution factors will vary based on the circumstances of the order. Cantor strives to obtain the Best Possible Result ('BPR') for all clients when executing orders. This will include ensuring the client receives the best possible price taking account all relevant factors including price, cost, speed and likelihood of execution.

#### 1. Equities

Cantor executes Irish and UK equities mainly by execution directly to Exchanges in Europe but would note that to a limited extent they also transmit orders to other brokers for central European and rest of world equity orders. Most US orders are transmitted to our US affiliate Cantor Fitzgerald & Co in the US.

The Irish Stock Exchange and the London Stock Exchange are therefore our primary execution venues as we contend that for our clients direct market access where possible represents the best overall choice for clients based on price, cost, speed and likelihood of execution.

#### 2. Debt Securities

Cantor is a market maker in various Irish sovereign instruments and our Debt Capital markets trading desk is deemed an execution venue for all debt instrument orders.

Our Debt Capital Markets ("DCM") division is a market maker and therefore makes prices when requested for Professional and Retail Clients. This decision affords all clients a liquid tradeable price, as opposed to the often wider bid/offer spread that would be offered to a non-institutional client. As there is no predominant centralised exchange or venue

for the transaction of bonds but a range of differing platforms, clients' interests are best served by our operation as an execution venue in terms of cost, speed of execution and best price achieved.

The Firm could therefore list Cantor as the sole execution venue but instead chooses to provide some visibility as to the platforms including, our own institutional bond desk, MTF's, OTF's, SIs and other liquidity providers.

During 2017 and as a consequence of MIFID certain clients requested a change to their client classification and in this regard the classification used for the purpose of analysis reflects their final designation classification.

SI information is not available for market participants at the time of publication and it is intended to provide this information when available in the future.

#### 3. CFD's and Spread Betting Contracts,

Cantor provides two platforms for execution of CFD and Spreadbetting orders but notes that Cantor clients predominantly use the IG Markets platform. As most clients grant us authority to execute orders on their behalf, we deem IG Markets as our primary execution venue. The quality of the IG Markets platform in terms of IT delivery, execution, cost and overall service, for what is a complex product, is the basis for our selection as our preferred execution venue.

#### 4. Exchange Traded Products

Cantor executes Irish and UK exchange traded products mainly by execution directly to Exchanges in Europe but would note that to a larger extent they transmit orders to other brokers for central European, U.S. and rest of world exchange traded product orders. Central European and rest of world orders are transmitted to brokers in line with our policy to ensure best execution result for clients based on price, cost, speed and likelihood of execution.



#### 5. Money Market Instruments

Cantor Fitzgerald Ireland offers a full service in Money Market instruments engaging in requests from their customers purely on an execution only basis. The products involved are predominantly Cash Deposits and Repos in the Interbank Market.

No execution services provided by Cantor in Money Markets will give rise to any fiduciary, equitable or contractual duties which would prevent or hinder the Cantor Group from providing similar services to other clients or otherwise acting on behalf of other clients for its accounts.

# C. Relevant close links, conflicts of interests, and common ownerships with respect to any execution venues used to execute orders.

As noted our Debt Capital Markets division is a market maker and therefore makes prices when requested for Professional and Retail Clients. On this basis we may sell clients bonds we already hold or may purchase bonds from clients for the purpose of selling such bonds in the market at a profit. While this affords the client in our view the best possible execution on a consistent basis we review the efficiency of the venue and quality of pricing on a periodic basis and by transaction as appropriate.

Cantor may leverage the execution capabilities of certain affiliates within the Cantor Group. These affiliates include BGC Partners for the execution of debt security trades, Cantor Fitzgerald Europe for the execution of equity trades and Cantor Fitzgerald & Co (U.S.).

The Cantor Group comprises a full service securities group, engaging in a wide range of

activities for their own accounts and the accounts of customers, including corporate finance, mergers and acquisitions, merchant banking, equity and fixed income sales, trading and research, derivatives, foreign exchange, futures, asset management, custody, clearance and securities lending.

No execution services provided by the Cantor Group to Cantor Fitzgerald Ireland will give rise to any fiduciary, equitable or contractual duties (including without limitation any duty of confidence or care) which would prevent or hinder the Cantor Group from providing similar services to other clients, or otherwise acting on behalf of other clients or for its account. The Cantor Group, excluding Cantor Fitzgerald Ireland, is not required to account to clients of Cantor Fitzgerald Ireland for any payment, remuneration, profit or benefit it obtains as a result of acting in the ways referred to in this paragraph or as a result of entering into any transaction with or for Cantor Fitzgerald Ireland or providing any services to Cantor Fitzgerald Ireland.

The execution of orders by the Cantor Group (excluding Cantor Fitzgerald Ireland) does not create a fiduciary relationship between the Cantor Group, other than Cantor Fitzgerald Ireland, and any client. Nothing in this explanatory note shall deem the Cantor Group as the agent of Cantor Fitzgerald Ireland nor create any partnership or fiduciary relationship between them in regard of any client of Cantor Fitzgerald Ireland.

As noted our preference for U.S, equity orders is to transmit orders mostly to Cantor Fitzgerald & Co. Any affiliate may transact such orders onto their own book for the purpose of making a profit, disposing of a holding or purchasing a holding for the purpose of making a profit



# D. Any specific arrangements with any execution venues regarding payments made or received, discounts, rebates or nonmonetary benefits received

Cantor does not have any arrangements with execution venues regarding payments made or received, discounts, rebates or non-monetary benefits received.

IG Markets paid a rebate to Cantor in 2017 in regard of commission, fees and charges applied to Retail CFD and spreadbetting clients but this practice was discontinued in 2018 pursuant to MIFID II rules. IG Markets do pay Cantor a rebate in regard of commission, fees and charges applied to Professional CFD and spreadbetting clients.

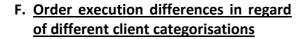
Cantor Fitzgerald Ireland is recognised as a Primary Dealer. In this regard where clients provide Cantor with orders for a Bond Auction Cantor may receive compensation in the form of a right to purchase additional bonds at the auction price for a number of days post the auction. Where Cantor accepts orders for a Bond Syndication Cantor may be paid a fee. The allocation of fills in regard of Syndicate orders received is covered by our Syndicate and Allocation Principles Policy Note published Jan 2018 and available upon request.

Cantor was appointed as retail broker in regard of the AIB flotation in 2017 and was compensated in this regard.

## E. Any change in the list of execution venues listed in the firm's execution policy, if such a change occurred

Tradeweb was added as a trading venue for the DCM Division during 2017 and Cantor moved from being a price maker to price take on MTS.

Cantor Fitzgerald Ireland decided to discontinue providing execution services for new client investments in small capitalisation U.S, stocks including "pink sheet" U.S, stocks.



This requirement to disclose pertains to circumstances where the firm treats categories of clients differently and where such differences may affect order execution arrangements. We seek to obtain the best possible result for all clients, regardless of client categorisation.

G. Other criteria 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

Cantor always seeks BPR in regard of retail client orders but criteria other than price and cost may effect the delivery of BPR. These would include;

- 1) Settlement terms: where a client select a non-standard (>T+2) settlement date or where a client selects a non-standard settlement venue to deliver securities.
- 2) Where a client directs an order to a specific venue
- 3) Execution terms may vary based on the totality of the size of the order where an order falls below or outside what is normal for a particular venue.
- H. Has Cantor used any data or tools relating to the quality of execution, including any data published under Delegated Regulation (EU) 2017/575 [RTS 27]

Cantor assesses on an ongoing basis, and not just in regard of RTS 27, the quality of execution obtained from the various execution venues and third party brokers that were used for execution. RTS27 data has yet to be published. Cantor does use a third party provider to review relevant trade data to assist in determining that we have fully



complied with our requirements in regard of best execution.

## I. Clarification as to if and how Cantor has used the output of a consolidated tape provider

A consolidated tape provider means a person authorised under the Directive to provide the services of collecting trade reports for financial instruments from regulated markets, MTFs, OTFs and APA and consolidating them into a continuous electronic live data stream providing price and volume per financial instrument.

At the time of finalising this statement no such providers existed and no relevant data has been published. Cantor will review its order execution policy when and if this service becomes available.



### **Quantitative Assessment Year 2017**

#### **Equities - Shares & Depositary Receipts**

Table 1 - Top 5 Venues for Professional Clients									
Class of Instrument	Equities								
Notification if <1 average trade per									
business day in the previous year	N								
Top five execution venues ranked in	Proportion of volume	Proportion of orders	Percentage of	Percentage of	Percentage of directed				
terms of trading volumes (descending	traded as a percentage	executed as	passive orders*	aggressive orders*	orders				
order) /MIC Code	of total in that class	percentage of total in							
		that class							
XLON	74.8%	60.6%	13%	87%	0%				
XDUB	23.1%	29.6%	13%	87%	0%				
XOFF - Orders transmitted to brokers	2.1%	9.9%	13%	87%	0%				

<sup>\*</sup> Passive and aggressive split is estimated based on a sample of trades over the year

Table 2 - Top 5 Venues for Retail Clients									
Class of Instrument	Equities								
Notification if <1 average trade per									
business day in the previous year	N								
Top five execution venues ranked in	Proportion of volume	Proportion of orders	Percentage of	Percentage of	Percentage of directed				
terms of trading volumes (descending	traded as a percentage	executed as	passive orders*	aggressive orders*	orders				
order) /MIC Code	of total in that class	percentage of total in							
		that class							
XLON	75.7%	36.7%	13%	87%	0%				
XDUB	17.7%	35.0%	13%	87%	0%				
XOFF - Orders transmitted to brokers	6.6%	28.2%	13%	87%	0%				

<sup>\*</sup> Passive and aggressive split is estimated based on a sample of trades over the year

Cantor Fitzgerald Ireland Ltd is regulated by the Central Bank of Ireland. Cantor Fitzgerald Ireland Ltd is a Member Firm of The Irish Stock Exchange and The London Stock Exchange.



### **Equities - Shares & Depositary Receipts contd**

Table 3 - Top 5 Brokers for Professional	Clients (XLON/XDUB)				
Class of Instrument	Equities				
Notification if <1 average trade per					
business day in the previous year	N				
Top five execution venues ranked in	Proportion of volume	Proportion of orders	Percentage of	Percentage of	Percentage of directed
terms of trading volumes (descending	traded as a percentage	executed as	passive orders*	aggressive orders*	orders
order) / LEI Number	of total in that class	percentage of total in			
		that class			
WINTERFLOOD SECURITIES					
8BRUP6V1DX3PIG2R0745	20.4%	12.8%	13%	87%	0%
EUREX Clearing Aktiengesellschaft					
529900LN3S50JPU47S06	19.3%	29.7%	13%	87%	0%
PEEL HUNT LLP					
5493007DWN0R4YBM4C84	15.3%	7.6%	13%	87%	0%
SHORE CAPITAL STOCKBROKERS LTD					
2138009KZO3MK7TV6372	10.7%	8.6%	13%	87%	0%
J+E DAVY					
63540061DPCBNMCGRY22	9.6%	3.6%	13%	87%	0%

<sup>\*</sup> Passive and aggressive split is estimated based on a sample of trades over the year



**Equities - Shares & Depositary Receipts contd** 

Table 4 - Top 5 Brokers for Retail Clien	ts (XLON/XDUB)				
Class of Instrument	Equities				
Notification if <1 average trade per business day in the previous year Top five execution venues ranked in terms of trading volumes (descending order) / LEI Number	N 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
WINTERFLOOD SECURITIES 8BRUP6V1DX3PIG2R0745	25.5%	22.6%	13%	87%	0%
CANTOR FITZGERALD EUROPE 549300KM6VUHPKQLQX53	15.1%	2.0%	13%	87%	0%
J+E DAVY 63540061DPCBNMCGRY22	12.3%	28.6%	13%	87%	0%
PEEL HUNT LLP 5493007DWN0R4YBM4C84	11.9%	5.7%	13%	87%	0%
Pershing Securities International Limited					
549300PPJGN9E26TI110	8.0%	1.8%	13%	87%	0%

<sup>\*</sup> Passive and aggressive split is estimated based on a sample of trades over the year



#### **Equities - Shares & Depositary Receipts contd**

Table 5 - Top 5 Brokers for Professional	Clients (XOFF)				
Class of Instrument	Equities				
Notification if <1 average trade per					
business day in the previous year	Υ				
Top five execution venues ranked in terms of trading volumes (descending order) / LEI Number	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
KCG EUROPE LIMITED 549300346EFUPFCXJT79	54.2%	42.9%	13%	87%	0%
CANTOR FITZGERALD EUROPE 549300KM6VUHPKQLQX53	31.2%	14.3%	13%	87%	0%
CANTOR FITZGERALD & CO 5493004J7H4GCPG6OB62	11.4%	26.2%	13%	87%	0%
WINTERFLOOD SECURITIES 8BRUP6V1DX3PIG2R0745	3.2%	16.7%	13%	87%	0%

<sup>\*</sup> Passive and aggressive split is estimated based on a sample of trades over the year



#### **Equities - Shares & Depositary Receipts contd**

Table 6 - Top 5 Brokers for Retail Client	s (XOFF)				
Class of Instrument	Equities				
Notification if <1 average trade per					
business day in the previous year	N				
Top five execution venues ranked in	Proportion of volume	Proportion of orders	Percentage of	Percentage of	Percentage of directed
terms of trading volumes (descending	traded as a percentage	executed as	passive orders*	aggressive orders*	orders
order) / LEI Number	of total in that class	percentage of total in			
		that class			
KCG EUROPE LIMITED					
549300346EFUPFCXJT79	42.7%	28.7%	13%	87%	0%
CANTOR FITZGERALD EUROPE					
549300KM6VUHPKQLQX53	20.3%	7.3%	13%	87%	0%
CANTOR FITZGERALD & CO					
5493004J7H4GCPG6OB62	14.1%	55.9%	13%	87%	0%
PERSHING SECURITIES LTD					
549300NC3GURN0AEZU06	11.9%	2.1%	13%	87%	0%
WINTERFLOOD SECURITIES LIMITED					
8BRUP6V1DX3PIG2R0745	6.8%	5.5%	13%	87%	0%

<sup>\*</sup> Passive and aggressive split is estimated based on a sample of trades over the year



#### **Bonds**

Table 1 - Top 5 Venues for Professional Clients					
Class of Instrument	Bonds				
Notification if >1 average trade per business day in the					
previous year	N				
Top Five Execution Venues ranked in terms of trading volume (descending order) /LEI or MIC Code	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
CANTOR FITZGERALD IRELAND LIMITED 635400N5XVNTLTWTUK34	87.0%	84.0%	0%	100%	0%
BGC BROKERS LP BGCI	5.0%	5.0%	74%	26%	0%
TRADEWEB EUROPE LIMITED TREU	4.0%	5.0%	100%	0%	0%
MTS CASH DOMESTIC MARKET IRELAND IMTS	3.0%	4.0%	0%	100%	0%
Coöperatieve Rabobank U.A. DG3RU1DBUFHT4ZF9WN62	2.0%	2.0%	100%	0%	0%



#### **Bonds Contd**

Table 2 - Top 5 Venues for Retail Clients					
Class of Instrument	Bonds				
Notification if >1 average trade per business day in the					
previous year	N				
Top Five Execution Venues ranked in terms of trading volume (descending order) /LEI or MIC Code		Proportion of orders executed as percentage of total in that class	Percentage of passive orders	Percentage of aggressive orders	Percentage of directed orders
CANTOR FITZGERALD IRELAND LIMITED 635400N5XVNTLTWTUK34	98.0%	85.0%	0%	100%	0%
CANTOR FITZGERALD EUROPE 549300KM6VUHPKQLQX53	2.0%	15.0%	0%	100%	0%



### Contracts for Differences (CFD's)

Table 1 - Top five venues for Professional Clients								
Class of Instrument	CFD's							
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) /LEI	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			
IG MARKETS LIMITED 21380017XKSVQ3LC3V75	100.00%	100.00%	N/A	N/A	0%			

N/A - Not available

Table 2 - Top Five venues for Retail Clients								
Class of Instrument	CFD's							
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) /LEI	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			
IG MARKETS LIMITED 21380017XKSVQ3LC3V75	100.00%	100.00%	N/A	N/A	0%			

N/A - Not available

Cantor Fitzgerald Ireland Ltd is regulated by the Central Bank of Ireland. Cantor Fitzgerald Ireland Ltd is a Member Firm of The Irish Stock Exchange and The London Stock Exchange.



### **Exchange Traded Products**

Table 1 - Top 5 Venues for Professional Clients									
Class of Instrument	Exchange Traded Products								
Notification if <1 average trade per									
business day in the previous year	Υ								
Top five execution venues ranked in	Proportion of volume	Proportion of orders	Percentage of	Percentage of	Percentage of directed				
terms of trading volumes (descending	traded as a percentage	executed as	passive orders*	aggressive orders*	orders				
order) /MIC Code	of total in that class	percentage of total in							
		that class							
XLON	100%	100%	0%	100%	0%				

<sup>\*</sup> Passive and aggressive split is estimated based on a sample of trades over the year

Table 2 - Top 5 Venues for Retail Clients									
Class of Instrument	Exchange Traded Produ	Exchange Traded Products							
Notification if <1 average trade per									
business day in the previous year	N								
Top five execution venues ranked in	Proportion of volume	Proportion of orders	Percentage of	Percentage of	Percentage of directed				
terms of trading volumes (descending	traded as a percentage	executed as	passive orders*	aggressive orders*	orders				
order) /MIC Code	of total in that class	percentage of total in							
		that class							
XOFF - Orders transmitted to brokers	79.0%	78.2%	3%	97%	0%				
XLON	20.6%	21.0%	3%	97%	0%				
XDUB	0.4%	0.9%	3%	97%	0%				

<sup>\*</sup> Passive and aggressive split is estimated based on a sample of trades over the year



#### **Exchange Traded Products Contd**

Table 3 - Top 5 Brokers for Professional	Clients (XLON/XDUB)					
Class of Instrument	Exchange Traded Products					
Notification if <1 average trade per						
business day in the previous year	Υ					
Top five execution venues ranked in	Proportion of volume	Proportion of orders	Percentage of	Percentage of	Percentage of directed	
terms of trading volumes (descending	traded as a percentage	executed as	passive orders*	aggressive orders*	orders	
order) /LEI	of total in that class	percentage of total in				
		that class				
WINTERFLOOD SECURITIES						
8BRUP6V1DX3PIG2R0745	62.5%	50.0%	3%	97%	0%	
Central Bank of Ireland -						
635400OAUSKT6BT5UZ19	37.5%	50.0%	3%	97%	0%	

<sup>\*</sup> Passive and aggressive split is estimated based on a sample of trades over the year



#### **Exchange Traded Products Contd**

Table 4 - Top 5 Brokers for Retail Clients	(XLON/XDUB)				
Class of Instrument	Exchange Traded Produ	cts			
Notification if <1 average trade per					
business day in the previous year	Υ				
Top five execution venues ranked in	Proportion of volume	Proportion of orders	Percentage of	Percentage of	Percentage of directed
terms of trading volumes (descending	traded as a percentage	executed as	passive orders*	aggressive orders*	orders
order) /LEI	of total in that class	percentage of total in that class			
WINTERFLOOD SECURITIES					
8BRUP6V1DX3PIG2R0745	51.3%	54.7%	3%	97%	0%
PEEL HUNT LLP					
5493007DWN0R4YBM4C84	23.8%	19.2%	3%	97%	0%
CANTOR FITZGERALD EUROPE					
549300KM6VUHPKQLQX53	18.1%	21.2%	3%	97%	0%
KCG EUROPE LIMITED					
549300346EFUPFCXJT79	6.1%	4.1%	3%	97%	0%
EUREX Clearing Aktiengesellschaft					
529900LN3S50JPU47S06	0.6%	0.8%	3%	97%	0%

<sup>\*</sup> Passive and aggressive split is estimated based on a sample of trades over the year



#### **Exchange Traded Products Contd**

Table 5 - Top 5 Brokers for Retail Clients	(XOFF)						
Class of Instrument	Exchange Traded Products						
Notification if <1 average trade per							
business day in the previous year	N						
Top five execution venues ranked in	Proportion of volume	Proportion of orders	Percentage of	Percentage of	Percentage of directed		
terms of trading volumes (descending	traded as a percentage	executed as	passive orders	aggressive orders	orders		
order) /LEI	of total in that class	percentage of total in					
		that class					
CANTOR FITZGERALD EUROPE							
549300KM6VUHPKQLQX53	69.2%	55.7%	3%	97%	0%		
KCG EUROPE LIMITED							
549300346EFUPFCXJT79	29.6%	43.3%	3%	97%	0%		
PERSHING SECURITIES LTD							
549300NC3GURN0AEZU06	0.8%	0.4%	3%	97%	0%		
WINTERFLOOD SECURITIES LIMITED							
8BRUP6V1DX3PIG2R0745	0.2%	0.4%	3%	97%	0%		
Pershing Securities International Ltd							
549300PPJGN9E26TI110							
	0.2%	0.1%	3%	97%	0%		

<sup>\*</sup> Passive and aggressive split is estimated based on a sample of trades over the year



#### **Money Market Instruments**

Table 1 - Top 5 Venues for Professional Clients					
Class of Instrument	Money Market Instrument				
Notification if >1 average trade per business day	•				
in the previous year	Υ				
Top Five Execution Venues ranked in terms of trading volume (descending order)/LEI	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
Cantor Fitzgerald Ireland Limited 635400N5XVNTLTWTUK34	98.0%	85.0%	0%	100%	0%
CANTOR FITZGERALD EUROPE 549300KM6VUHPKQLQX53	2.0%	15.0%	0%	100%	0%