# AMP Global Clearing, LLC FCM Risk Disclosure December 09, 2019

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## Introduction

The Commodity Futures Trading Commission ("Commission") requires each futures commission merchant (FCM), including AMP Global Clearing, LLC ("AMP"), to provide the following information to a customer prior to the time the customer first enters into an account agreement with the FCM or deposits money or securities ("funds") with the FCM. Except as otherwise noted below, the information set out is as of October 31 2019. AMP will update this information annually and as necessary to take account of any material changes to its business operations, financial condition or other factors that AMP believes may be material to a customer's decision to do business with AMP. Nonetheless, AMP's business activities and financial data are not static and will change in non-material ways frequently in any 12 month period.

## AMP and Its Principals

AMP Global Clearing, LLC 221 N. LaSalle Street 25<sup>th</sup> Floor Chicago, IL 60601 Phone- 312-893-6400 Fax- 312-893-7660 compliance@ampclearing.com

National Futures Association (<u>www.nfa.futures.org</u>) is AMP's Designated Self-Regulatory Organization ("DSRO").

The following individuals are registered principals of AMP:

#### Daniel Culp

President of AMP and is also its sole Member. Daniel has been an NFA Member since 2002.

#### Joseph LaPorte

Serves as Trade Desk Manager and Risk Manager of AMP. Joseph has performed varying "risk focused" roles in the futures industry for 30 years.

#### Shabeer Alam

Serves as Chief Compliance Officer of AMP. He has worked in varying Compliance, and legal roles in the futures industry for 12 years.

#### Michael Rathberger

Serves as AMP's Chief Operating Officer. Michael's primary duties and responsibilities involve backoffice operations and systems, work flow, cash flows, treasury operations, operational risk management.

#### Brian Zajac

Serves as Second Trade Desk/Risk Manager of AMP. Brian has performed varying "risk focused" roles in the futures industry for 22 years.

### Daniel Martin

Serves as Customer Service Manager of AMP. Daniel has 16 years of experience in the futures industry and has previously worked as a support manager, at the trade desk, and in operations.

## AMP's Business

AMP is registered with the CFTC and NFA as a Futures Commission Merchant and as a Forex Firm.

AMP has relationships with approximately 33 Introducing Brokers, including 30 Foreign Introducing Brokers.

100% of AMP's assets and capital are currently dedicated to its business as an FCM. At this time, AMP does not participate in any other business activities or product lines.

## FCM Customer Business

AMP's customers fall into the following categories: self-directed retail customers and retail managed (Letter of Direction) accounts. Largest category of customer is self-directed retail.

AMP customers' trade on the following Exchanges: CME Group Exchanges, ICE US and UK, EUREX, CFE, LIFFE, Sydney (SFE), Singapore (SGX), Hong Kong (HKEX) and Osaka Securities Exchange (OSE).

AMP uses the carrying brokers: GH Financials LLC, GH Financials Ltd., Advantage Futures, and Dorman Trading, LLC

#### **AMP Affiliate**

AMP has one affiliate in the European Union, AMP Global Ltd. It is affiliated to AMP by means of common ownership under US law. AMP Global Ltd. is an EU regulated Firm, registered and licensed to do business in all 30 EEA countries under MiFID, ESMA and MIFIR. AMP Global LTD is authorized and regulated by Cyprus Securities and Exchange Commission (CySEC).

## **Permitted Depositories and Counterparties**

Pursuant to CFTC Reg 1.11(e)(3)(i)(A) the Firm evaluates banks holding Segregated Funds based on the following criteria:

- Capitalization:
- Creditworthiness:
- Operational reliability:
- Access to liquidity:
- Availability of deposit insurance: Regulatory supervision of the depository:

The Firm selects bank counterparties that present a very low likelihood of default. The Firm bases new and on-going bank relationship based on: Money, Mechanics, and Management.

- Money: The Firm will only utilize large, national or international banks that are also approved settlement banks at a CFTC registered Derivative Clearing Organization and foreign banks owned by U.S. bank holding companies, that are also affiliates of approved settlement banks at a CFTC registered Derivative Clearing Organization.
- Mechanics: The bank must have operational capabilities sufficient for the Firm to efficiently and compliantly operate its FCM.
- Management: The Firm must have a direct and open relationship with senior account managers, and acceptable experience with the level of services provided and the customer service.

Pursuant to CFTC Reg 1.11(e)(3)(i)(F) the Firm assesses the appropriateness of specific investments of Segregated Funds in permitted investments in accordance with CFTC Reg 1.25. The Firm takes into consideration the market, credit, counterparty, operational, and liquidity risks associated with such investments, and assess whether such investments are consistent with the objectives of preserving principal and maintaining liquidity.

Acceptance Criteria have been established for the Firm's Investment of Segregated Funds. The criteria are designed to provide a baseline at which the Firm would be comfortable accepting and using the collateral to margin Customers' trading activities.

Risk Tolerance Limits are established to determine the size of investment of Customer Segregated Funds the Firm is willing to accept based on liquidity needs and marketability of the financial instruments.

The Firm's investment criteria for Segregated Funds require that each investment must be readily marketable and highly liquid. The Firm's Risk Tolerance Limit for investments of Segregated Funds is very low. As such, the Firm currently does NOT invest any Segregated Funds. AMP currently holds 100% of its customer Segregated Funds in cash or cash equivalents, and Treasury Bills of 95 days or less, which are one of the several permitted investments under CFC Regulation 1.25.

#### **Material Risks**

AMP is a privately held LLC and as such is not formally rated by any credit rating agency. In order to assure that it is in compliance with its regulatory capital requirements and that it has sufficient liquidity to meet its ongoing business obligations, AMP currently holds a 100% of its assets in cash or cash equivalents and permitted investments as described below.

#### **Material Complaints or Actions**

In the normal course of business, AMP may be named from time to time as a respondent in legal proceedings arising out of its business as an FCM. AMP may also be involved from time to time in investigations and proceedings by governmental and/or regulatory agencies or self-regulatory

organizations, which may result in adverse judgments, fines or penalties. The following summarizes material actions against AMP:

AMP settled an action by CFTC in January 2018 for \$100,000 for alleged breach of its Information Service Security Policies and Procedures, without admitting or denying the findings of the CFTC.

#### **Customer Funds Segregation Overview**

**Customer Accounts.** FCMs may maintain two different types of accounts for customers, depending on the products a customer trades:

(i) a **Customer Segregated Account** for customers that trade futures and options on futures listed on US futures exchanges;

(ii) a **30.7 Account** for customers that trade futures and options on futures listed on foreign boards of trade; and

The requirement to maintain these separate accounts reflects the different risks posed by the different products. Cash, securities and other collateral (collectively, **Customer Funds**) required to be held in one type of account, *e.g.*, the Customer Segregated Account, may not be commingled with funds required to be held in another type of account, *e.g.*, the 30.7 Account, except as the Commission may permit by order. For example, the Commission has issued orders authorizing ICE Clear Europe Limited, which is registered with the Commission as a DCO, and its FCM clearing members: (i) to hold in Cleared Swaps Customer Accounts Customer Funds used to margin both (a) Cleared Swaps and (b) foreign futures and foreign options traded on ICE Futures Europe, and to provide for portfolio margining of such Cleared Swaps and foreign options traded on ICE Futures and options on futures traded on ICE Futures US and (d) foreign futures and foreign options traded on ICE Futures Europe, and to provide for portfolio margining of such Cleareign futures and foreign options traded on ICE Futures Europe, and to provide for portfolio margining of such Cleareign futures and foreign options traded on ICE Futures Europe, and to provide for portfolio margining of such foreign futures and foreign options traded on ICE Futures Europe, and to provide for portfolio margining of such transactions.

**Customer Segregated Account.** Funds that customers deposit with an FCM, or that are otherwise required to be held for the benefit of customers, to margin futures and options on futures contracts traded on futures exchanges located in the US, *i.e.*, designated contract markets, are held in a **Customer Segregated Account** in accordance with section 4d(a)(2) of the Commodity Exchange Act and Commission Rule 1.20. **Customer Segregated Funds** held in the Customer Segregated Account may not be used to meet the obligations of the FCM or any other person, including another customer.

All Customer Segregated Funds may be commingled in a single account, *i.e.*, a customer omnibus account, and held with: (i) a bank or trust company located in the US; (ii) a bank or trust company located outside of the US that has in excess of \$1 billion of regulatory capital; (iii) an FCM; or (iv) a DCO. Such commingled account must be properly titled to make clear that the funds belong to, and are being held for the benefit of, the FCM's customers. Unless a customer provides instructions to the contrary, an FCM may hold Customer Segregated Funds only: (i) in the US; (ii) in a money center country; or (iii) in the country of origin of the currency.

An FCM must hold sufficient US dollars in the US to meet all US dollar obligations and sufficient funds in each other currency to meet obligations in such currency. Notwithstanding the foregoing,

assets denominated in a currency may be held to meet obligations denominated in another currency (other than the US dollar) as follows: (i) US dollars may be held in the US or in money center countries to meet obligations denominated in any other currency; and (ii) funds in money center currencies may be held in the US or in money center countries to meet obligations denominated in currencies other than the US dollar.

**30.7 Account.** Funds that **30.7 Customers** deposit with an FCM, or that are otherwise required to be held for the benefit of customers, to margin futures and options on futures contracts traded on foreign boards of trade, *i.e.*, **30.7 Customer Funds**, and sometimes referred to as the **foreign futures and foreign options secured amount**, are held in a **30.7 Account** in accordance with Commission Rule 30.7.

Funds required to be held in the 30.7 Account for or on behalf of 30.7 Customers may be commingled in an omnibus account and held with: (i) a bank or trust company located in the US; (ii) a bank or trust company located outside the US that has in excess of \$1 billion in regulatory capital; (iii) an FCM; (iv) a DCO; (v) the clearing organization of any foreign board of trade; (vi) a foreign broker; or (vii) such clearing organization's or foreign broker's designated depositories. Such commingled account must be properly titled to make clear that the funds belong to, and are being held for the benefit of, the FCM's 30.7 Customers. As explained below, Commission Rule 30.7 restricts the amount of such funds that may be held outside of the US.

Customers trading on foreign markets assume additional risks. Laws or regulations will vary depending on the foreign jurisdiction in which the transaction occurs, and funds held in a 30.7 Account outside of the US may not receive the same level of protection as Customer Segregated Funds. If the foreign broker carrying 30.7 Customer positions fails, the broker will be liquidated in accordance with the laws of the jurisdiction in which it is organized, which laws may differ significantly from the US Bankruptcy Code. Return of 30.7 Customer Funds to the US will be delayed and likely will be subject to the costs of administration of the failed foreign broker in accordance with the law of the applicable jurisdiction, as well as possible other intervening foreign brokers, if multiple foreign brokers were used to process the US customers' transactions on foreign markets.

If the foreign broker does not fail but the 30.7 Customers' US FCM fails, the foreign broker may want to assure that appropriate authorization has been obtained before returning the 30.7 Customer Funds to the FCM's trustee, which may delay their return. If both the foreign broker and the US FCM were to fail, potential differences between the trustee for the US FCM and the administrator for the foreign broker, each with independent fiduciary obligations under applicable law, may result in significant delays and additional administrative expenses. Use of other intervening foreign brokers by the US FCM to process the trades of 30.7 Customers on foreign markets may cause additional delays and administrative expenses.

To reduce the potential risk to 30.7 Customer Funds held outside of the US, Commission Rule 30.7 generally provides that an FCM may not deposit or hold 30.7 Customer Funds in permitted accounts outside of the US except as necessary to meet margin requirements, including prefunding margin requirements, established by rule, regulation, or order of the relevant foreign boards of trade or foreign clearing organizations, or to meet margin calls issued by foreign brokers carrying the 30.7 Customers' positions. The rule further provides, however, that, in order to avoid the daily transfer of funds from accounts in the US, an FCM may maintain in accounts located outside of the US an additional amount of up to 20 percent of the total amount of funds necessary to meet margin and prefunding margin requirements to avoid daily transfers of funds.

**Investment of Customer Funds.** Section 4d(a)(2) of the Act authorizes FCMs to invest Customer Segregated Funds in obligations of the United States, in general obligations of any State or of any political subdivision thereof, and in obligations fully guaranteed as to principal and interest by the United States. Section 4d(f) authorizes FCMs to invest Cleared Swaps Customer Collateral in similar instruments.

Commission Rule 1.25 authorizes FCMs to invest Customer Segregated Funds, Cleared Swaps Customer Collateral and 30.7 Customer Funds in instruments of a similar nature. Commission rules further provide that the FCM may retain all gains earned and is responsible for investment losses incurred in connection with the investment of Customer Funds. However, the FCM and customer may agree that the FCM will pay the customer interest on the funds deposited.

Permitted investments include:

(i) Obligations of the United States and obligations fully guaranteed as to principal and interest by the United States (U.S. government securities);

(ii) General obligations of any State or of any political subdivision thereof (municipal securities);

(iii) Obligations of any United States government corporation or enterprise sponsored by the United States government (U.S. agency obligations);

(iv) Certificates of deposit issued by a bank (certificates of deposit) as defined in section 3(a)(6) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, or a domestic branch of a foreign bank that carries deposits insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation;

(v) Commercial paper fully guaranteed as to principal and interest by the United States under the Temporary Liquidity Guarantee Program as administered by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (commercial paper);

(vi) Corporate notes or bonds fully guaranteed as to principal and interest by the United States under the Temporary Liquidity Guarantee Program as administered by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (corporate notes or bonds); and

(vii) Interests in money market mutual funds.

The duration of the securities in which an FCM invests Customer Funds cannot exceed, on average, two years.

An FCM may also engage in repurchase and reverse repurchase transactions with non-affiliated registered broker-dealers, provided such transactions are made on a delivery versus payment basis and involve only permitted investments. All funds or securities received in repurchase and reverse repurchase transactions with Customer Funds must be held in the appropriate Customer Account, *i.e.*, Customer Segregated Account or 30.7 Account. Further, in accordance with the provisions of Commission Rule 1.25, all such funds or collateral must be received in the appropriate Customer Account Account on a delivery versus payment basis in immediately available funds.

**No SIPC Protection-** It is important to understand that the funds you deposit with AMP for trading futures and options on futures contracts on either US or foreign markets are not protected by the Securities Investor Protection Corporation.

Further, Commission rules require AMP to hold funds deposited to margin futures and options on futures contracts traded on US designated contract markets in Customer Segregated Accounts. Similarly, AMP must hold funds deposited to margin futures and options on futures contracts traded on foreign boards of trade in a 30.7 Account, respectively. In computing its Customer Funds requirements under relevant Commission rules, AMP may only consider those Customer Funds actually held in the applicable Customer Accounts and may not apply free funds in an account under identical ownership but of a different classification or account type (*e.g.*, securities, Customer Segregated, 30.7) to an account's margin deficiency. In order to be used for margin purposes, the funds must actually transfer to the identically-owned under margined account.

For additional information on the protection of customer funds, please see the Futures Industry Association's "Protection of Customer Funds Frequently Asked Questions" located at <u>http://www.futuresindustry.org/downloads/PCF\_questions.pdf</u>

#### Filing a Complaint

A customer that wishes to file a complaint about AMP or one of its employees with the Commission can contact the Division of Enforcement either electronically at <u>https://forms.cftc.gov/fp/complaintform.aspx</u> or by calling the Division of Enforcement toll-free at 866-FON-CFTC (866-366-2382).

A customer that wishes to file a complaint about AMP or one of its employees with the National Futures Association electronically at <u>http://www.nfa.futures.org/basicnet/Complaint.aspx</u> or by calling NFA directly at 800-621-3570.

#### **Relevant Financial Data**

Copies of AMP's recent audited financials are available on the AMP website, at <a href="http://www.ampclearing.com/CFTCReporting.html">http://www.ampclearing.com/CFTCReporting.html</a>

The following financial data is as of October 31, 2019, the date of the latest data available:

Total Equity	\$5,693,408
Adjusted Net Capital	\$5,122,100
Excess Net Capital	\$4,122,100

Five hundred (477) customers comprise 50% of AMP's total segregated funds held for customers.

Seventeen (17) customers comprise 50% of AMP's total secured funds held for customers.

AMP does not:

• Trade proprietarily, and thus has no proprietary margin requirement;

- Entered into any principal over-the-counter transactions;
- Have any committed unsecured lines of credit (or similar short-term funding); or
- Provide financing to customer.

As a privately held company, AMP has never been formally rated by any rating agency. In 2013 the Firm sought and obtained a loan from J.P. Morgan Chase for purposes of purchasing the office space in Chicago, Illinois. The Firm continues to believe that it is creditworthy and has no reason to believe that it would not be able to obtain additional credit in the event it chose to seek it.

Additional financial information on all FCMs is also available on the Commission's website at:

#### http://www.cftc.gov/MarketReports/financialfcmdata/index.htm

Customers should be aware that the National Futures Association (NFA) publishes on its website certain financial information with respect to each FCM. The FCM Capital Report provides each FCM's most recent month-end adjusted net capital, required net capital, and excess net capital. (Information for a twelve-month period is available.) In addition, NFA publishes twice-monthly a Customer Segregated Funds report, which shows for each FCM: (i) total funds held in Customer Segregated Accounts; (ii) total funds required to be held in Customer Segregated Accounts; and (iii) excess segregated funds, *i.e.*, the FCM's Residual Interest. This report also shows the percentage of Customer Segregated Funds that are held in cash or cash equivalents, and each of the permitted investments under Commission Rule 1.25. Finally, the report indicates whether the FCM held any Customer Segregated Funds during that month at a depository that is an affiliate of the FCM.

The report shows the most recent semi-monthly information, but the public will also have the ability to see information for the most recent twelve-month period. A 30.7 Customer Funds report provides the same information with respect to the 30.7 Account.

The above financial information reports can be found by conducting a search for a specific FCM in NFA's BASIC system (<u>http://www.nfa.futures.org/basicnet/</u>) and then clicking on "View Financial Information" on the FCM's BASIC Details page.

#### **Summary of AMP's Risk Practices and Controls**

AMP's senior management continuously monitors and addresses the following risks: market, credit, segregation, capital & liquidity and operational & technology. AMP adheres to a "risk management program" mandated by the CFTC to properly protect customer and firm funds as well as maintaining sound business practices and controls.

#### This Disclosure Document is effective as of December 9, 2019