

Information Regarding Negative Futures Contract Prices and Index Levels in S&P Dow Jones Indices

NEW YORK, APRIL 21, 2020: S&P Dow Jones Indices (“S&P DJI”) is providing the following guidance on how zero and negative futures contract prices and index levels are handled. Based on market conditions, there is a possibility that an intraday price or official settlement for a futures contract may be zero or negative.

Zero and Negative Contract Prices: In the event a futures contract on a physical commodity (e.g. Crude Oil) trades or settles at or below zero, the zero or negative value of that futures contract will be used in the calculation of all impacted indices for both real-time and end-of-day calculations.

Zero and Negative Index Levels: A negative index level is possible for certain types of indices including hedged, long/short, inverse and leveraged indices, particularly for inverse indices that apply leverage.

- In the event an intraday index calculation results in a zero or negative value, S&P DJI will publish the zero or negative value as calculated.
- In the event an end-of-day index calculation results in a zero value or negative value, S&P DJI will publish an official closing index value of zero on that day. Index levels will only be assessed after the close of trading for purposes of this determination and will not take into consideration intraday levels for those indices calculated in real-time.

Any index assigned an official closing level of zero will be reviewed by the Index Committee to determine if the index will be discontinued or if the index will be restarted with a new base value. In the event the index is restarted, S&P DJI will announce such action and will treat these indices as two separate time series. Until the Index Committee has made this determination, the intraday and end-of-day index level will continue to be published with a value of zero.

Exception to Zero or Negative Index Levels: For unlevered long only indices, if a zero or negative index value was a direct result of one or more of the underlying futures contracts trading at or below zero, the policy above will not apply. S&P DJI will publish the zero or negative index level as the official close value and continue to calculate the impacted index going forward.

Please note: The Index Committee is still reviewing the roll process in the event the roll-in and/or roll-out contract has a negative settlement price. S&P DJI will provide additional guidance on this when a decision has been made.

ABOUT S&P DOW JONES INDICES

S&P Dow Jones Indices is the largest global resource for essential index-based concepts, data and research, and home to iconic financial market indicators, such as the S&P 500® and the Dow Jones Industrial Average®. More assets are invested in products based on our indices than products based on indices from any other provider in the world. Since Charles Dow invented the first index in 1884, S&P DJI has been innovating and developing indices across the spectrum of asset classes helping to define the way investors measure and trade the markets.

S&P Dow Jones Indices is a division of S&P Global (NYSE: SPGI), which provides essential intelligence for individuals, companies and governments to make decisions with confidence. For more information, visit www.spdji.com.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

S&P Dow Jones Indices

index_services@spglobal.com