

# EQUINITI FINANCIAL SERVICES LIMITED BEST INTERESTS POLICY

This policy applies to orders received and transmitted by Equiniti Financial Services Limited ('Equiniti') for its postal share dealing service including shareholder programmes and trades placed by automated telephone instruction (ATI); Dividend Reinvestment Plan (DRIP); and executive option dealing.

## Scope

We provide a service which involves receiving client orders in relation to shares and other financial instruments and transmitting these orders to other entities for execution. We do not execute orders ourselves. When selecting entities to provide execution services and transmitting orders to them on your behalf, we will comply with the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) rules and take all reasonable steps to ensure that the best possible result for you is achieved taking into account various execution criteria and factors. Our approach to obtaining the best possible result for you is set out in this policy (which summarises our relevant internal arrangements and policies).

### **Execution Criteria and Factors**

When selecting entities to provide execution services in relation to your orders, the most important factors that the FCA rules require us to take into account are price and costs (total consideration). However, in certain circumstances, we also have to take into account other factors such as speed, likelihood of execution and settlement, size or any other considerations that are deemed relevant for the purpose of executing your order, which for us includes the convenience to you provided by the execution service.

When dealing with or executing your orders, the entities selected by us will take the above factors into account, but their choice of how to deal with or execute your order may also be affected by the following:

- The actual shares or other financial instruments involved and the execution venues upon which the order may be executed in accordance with their order execution policy: and
- The fact that your order may be aggregated by us with orders from a number of other clients (in accordance with our terms and conditions).

## **Execution Venues and Process**

An execution venue is a regulated market, Multilateral Trading Facility (MTF), or systematic internaliser or other liquidity provider (i.e. an off-exchange dealer). Your order will be executed on these execution venues by or through the entity to whom we transmit your order.

Orders will normally be dealt on a venue that is a regulated market but venues other than regulated markets and MTFs may be used as execution venues.

The entities through which we route the majority of our client orders are listed within the Appendix to this document. We have selected these entities on the basis of their best

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execution policy (how they achieve the best possible result for you taking into account the execution criteria and execution factors described above), their financial soundness (to protect your interests) and our experience of dealing with them over time and other relevant factors, where appropriate. Each entity has undertaken to obtain the best possible result for the execution of our client orders. Generally, we will select one entity to execute the orders in one Dividend Reinvestment Plan or share dealing scheme, although we may change the entity used at any time, if appropriate, for example if an entity cannot complete a deal on a timely basis.

We may add entities to the list in the Appendix, provided they satisfy the criteria set out above. Entities may be deleted at any time if we consider that using them would not provide the best possible result for you or this is otherwise appropriate.

## **Specific Instructions**

Where we receive a specific instruction from you in relation to your order, we may, at our discretion transmit that order in line with those specific instructions. You should be aware that by following your specific instructions, we will be deemed to have taken all reasonable steps to achieve the best possible result for you even though we have not acted in accordance with this policy and our internal arrangements and policies when following your specific instructions. We will continue to act in your best interests at all times and, to the extent that we are able, follow this policy and our internal arrangements and policies for all aspects of the order not specified by you.

# **Monitoring and Review**

We will frequently monitor the effectiveness of our internal arrangements and policies to determine whether the entities we are directing orders to are delivering the best possible result. We will review these arrangements and policies at least annually and whenever a material change occurs that affects our ability to continue to obtain the best possible result for you using the entities included in this policy. Records relating to the implementation of this policy will be retained by Equiniti for a period of not less than 5 years.

#### **Further Queries**

If you have any further queries, please write to us at

Equiniti
Aspect House
Spencer Road
Lancing
West Sussex
BN99 6DA

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## **APPENDIX**

#### **ENTITIES TO WHOM WE TRANSMIT ORDERS**

## **Entities**

Arden Partners Plc

Barclays Capital Securities Limited

BMO Capital Markets Limited

Canaccord Genuity Limited

Cantor Fitzgerald Europe

Cenkos Securities Plc

Credit Suisse Securities (Europe) Limited

Deutsche Bank AG London Branch

Finncap Limited

Goldman Sachs International

Goodbody Stockbrokers

ING Bank N.V.

Investec Bank Plc

J&E Davy

Jefferies International Limited

JP Morgan Securities Plc

KCG Europe Limited

Liberum Capital Limited

Lloyds Bank Plc

Macquarie Capital (Europe) Limited

Merrill Lynch International

Novum Securities Limited

Nplus1 Singer Capital Markets Limited

Numis Securities Limited

Panmure Gordon (UK) Limited

Peel Hunt LLP

**RBC** Europe Limited

RIA Capital Markets Ltd

SG Option Europe SA

Shore Capital Stockbrokers Limited

Speirs & Jeffrey Limited

Stifel Nicolaus Europe Limited

Susquehanna International Group Limited

The Royal Bank of Scotland Plc

**UBS** Limited

Westhouse Securities Limited

WH Ireland Limited

Winterflood Securities Limited

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