

#### **Informational Circular**

IC-2020-35

TO: **BOX Options Participants** 

FROM: **BOX Market Operations Center** SUBJECT: Fee Change - January 2021

DATE: **December 31, 2020** 

Effective January 4, 2021, BOX Options ("BOX") is removing Section III (Liquidity Fees and Credits) of the BOX Fee Schedule and establishing Break-Up Credits in (1) Section I.B (PIP and COPIP Transactions); (2) Section I.C (Facilitation and Solicitation Transactions); and (3) Section I.C.2 (Strategy Order Facilitation and Solicitation Transactions). BOX is redistributing the fees and rebates outlined in current Section III to the appropriate places within the respective fee structures discussed above. The changes will be as follows:

### **PIP and COPIP Transactions<sup>2</sup>**

	PIP and COPIP Orders <sup>3</sup>			Improvement Orders <sup>4</sup>			PIP and COPIP Break-Up Credit		
Account Type	Penny Interval Classes	Non-Penny Interval Classes	SPY <sup>5</sup>	Penny Interval Classes	Non-Penny Interval Classes	SPY	Penny Interval Classes	Non-Penny Interval Classes	SPY
Public Customer	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.49	\$0.96	\$0.50	(\$0.34)*	(\$0.81)*	(\$0.45)***
Professional Customer or Broker Dealer	\$0.05	\$0.05	\$0.05	\$0.50	\$1.15	\$0.50	(\$0.34)**	(\$0.81)**	(\$0.45)***
Market Maker	\$0.05	\$0.05	\$0.05	\$0.50	\$1.15	\$0.50	(\$0.34)**	(\$0.81)**	(\$0.45)***

<sup>\*</sup>The Public Customer PIP or COPIP Order will receive the PIP and COPIP Break-Up Credit.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Pending regulatory approval.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Transactions executed through Price Improvement Period ("PIP") and the Complex Order Price Improvement Period ("COPIP") auction mechanisms. All COPIP transactions will be charged per contract per leg.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> A PIP Order or COPIP Order is a Customer Order (an agency order for the account of either a customer or a brokerdealer) designated for the PIP or COPIP, respectively.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> An Improvement Order is a response to a PIP or COPIP auction.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Options contracts overlying the Standard and Poor's Depositary Receipts Trust ("SPY").

- \*\*If a Non-Public Customer PIP or COPIP Order does not trade with its Primary Improvement Order, the Primary Improvement Order shall receive the Break-Up Credit of \$0.34 for Penny Interval Classes or \$0.81 for Non-Penny Interval Classes.
- \*\*\*SPY PIP and COPIP Orders submitted to the PIP and COPIP mechanisms that do not trade with their Primary Improvement Order shall receive the Break-Up Credit.

### Facilitation and Solicitation Transactions<sup>6</sup>

	Agency Order <sup>7</sup>		Facilitation Order or Solicit		Solicitation	Responses in the olicitation or Facilitation Auction Mechanisms		Facilitation and Solicitation Break-Up Credit	
Account Type	Penny Interval Classes	Non-Penny Interval Classes	Penny Interval Classes	Non-Penny Interval Classes	Penny Interval Classes	Non-Penny Interval Classes	Penny Interval Classes	Non-Penny Interval Classes	
Public Customer	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.50	\$1.15	(\$0.25)*	(\$0.75)*	
Professional Customer or Broker Dealer	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.15	\$0.15	\$0.50	\$1.15	(\$0.25)*	(\$0.75)*	
Market Maker	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.15	\$0.15	\$0.50	\$1.15	(\$0.25)*	(\$0.75)*	

<sup>\*</sup>Agency Orders submitted to the Facilitation and Solicitation mechanisms that do not trade with their contra order shall receive the Break-Up Credit.

# **Strategy Order Facilitation and Solicitation Transactions**

	Agency Order		Facilitation Order or Solicitation Order		Responses in the Solicitation or Facilitation Auction Mechanisms		Strategy Order Facilitation or Solicitation Break-Up Credit	
Account Type	Penny Interval Classes	Non-Penny Interval Classes	Penny Interval Classes	Non-Penny Interval Classes	Penny Interval Classes	Non-Penny Interval Classes	Penny Interval Classes	Non-Penny Interval Classes
Public Customer	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.50	\$1.15	(\$0.25)*	(\$0.75)*

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Transactions executed through the Solicitation Auction mechanism and Facilitation Auction mechanism.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> An Agency Order is a block-size order that an Order Flow Provider seeks to facilitate as agent through the Facilitation Auction or Solicitation Auction mechanism.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Facilitation and Solicitation Orders are the matching contra orders submitted on the opposite side of the Agency Order.

Professional Customer	\$0.10	\$0.10	\$0.10	\$0.10	\$0.50	\$1.15	(\$0.25)*	(\$0.75)*
Broker Dealer	\$0.25	\$0.25	\$0.25	\$0.25	\$0.50	\$1.15	(\$0.25)*	(\$0.75)*
Market Maker	\$0.25	\$0.25	\$0.25	\$0.25	\$0.50	\$1.15	(\$0.25)*	(\$0.75)*

<sup>\*</sup> Agency Orders submitted to the Facilitation and Solicitation mechanisms that do not trade with their contra order shall receive the Break-Up Credit.

## **Primary Improvement Order**

BOX is also amending Primary Improvement Order percentage thresholds and fees. The Primary Improvement Order fee structure will be as follows:

Tier	Percentage Thresholds of National Customer Volume in Multiply-Listed Options Classes (Monthly)	Per Contract Fee (All Account Types)
1	0.000% - 0.449%	\$0.05
2	0.450% and Above	\$0.02

## **Complete Fee Schedule**

The complete BOX fee schedule is available on the BOX website at <a href="http://boxoptions.com/fee-schedule/">http://boxoptions.com/fee-schedule/</a>.

### **Contact**

Please contact the Market Operations Center at (866) 768-8845 or by e-mail at <a href="mailto:BOXMOC@boxoptions.com">BOXMOC@boxoptions.com</a> should you require additional information.