

# **Best Execution and Client Order Handling Policy**

### **General**

In accordance with its regulatory obligations Hogg Capital Investments Limited ("the Company", "HCI") is required to establish and implement an Order Execution Policy (the Policy) which ensures it obtains the best possible result for its clients when dealing in financial instruments.

Based upon the interpretation, specifically of Chapter 5 – "Execution of Clients Orders" – of the Conduct of Business Rulebook issued by the Malta Financial Services Authority ("MFSA") the Company is required to take all reasonable steps to obtain the best possible result (or "best execution") on behalf of Retail and Professional Clients, either when executing client Orders or receiving and transmitting Orders for execution. We are also required to provide a summary to Retail and Professional Clients of our order execution policy and obtain your consent to such policy. Requests for further information should be directed to our Compliance Department.

### **Purpose**

HCI shall be entitled to act on your instructions to execute and/or place orders on your behalf in any Investment Instrument, as permissioned by the Malta Financial Services Authority ("MFSA") and as set out on the MFSA website (www.mfsa.com.mt) –Licence Holders under the Hogg Capital Investments Limited - entry IS18954, and be entitled to provide investment advice and dealing services in connection with such Instruments.

The execution policy of Hogg Capital Investments Limited ("the Company", "HCI") is contained in the Company's Terms and Conditions of the Business (extracts detailed below in Appendix 1), to which each investing client - retail, professional or eligible counterparty - is required to subscribe to.

The execution policy explains the criteria, process, factors and venues for execution.

### Scope

Our order execution policy applies to the Company's Retail and Professional clients and in such Financial Instruments as is permissioned by the MFSA, whether by executing orders "on a client's behalf" or transmitting them to a third-party firm for execution. Irrespective of the client classifications we always endeavour to achieve best execution on a consistent basis.

# **Aggregation of Orders**

We may combine your Order with that of another client if we reasonably believe that it is likely that the aggregation will work more to your advantage overall than if your Order had been carried out separately, but the effect of the aggregation may operate on some occasions to your disadvantage.

Where we combine client orders and the aggregated Order is partially executed, we will allocate pro-rata the related trades to clients.

### **Order execution**

Subject to any specific instructions that may be given by you, when executing Orders on your behalf we will take all reasonable steps to obtain the best possible result for you taking into account the execution factors listed below. We will determine the relative importance of the execution factors by using our commercial judgement and experience in light of market information available and taking into account the execution criteria also described below.



In the case of a client limit order in respect of shares admitted to trading on a regulated market which are not immediately executed under prevailing market conditions, HCI is, unless the client expressly instructs otherwise, to take measures to facilitate the earliest possible execution of that order by making public immediately that client limit order in a manner which is easily accessible to other market participants.

### **Execution factors**

In undertaking a transaction on your behalf we will consider the following factors:

Your characteristics, especially when classified as a Retail Client The characteristics of the financial instrument we are to deal in Where the proposed transaction will be carried out.

These factors will importantly comprise:

- a. Price
- b. Costs
- c. Speed and likelihood of completion of execution and settlement
- d. Size of the order
- e. Nature of the order

When dealing in a financial instrument on your behalf we will exercise our professional discretion is assessing the means to achieve best execution.

The best possible result will be determined in terms of the total consideration, representing the price of the Financial Instrument and the costs related to its transaction. Speed, likelihood of execution and settlement, the size and nature of the order, its possible market impact and any other implicit transaction costs will be given precedence over the immediate price and cost consideration only insofar as they are instrumental in delivering the best possible result in terms of the total consideration to you.

**Such result will be achievable where market liquidity is deep enough** in an instrument at any one time to accommodate the entire order and where the client order is within normal market size. Partial fills will be treated by us as subject to best execution in their entirety, not their component parts.

### **Specific client instructions**

You should be aware that providing specific instructions to us in relation to the execution of a particular Order may prevent us from taking the steps set out in our order execution policy to obtain the best possible result in respect of the elements covered by those instructions.

Where you give us a specific instruction as to the execution of an Order, we will place and/or execute the Order in accordance with those specific instructions. We reserve the right however to refuse specific instructions from you where in our opinion such instructions are not practicable or may be contrary to your best interests.

# Transmission of orders through third parties: relationship with external brokerage firms

HCI has entered into agreements with various regulated stock brokerage firms and liquidity providers whereby these firms have agreed to provide HCI with execution-only dealing, clearing and settlement, safe custody and associated services, respectively in various financial instruments and in international securities and they are similarly subject to the requirements of Article 21 of the MiFID Directive with regard to best execution.



HCI will transmit client orders for execution to a third party. The Company will take all reasonable steps to ensure the placement of clients' orders with third parties remains within the scope of this policy and is faithful to its Overarching Best Execution Requirement referred to above and on the basis of the criteria summarised below:

- a. The quality and scope of the services offered.
- b. Price and execution certainty.
- c. Transparency and reliability
- d. The technological equipment and IT structure employed in the execution, settlement and where necessary, the custody of said orders.
- e. The third-party institution's reputation within the market.
- f. Pricing and overall transaction costs, including ongoing management, performance and custody fees where relevant.

### **Execution Venues**

Execution Venues, detailed below, comprise those Execution Venues on which we place significant reliance. We reserve the right to use other Execution Venues policy and we may add or remove any Execution Venues as we may deem appropriate. We will regularly assess the Execution Venues available in respect of any Financial Instruments that we trade to identify those that will enable us, on a consistent basis, to obtain the best possible result when transmitting and/or executing orders. The list of Execution Venues will then be updated, where necessary, following such assessment.

### **Selecting an Execution Venue**

Subject to the above and to any specific instructions that may be given by in order to select an Execution Venue for an Order we will use the following methodology:

When carrying out Orders on a Regulated Market or MTF (Multilateral Trading Facility - is a multilateral system, operated by an investment firm or a market operator, which brings together multiple third-party buying and selling interests in financial instruments which can be assimilated to alternative trading exchanges) we will select the Execution Venue that we consider the most appropriate. The Execution Venue may be the Regulated Market or MTF itself, or a member firm of the Regulated Market or MTF.

For a Financial Instrument admitted to trading on a Regulated Market or MTF, where we believe that we can trade to your advantage or at no disadvantage to you, we may transmit an Order to, or execute an Order on, an Execution Venue that is outside a Regulated Market or MTF.

For a Financial Instrument not admitted to trading on a Regulated Market or MTF, we will select the Execution Venue that we consider the most appropriate.

Where we believe that we can trade to your advantage or at no disadvantage to you, HCI may be used as the Execution Venue.

Some Financial Instruments may have only one possible Execution Venue. In carrying out an Order on your behalf in such circumstances, it will be assumed that we have achieved best execution.

### **Execution Methodology**

Having assessed the relevant criteria and any specific instructions provided by you, we will select the most appropriate venue(s) from those available and execute your order accordingly.

1. HCI is a member of the Malta Stock Exchange. Orders in securities listed on this exchange will be executed by the Company.



- 2. Clients' orders in both listed and unlisted international securities will be placed with external licensed financial institutions with whom the Company has in place agreements regarding the receipt and transmission of orders.
- 3. The Company will execute orders in collective investment schemes / UCITS either directly with the fund manager or place the order through a third party for execution.
- 4. Via its Tier1FX online brokerage services the Company will trade in a range of derivatives including but not limited to currency, equity, commodity and interest rate instruments. Derivative types will include but are not limited to contracts for differences and spot rolling foreign exchange contracts, and will normally be traded Over-The-Counter ("OTC"). Client orders will be placed with external licensed financial institutions with whom the Company has in place agreements regarding the receipt and transmission of orders, and where the choice of these institutions is reflective of the best execution criteria of the external brokerages summarised above.\*
- \* Market volatility combined with rapid price changes is a normal and regular occurrence within OTC markets, and may result in positive or negative slippage the difference between the expected price of a trade and the price the trade actually executes at. In the absence of specific price limits being set, Tier1FX's automated order transmission systems are equally subject to positive or negative market slippage.

# Monitoring and reviewing

We will monitor compliance with our order execution policy. We will review our order execution arrangements and policy regularly and whenever a material change occurs that affects our ability to continue to obtain the best possible result for our clients. We will notify you of any material changes to our execution arrangements.

You may request that we demonstrate that we have carried out your Orders in accordance with our execution policy.

### Consent

We are required by the Investment Services Rules of the MFSA to obtain your prior consent to our order execution policy. You will be deemed to provide such consent when you first give an Order after receipt of these Terms.

HCI reserves the right to alter these terms at any time, upon giving prior notice unless it is impracticable in the circumstances to give such notice.



Details of the Company's most significant counterparties/venues

Equity	Bonds	Cash	Exchange Traded Derivatives (Execution Broker)	OTC Derivatives	FX
Malta Stock Exchange	Malta Stock Exchange	Malta Stock Exchange	Advanced Markets Ltd	Advanced Markets Ltd	Western Union
Charles Stanley & Co.	Charles Stanley & Co.	Bank of Valletta plc	Dukascopy Bank SA	Dukascopy Bank SA	
Brewin Dolphin	Brewin Dolphin	Spakasse Bank Malta plc	XNT Ltd	XNT Ltd	
MeDirect Malta plc	MeDirect Malta plc	Advanced Markets Ltd	Interactive Brokers Ltd	Interactive Brokers Ltd	
XNT Limited		Charles Stanley & Co.			
		Brewin Dolphin			



# HOGG CAPITAL INVESTMENTS LIMITED - MIFID II RTS 28 Report

		Period start	01/01/2018	Period end	31/12/2018
Class of Client Class of Instrument	Professional Contracts for Differe	ences			
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)	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
Advanced Markets Ltd	78.60	91.96	10.47	89.53	0
549300BXBTDE4E4IRS06 Dukascopy Bank 549300F3NXLZ70VTRJ09	21.21	5.92	0	0	0
LMAX Broker Ltd 213800FIDYGIQ9SJPK78	0.19	2.12	4.25	95.75	0
Class of Client Class of Instrument	Professional Debt instruments, B	londs			
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)	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
Malta Stock Exchange 5299009CKES2S5E3YG94	100	100	100	0	0
		711111111111111111111111111111111111111			***************************************
	Professional Equities - Tick size li	quidity bands 1 and 2	(from 0 to 79 trad	es per day)	
Class of Instrument Notification if <1 average trade per		quidity bands 1 and 2	(from 0 to 79 trad	es per day)	
Class of Client Class of Instrument Notification if <1 average trade per business day in the previous year Fop five execution venues ranked in terms of trading volumes (descending	Equities - Tick size li	quidity bands 1 and 2  Proportion of orders executed as percentage of total in that class	(from 0 to 79 trad Percentage of passive orders	es per day)  Percentage of aggressive orders	Percentage of directed orders

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Class of Instrument	Professional Equities - Tick size li	quidity bands 3 and 4	(from 80 to 1999	trades per day)			
Notification if <1 average trade per business day in the previous year	Y						
Top five execution venues ranked in terms of trading volumes (descending order)	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		
XNT Ltd	99.46	58.61	0	0	O		
635400MMGYK7HLRQGV31 Linear Investments Ltd 213800GNOS9QQ31DCK54	0.54	41.39	0	0	0		
Class of Client Class of Instrument	Professional Equities - Tick size liquidity bands 5 and 6 (from 2000 trades per day)						
Notification if <1 average trade per business day in the previous year	Y						
Top five execution venues ranked in terms of trading volumes (descending order)	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		
XNT Ltd 635400MMGYK7HLRQGV31	100	100	0	0	0		
Class of Client Class of Instrument Notification if <1 average trade per	Retail Contracts for Differ	ences					
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Class of Instrument Notification if <1 average trade per pusiness day in the previous year Top five execution venues ranked in erms of trading volumes (descending	Contracts for Differe	Proportion of orders executed as percentage of total in that class	Percentage of passive orders	Percentage of aggressive orders	Percentage of directed orders		
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Class of Instrument Notification if <1 average trade per	Proportion of volume traded as a percentage of total in that class  96  3  1  Retail Debt instruments, E	Proportion of orders executed as percentage of total in that class  98  1	Percentage of passive orders  10 0 5	aggressive orders 90 0	directed orders  0 0		
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Class of Client Class of Instrument	Retail Equities - Tick size liquidity bands 1 and 2 (from 0 to 79 trades per day)						
Notification if <1 average trade per ousiness day in the previous year	Y						
Top five execution venues ranked in erms of trading volumes (descending order)	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		
Malta Stock Exchange 5299009CKES2S5E3YG94	100	100	0	0	0		
	Retail Equities - Tick size li	quidity bands 3 and 4	4 (from 80 to 1999)	trades per day)			
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Class of Instrument  Notification if <1 average trade per ousiness day in the previous year  Top five execution venues ranked in terms of trading volumes (descending	Equities - Tick size li	quidity bands 3 and 4  Proportion of orders executed as percentage of total in that class		trades per day)  Percentage of aggressive orders	Percentage of directed orders		
Class of Instrument Notification if <1 average trade per	Proportion of volume traded as a percentage of total	Proportion of orders executed as percentage of total	s Percentage of	Percentage of	Percentage of directed orders		

Class of Client Class of Instrument Notification if <1 average trade per	Retail Equities - Tick size liquidity bands 5 and 6 (from 2000 trades per day)					
business day in the previous year	T					
Top five execution venues ranked in terms of trading volumes (descending order)	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	

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5th April 2019

### Order Execution Quality Report - 2018

In accordance with MiFID II – RTS 28 reporting, which came into effect on  $3^{rd}$  January 2018, we are required to make public on an annual basis the Company's top five execution venues in terms of trading volumes for the preceding year. This information has been disclosed for each class of financial instrument, as is detailed below.

The following text represents the additional requirement to provide you with information on the quality of the execution obtained over this same period of time.

As a client you rely on us to protect your interests when completing a transaction in accordance with your instructions and in relation to the factors detailed below. This is encapsulated within our Order Execution Policy which is available from the Hogg Capital and Tier1FX websites.

When placing and/or executing client orders we prioritise the following factors:

- a) Price: for most liquid financial instruments market price will be the overriding factor in attaining best execution.
- b) Cost: execution venues may carry additional charges (such as exchange fees example: overseas brokerage costs, or settlement/custody costs) impacting the total consideration for a client transaction and therefore representing the most important factor in attaining best execution.
- c) Speed: speed of execution can be important for some types of order or client; it will be a high priority for a Retail Client placing/executing an order in liquid (frequently traded) securities in a fast-moving market.
- d) Liquidity: the ability to execute an order due to illiquid market conditions or the relative size of the order itself may take precedence over other execution factors.
- e) Order size: among other factors this will include minimum fill transactions where a clients' order will fall short of the required transaction size. The opposite may similarly apply. In both cases, execution of a transaction will very likely override the previously detailed price, cost and speed factors.
- f) Other considerations: we will take into account other execution factors which we believe may warrant consideration in terms of how a client order should be executed.

We will only transact your orders on a regulated market and/or place your orders with a licenced financial intermediary within a strongly regulated jurisdiction. The dealing decisions we make will be with the sole purpose of realising the transaction as quickly and as efficiently as possible and at the lowest total consideration to the client, irrespective of whether said client is classified a Retail Investor or a Professional Investor.

We are a licensed agency broker and in the main we do not act as a counterparty to any of our clients' orders. Where we do on occasion act as riskless principal to a transaction it is done solely for the purposes of facilitating its completion and is executed at a price prevailing at the time this occurs.

The Company does not presently have any close links, conflicts of interest or common ownership with any execution venues, and it does not receive any payments or non-monetary benefits for directing trades to a specific venue.

The financial strength and performance of our Execution Venues are monitored on an ongoing basis.

Hogg Capital Investments Limited is today a predominantly non-advisory investment brokerage that principally comprises various online dealing platforms via its Tier1FX division. These platforms principally trade contracts for differences. The Company nevertheless still retains a significant traditional advisory and dealing presence in direct securities, both locally and overseas, and is a member of the Malta Stock Exchange. The Company therefore comprises distinct business streams employing different procedures when meeting its best execution responsibilities. These procedures nevertheless have and will continue to adhere to the Company's order execution policy, as summarised above, and as detailed in the accompanying data tables.

The data we have provided represents the investment business we have executed and/or received and placed for our clients. The information provided has been compiled on a best endeavours' basis and contains various assumptions in determining whether said business represented passive or aggressive orders. The Company can categorically confirm that it did not receive any directed orders and it can confirm that the accompanying tables are a true general representation of its flow of business activity and the manner of execution.