

FTSE Custom Synthetic Fixed Dividend Index Series

v1.5

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Section 1

Introduction

1. Introduction

1.1 The FTSE Custom Synthetic Fixed Dividend Index Series is designed to reflect the total return less a fixed percentage (decrement) performance of the underlying FTSE Synthetic Index.

1.2 The FTSE Custom Synthetic Fixed Dividend Index Series does not take account of ESG factors in its index design.

1.3 FTSE Russell

FTSE Russell is a trading name of FTSE International Limited, Frank Russell Company, FTSE Global Debt Capital Markets Limited (and its subsidiary FTSE Global Debt Capital Markets Inc.), FTSE Fixed Income LLC, FTSE (Beijing) Consulting Limited.

1.3.1 FTSE Russell hereby notifies users of the index series that it is possible that circumstances, including external events beyond the control of FTSE Russell, may necessitate changes to, or the cessation of, the index series and therefore, any financial contracts or other financial instruments that reference the index series should be able to withstand, or otherwise address the possibility of changes to, or cessation of, the index series.

1.3.2 Index users who choose to follow this index series or to buy products that claim to follow this index series should assess the merits of the index's rules-based methodology and take independent investment advice before investing their own or client funds. No liability whether as a result of negligence or otherwise is accepted by FTSE Russell for any losses, damages, claims and expenses suffered by any person as a result of:

- any reliance on these Ground Rules, and/or
- any inaccuracies in these Ground Rules, and/or
- any non-application or misapplication of the policies or procedures described in these Ground Rules, and/or
- any inaccuracies in the compilation of the Index or any constituent data.

Section 2

Management responsibilities

2. Management responsibilities

2.1 FTSE International Limited (FTSE)

2.1.1 FTSE is the benchmark administrator of the index series¹.

2.1.2 FTSE is responsible for the daily calculation, production and operation of the FTSE Custom Synthetic Fixed Dividend Index Series and will:

- maintain records of the index weightings of all constituents;
- make changes to the constituents and their weightings in accordance with the Ground Rules;
- disseminate the index.

2.2 Amendments to these Ground Rules

2.2.1 These Ground Rules shall be subject to regular review (at least once a year) by FTSE Russell to ensure that they best reflect the aim of the index series. Any proposals for significant amendments to these Ground Rules will be subject to consultation with FTSE Russell advisory committees and other stakeholders if appropriate. The feedback from these consultations will be considered by the FTSE Russell Product Governance Board before approval is granted.

2.2.2 As provided for in the Statement of Principles for FTSE Russell Equity Indices, where FTSE Russell determines that the Ground Rules are silent or do not specifically and unambiguously apply to the subject matter of any decision, any decision shall be based as far as practical on the Statement of Principles. After making any such determination, FTSE Russell shall advise the market of its decision at the earliest opportunity. Any such treatment will not be considered as an exception or change to the Ground Rules, or to set a precedent for future action, but FTSE Russell will consider whether the Ground Rules should subsequently be updated to provide greater clarity.

¹ The term administrator is used in this document in the same sense as it is defined in Regulation (EU) 2016/1011 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 8 June 2016 on indices used as benchmarks in financial instruments and financial contracts or to measure the performance of investment funds (the European Benchmark Regulation) and The Benchmarks (Amendment and Transitional Provision) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 (the UK Benchmark Regulation).

Section 3

FTSE Russell index policies

3. FTSE Russell index policies

These Ground Rules should be read in conjunction with the following policy documents which can be accessed using the links below:

3.1 Corporate Actions and Events Guide

3.1.1 Full details of changes to constituent companies due to corporate actions and events can be accessed in the Corporate Actions and Events Guide using the following link:

[Corporate Actions and Events Guide for Non Market Cap Weighted Indices.pdf](#)

3.2 Statement of Principles for FTSE Russell Equity Indices (the Statement of Principles)

3.2.1 Indices need to keep abreast of changing markets and the Ground Rules cannot anticipate every eventuality. Where the Ground Rules do not fully cover a specific event or development, FTSE Russell will determine the appropriate treatment by reference to the Statement of Principles which summarises the ethos underlying FTSE Russell's approach to index construction. The Statement of Principles is reviewed annually and any changes proposed by FTSE Russell are presented to the FTSE Russell Policy Advisory Board for discussion before approval by the FTSE Russell Product Governance Board.

The Statement of Principles can be accessed using the following link:

[Statement of Principles.pdf](#)

3.3 Queries and Complaints

3.3.1 FTSE Russell's complaints procedure can be accessed using the following link:

[Benchmark Determination Complaints Handling Policy.pdf](#)

3.4 Index Policy for Trading Halts and Market Closures

3.4.1 Guidance for the treatment of index changes in the event of trading halts or market closures can be found using the following link:

[Index Policy for Trading Halts and Market Closures.pdf](#)

3.5 Index Policy in the Event Clients are Unable to Trade a Market or a Security

3.5.1 Details of FTSE Russell's treatment can be accessed using the following link:

[Index Policy in the Event Clients are Unable to Trade a Market or a Security.pdf](#)

3.6 Recalculation Policy and Guidelines

3.6.1 Where an inaccuracy is identified, FTSE Russell will follow the steps set out in the FTSE Russell Index Recalculation Guidelines when determining whether an index or index series should be recalculated and/or associated data products reissued. Users of the FTSE AIM Index Series will be notified through appropriate media.

For further information refer to the FTSE Russell Recalculation Policy and Guidelines document which is available from the FTSE Russell website using the link below or by contacting info@ftserussell.com.

[Index Recalculation Policy and Guidelines Equity Indices.pdf](#)

3.7 Policy for Benchmark Methodology Changes

3.7.1 Details of FTSE Russell's policy for making benchmark methodology changes can be accessed using the following link:

[Policy for Benchmark Methodology Changes.pdf](#)

3.8 FTSE Russell Governance Framework

3.8.1 To oversee its indices, FTSE Russell employs a governance framework that encompasses product, service and technology governance. The framework incorporates the London Stock Exchange Group's three lines of defence risk management framework and is designed to meet the requirements of the IOSCO Principles for Financial Benchmarks², the European benchmark regulation³ and the UK benchmark regulation⁴. The FTSE Russell Governance Framework can be accessed using the following link:

[FTSE Russell Governance Framework.pdf](#)

3.9 Real Time Status Definitions

3.9.1 For indices that are calculated in real time, please refer to the following guide for details of real time status definitions:

[Real Time Status Definitions.pdf](#)

² IOSCO Principles for Financial Benchmarks Final Report, FR07/13 July 2013

³ Regulation (EU) 2016/1011 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 8 June 2016 on indices used as benchmarks in financial instruments and financial contracts or to measure the performance of investment funds

⁴ The Benchmarks (Amendment and Transitional Provision) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019

Section 4

Available decrement indices

4. Available indices

4.1 The following decrement indices are available:

Decrement index	Underlying index	Decrement (%)	Day count
FTSE Custom 100 Synthetic 3% Fixed Dividend Index	FTSE 100 Synthetic Index	3.0%	365
FTSE Custom 100 Synthetic 3.5% Fixed Dividend Index	FTSE 100 Synthetic Index	3.5%	365
FTSE MIB Synthetic 3% Decrement Index	FTSE MIB Synthetic Index	3%	365

Section 5

Calculation formulae

5. Calculation formulae

5.1.1 Decrement by percentage is calculated as below:

$$ID(t) = ID(t - 1) \times \left[\frac{I(t)}{I(t - 1)} - D \times \frac{ACT(t - 1, t)}{DAYCOUNT} \right]$$

Where,

- $I(t)$ is the underlying index value at day t ;
- D is the annualized decrement by percentage;
- $ACT(t - 1, t)$ is the number of calendar days between calculation date $t - 1$ (excluded) and calculation date t (included).

Appendix A

Further information

A glossary of terms used in FTSE Russell's Ground Rule documents can be found through the following link:

[Glossary.pdf](#)

For contact details please visit the FTSE Russell website or contact FTSE Russell client services at info@ftserussell.com.

Website: www.lseg.com/en/ftse-russell/

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