

**Indxx USA E-Commerce Index:** 

Methodology

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## **Indxx USA E-Commerce Index**

## **Index Description**

The Indxx USA E-Commerce Index is a Net Total Return Index which tracks the performance of most actively traded internet commerce stocks domiciled in the U.S.

#### **Creation of Master list**

#### Market Capitalization

Minimum market capitalization is set at US \$ 500 million.

#### Liquidity

- Minimum average daily turnover for 3 months is set at US \$ 2 million.
- The stock should be traded for at least 90% of the total trading days over the last 6 months in its respective stock exchange.

#### Free Float

All constituents must have a minimum free float equivalent to 10% of shares outstanding.

#### Geographical Focus

US companies. A US company, for index purposes, should have the following characteristics:

- Domiciled in the US
- The security must be listed on a US stock exchange

#### Maximum Price

Securities trading at a price of \$10,000 or above are ineligible for inclusion in the index. This rule is not applicable for existing constituents. Existing constituents would remain in the Index irrespective of their stock price.

#### **Sectors**

Consumer Discretionary, Information Technology, Financials

#### Security Type

Common Stock

#### **Security Selection**

The security selection process is based on research performed by Indxx and entails the following steps:

- The company must generate the majority of its sales/revenues from the Internet.
- The company must have a minimum of three months' trading history.
- The Company must be domiciled in the U.S. and traded on the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE), NYSE MKT, and Nasdaq.
- The following sub industries have been considered for the selection of securities for inclusion:
   Internet & Direct Marketing Retail, Home Entertainment Software, Internet Software and Services, Data Processing and Outsourced Services, Application Software, Investment Banking and Brokerage, Asset Management and Custody Banks, Financial Exchanges & Data, Systems Software, IT Consulting and Other Services.

Those companies which generate a significant (majority/ greater than 50%) share of their revenues from the E-Commerce theme are eligible for inclusion in the portfolio.

## Weighting

The index is a free float adjusted market capitalization weighted total return index. The maximum weight for any single stock is 8.00%. If a stock exceeds the maximum weight, then the weight will be reduced to the maximum weight and the excess weight shall be re-distributed proportionally across all other index constituents. This process is repeated until no stocks have weights exceeding the respective maximum weight. The company weighting scheme will be applied to the largest stocks and the excess weight after each step shall be redistributed across all other (uncapped) stocks in the index on a proportional basis:

- If the largest two stocks exceed 8.00%, then both will be capped at 8.00%.
- If the 3rd largest stock exceeds 7.00%, then it will be capped at 7.00%.
- If the 4th largest stock exceeds 6.50%, then it will be capped at 6.50%.
- If the 5th largest stock exceeds 6.00%, then it will be capped at 6.00%.
- If the 6th largest stock exceeds 5.50%, then it will be capped at 5.50%.
- If the 7th largest stock exceeds 5.00%, then it will be capped at 5.00%.
- If any other stock exceeds 4.50%, then it will be capped at 4.50%.

#### **Buffer Rules**

Buffer Rules are employed to reduce Portfolio Turnover. The following Buffer Rules are applicable:

#### Market Capitalization

An existing index constituent shall continue to remain in the index even if its Market Capitalization does not meet the previously defined minimum market capitalization criteria, but remains within 20% of this limit.

#### Liquidity

An existing index constituent shall continue to remain in the index even if its Liquidity is below the previously defined Average Daily Traded Value limit, but remains within 30% of this limit.

## **Reconstitution and Rebalancing Rules**

The index follows an annual reconstitution and rebalancing schedule. The new portfolio becomes effective at the close of last trading day of July each year. This day is called the 'Effective day'.

The security selection and index creation process starts on the close of 17 trading days before the effective day, called the 'Selection Day.'

The final portfolio constituents are shortlisted from a selection pool of all eligible securities selected based on the data as of the Selection Day.

Weights are calculated at the close of the sixth trading day prior to the Effective Day. Index Shares are frozen using weights as of this day.

# **Corporate Actions**

The following corporate actions (such as stock splits, special dividends, spin-offs and rights offerings) are applied to Price Return indices on the ex-date or earlier as decided by the Index Committee.

Corporate Action	Description	Treatment	Adjustment
Company addition and deletion	In case a constituent is added, removed or replaced with another constituent in the Index.	In case of addition and deletion from an index, the divisor is adjusted to reflect the change in market value.	Divisor Adjustment
Stock Split	A stock split is a decision by the company's board of directors to increase the number of shares that are outstanding by issuing more shares to current shareholders. After a split, the stock price will be reduced since the number of shares outstanding has increased.	Stock splits will be adjusted for on the ex- date. The number of shares will increase times the adjustment factor for the split.	No divisor adjustment is required since the share count and price changes are offsetting.
Rights Issue	Rights Issue gives existing shareholders the right to purchase a proportional number of new shares at a discount to the market price on a stated future date. The rights issued to a shareholder have a value, thus compensating current shareholders for the future dilution of their existing shares' value.	Rights Issue impacts the number of shares as well as price thereby impacting the index divisor reflecting an increase in market cap.  The Index committee will decide whether to participate in the rights issue or not. If the subscription price is greater than or equal to the stock closing price, Indxx would not participate in the rights issue.	Divisor Adjustment
Spin-Off	Spin off is the creation of an independent company through the sale or distribution of new shares of an existing business/division of a parent company.	The Index Committee will decide on one of the following options based on internal research.	
	Spun-Off company is not added, only the parent company remains in the Index.	Spin-Off will be adjusted for by changing the divisor to account for the change in market value (reflecting market value of the Spun-Off entity).	Divisor Adjustment
	Spun-Off company added to the Index, another company replaced.	The divisor is adjusted to account for the impact of deletion of a company from the Index.	Divisor Adjustment
	Spun-Off company added to the Index, no company removed.		No Divisor Adjustment
Delisting	Delisting refers to the practice of removing the stock of a company from a stock exchange so that investors can no longer trade shares of the stock on that exchange.	The security would be removed from the index, and the invested amount in the delisted security will be reinvested into the index.	Divisor Adjustment

Acquisition	A corporate action in which a company buys most, if not all, of the target company's ownership stakes in order to assume control of the target firm. There could be three different cases:  - Target Company is a part of the index, acquiring company is not; - Acquiring Company is a part of the index, target company is not; - Target and Acquiring companies are a part of the index The treatment below is followed for all the three scenarios.	The Target company would be removed from the index and the Index Committee will decide on one of the following options based on internal research.	
	All cash takeover	No change to acquirer	Divisor Adjustment
	Partial stock takeover	Share change to acquirer	Divisor Adjustment
	All stock takeover	Share change to acquirer	Divisor Adjustment
Merger	Merger is the combination of two or more companies, generally by offering the stockholders of one company securities in the acquiring company in exchange for the surrender of their stock.	The Target company is removed from the Index.  The Index Committee will decide if the Surviving company should be added to the Index. If added, the divisor will be adjusted to reflect the increase in the number of shares.	Divisor Adjustment
Bankruptcy	Bankruptcy is a legal proceeding involving a person or business that is unable to repay outstanding debts.	The security would be removed from the index, and the invested amount in the acquired security will be reinvested into the index.	Divisor Adjustment
Temporary Delisting / Prolonged Trading Suspension	A temporary delisting/trading suspension occurs when a security stops trading on the stock exchange for a certain time period. This usually occurs when a publicly-traded company is going to release significant news about itself.	The security would be removed from the index based on the Index Committee's decision and the invested amount in the acquired security will be reinvested into the index.	Divisor Adjustment
Special Dividends	When a company pays a special dividend, the share price of the company declines by the amount of the dividend.	The Divisor is adjusted to reflect a fall in the price of the company paying the special dividend.	Divisor Adjustment
Bonus Issue of Shares	A bonus share is a free share of stock given to current/existing shareholders in a company, based upon the number of shares owned by them.	The issue of bonus shares increases the total number of shares issued and owned, it does not increase the value of the company. The ratio of number of shares held by each shareholder remains constant.	No Adjustment

## **Total Return Indices**

#### Total Return Index

In addition to all the above mentioned corporate actions, ordinary cash dividends will be applied on the ex-date for calculating TR Indices.

## **Adjustment in the Index**

All dividend payments will be reinvested in the index, by adjusting the divisor in the total return index on the exdividend date.

# **Index Policy**

## **Index Committee Policy**

The Index Committee is responsible for setting policy, determining index composition, and administering the indices in accordance with the Indxx index methodology. The Index Committee reserves the right to use qualitative judgment to include, exclude, adjust, or postpone the inclusion of a stock. Continued index membership of a constituent is not necessarily subject to the guidelines provided in each of the Indxx index methodology. A stock may be considered for exclusion by the Index Committee on the basis of corporate governance, accounting policies, lack of transparency and lack of representation, despite meeting all the criteria provided in each of the Indxx index methodology.

#### **Announcements**

Announcements of additions and deletions of constituents, due to various corporate actions mentioned above, in the middle of the year will be decided by the Index Committee. This will be communicated to the client well ahead of time. Also important news items as well as corporate actions with respect to all the constituents of the index will be informed to the client on a weekly basis.

## **Holiday Schedule**

The index is calculated when the U.S. equity markets are open. In situations where an exchange is forced to close early due to unforeseen events, the index will be calculated based on the closing prices published by the exchange, or if no closing price is available, the last regular trade reported for each stock before the exchange closed.

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