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1. **General information about this Policy**

Credit Suisse Asset Management Limited ("CSAML") manages portfolios of investments on a discretionary basis for investment Funds and managed account clients (together, "Clients"). CSAML is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority ("FCA") and is an investment firm subject to the requirements of the FCA Rules that implement the Markets in Financial Instruments Directive ("MiFID").

There are two methods CSAML Portfolio Managers use when executing trades on behalf of its clients and the Funds it manages:

1. CSAML can place an order with a third party (e.g. a broker or an investment bank) for that third party to execute on behalf of the client. Such third parties are referred to in this policy as “Brokers”.

2. CSAML may execute the relevant transaction on behalf of the client or Fund directly with a counterparty or on an exchange or other trading system (for example, by dealing directly with a market maker on a "request for quote" basis or via a reliable screen-based quotation system or by accessing an exchange directly using a direct market access (DMA) system). The counterparty, exchange or trading system with whom CSAML chooses to execute such a transaction is referred to in this policy as an “Execution Venue”.

Please note, as at the date of this Policy, CSAML currently executes trades using the first method above.

This Policy will not apply to the extent that CSAML follows specific instructions from a client when placing an order with, or transmitting an order to, another entity for execution. It is likely to be only in rare cases that CSAML will receive such “specific instructions” from clients. In general, CSAML (as discretionary Portfolio Manager) will make all dealing decisions itself and will therefore control the allocation of orders among brokers and investment banks which are used for execution. CSAML will not normally take instructions from clients in that respect.

All CSAML employees who are responsible for placing orders with Brokers for execution by those Brokers and/or for directly executing transactions on behalf of clients must ensure that any such activities are conducted in accordance with the requirements and guidance set out in this Policy.

CSAML gives effect to decisions to deal only on behalf of professional clients (as defined in the FCA rules that implement MiFID). This means that CSAML is entitled to assess the best possible result for its clients in terms of the various execution factors and not simply on the basis of the total consideration (price and cost). Information on CSAML’s view of the relative importance of these factors, in the light of the execution criteria in MiFID, is set out below. Ordinarily, price/cost will be the determining factors.

In accordance with the FCA Rules that implement MiFID, CSAML has set out in Section 10 of this Policy the particular Brokers and/or Execution Venues that it uses for the purposes of executing client orders.
2. **CSAML’s Core Best Execution Obligations**

As a Portfolio Manager, CSAML is required by the FCA rules to implement MiFID to act in accordance with the best interests of its clients when placing orders with Brokers for execution that result from decisions by CSAML to deal in financial instruments on behalf of those clients and Funds. A firm must take all sufficient steps to obtain, when executing orders, the best possible results for its clients taking into account the execution factors.

In order to comply with the above obligations, to take all sufficient steps to obtain the best possible result for its clients, taking into account the "execution factors" specified by MiFID, being price; costs; speed; likelihood of execution and settlement; size; nature; or any other consideration relevant to the order. The relative importance of these factors must be determined by reference to the "execution criteria" being:

- the characteristics of the client including their categorisation;
- the characteristics of the order;
- the characteristics of the financial instrument that are subject to the order;
- the characteristics of the Brokers and/or Execution Venues to which that order can be directed;
- to establish and implement a Policy to enable it to comply with the obligation to take all sufficient steps to obtain the best possible result for its client. The Policy must identify, in respect of each relevant class of instruments;
- in the case of orders that CSAML places with a Broker for execution, each such Broker must have execution arrangements that will enable CSAML to comply with its obligations in relation to best execution;
- in the case of transactions that CSAML itself executes directly on behalf of its clients, the Execution Venues on or with which it executes those transactions must at least include those that enable CSAML to obtain on a consistent basis the best possible result for the execution of client and Fund orders;
- to provide appropriate information to its clients on the Policy and, for clients for whom CSAML effects direct executions and trade off exchange, obtain those clients’ consent to the Policy;
- to monitor on a regular basis the effectiveness of the Policy and, in particular, the execution quality of the Brokers and Execution Venues identified in the Policy and, where appropriate, correct any deficiencies;
- to review the Policy at least annually and update accordingly whenever a material change occurs that affects CSAML’s ability to continue to obtain the best possible result for its clients and Funds;
when CSAML selects other firms to provide order execution services, it is required to summarise and make public for each class of financial instruments, the top five investment firms in terms of trading volumes where it transmitted orders in the preceding year and information on the quality of execution obtained;

- CSAML is required to conduct and publish its own analysis of the quality of execution obtained through third party brokers highlighting any aspects that may impact execution behavior;

- CSAML is prohibited from receiving payments for order flow which would result in a conflicts of interest or barred inducement.

3. Placing Orders with Brokers

In choosing the Brokers that appear in Section 10, CSAML has taken care to select those Brokers that, in CSAML’s view, consistently provide a high quality execution service, taking account of the relevant execution factors. All brokers and executions venues must be firm approved via the counterparty approval process, which is owned by Risk Management. Where CSAML places an order with a Broker for execution by that Broker, CSAML is not responsible for controlling or influencing the arrangements made by the Broker relating to the execution of that order (e.g. CSAML does not control the Broker’s choice of Execution Venues, such as exchanges, multilateral trading facilities or internal dealing facilities). CSAML is not required to duplicate the efforts of the Broker to whom an order is passed in ensuring the best possible result. CSAML’s obligations are therefore to ensure that the Brokers included in this policy are the ones who will assist it to comply with its best execution obligations (by delivering the best possible result) and that orders are passed to those Brokers in accordance with the policy.

3.1 Direct Execution of Decisions to Deal

In choosing the Execution Venues that appear in Section 10, CSAML has taken care to select those Execution Venues that, in CSAML’s view, enable it to obtain on a consistent basis the best possible results for its clients. However, one issue relevant to this selection is that, as a portfolio manager, CSAML is not itself, a member of any regulated markets. CSAML may, but does not typically use certain direct market access facilities (e.g. trading systems provided by its Brokers that allow it to transact in the Broker’s name directly on a regulated market) to effect the execution of trades on behalf of its clients.

CSAML is not a member of any multilateral trading facilities and is not an organised trading facility. Therefore, the list of Execution Venues in Section 10 currently contains only details of the market makers and other liquidity providers with whom CSAML currently directly executes transactions. As part of its review obligations, CSAML intends to keep the position as regards direct market access facilities and membership of multilateral trading facilities under review.

3.2 Choosing Between Order Placement and Direct Execution

CSAML will normally place orders with a broker once CSAML has made a decision to deal in a financial instrument on behalf of a client. However, CSAML may decide to attempt to execute the transaction directly based on typically selecting from a reliable screen-based quotation system. This decision will be made having regard to the relative importance of the execution factors for the Instrument Class in question.
CSAML employees must not execute client or fund trades with an Execution Venue or with a Broker that has not been approved for use by CSAML except in exceptional circumstances. Exceptional circumstances might include where CSAML wishes to trade in an unusual financial instrument that cannot be executed with or by one of the Execution Venues or Brokers already approved (either at all or in a manner that would be likely to achieve the best possible result for the client). Any execution of a transaction with an Execution Venue or placing of an order with a Broker that falls outside the approved Execution Venues and Brokers for CSAML must be pre-approved by Risk Management and Compliance.

4. Monitoring of the Policy

CSAML has an obligation to monitor the effectiveness of its order execution arrangements and this Policy. This obligation has been incorporated into CSAML’s general compliance monitoring process. The monitoring process will involve a periodic review by compliance to ascertain whether the best possible result was obtained in respect of those transactions. If compliance concludes that the best possible result was not achieved, compliance will investigate the matter and escalate internally as deemed appropriate.

CSAML is required to verify that the execution arrangements are effective and work well through the order execution process and to take remedial actions if any deficiencies are detected so that it can demonstrate that all sufficient steps have been taken to achieve the best possible results.

5. Reviewing the Order Execution Policy

At least annually, CSAML will review this Policy and the order execution arrangements that are in place. The review will focus on whether CSAML would obtain better results for its clients if it was to:

- include additional or different Execution Venues or Brokers (for the relevant Instrument Class);
- assign a different relative importance to the execution factors (for the relevant Instrument Class);
- or
- modify any other aspects of this Policy and/or its execution arrangements.

CSAML will also review this Policy and/or its execution arrangements whenever a material change occurs that could affect its ability to obtain the best possible result for the execution of its clients’ orders. A determination of materiality will depend on the nature and scope of any change.

6. Client notification/consent requirements

CSAML has an obligation to provide its portfolio management clients with appropriate information on this Policy. In order to comply with this obligation, CSAML will make available its Policy to its portfolio management clients at any time when an Investment Management Agreement (IMA) is signed, upon request, when material changes occur and via publication on the asset management website.
Should CSAML provide “execution only” on behalf of a portfolio management client, it will also have an obligation to obtain the client’s consent to this Policy. CSAML has evidenced this consent by amending its investment management agreements with those clients to include the summary of this Policy within the agreements and an express provision pursuant to which the client consents to this Policy. Additionally, to the extent that CSAML effects direct executions of transactions on behalf of clients in instruments that are admitted to trading on a regulated market or multilateral trading facility but executes those transactions outside of a regulated market or regulated multilateral trading facility, it needs to obtain its clients’ consent to this. Again, CSAML has evidenced this consent by amending its investment management agreements with its clients to include a provision pursuant to which the clients give this consent.

To the extent that CSAML makes any material changes to this Policy (whether pursuant to the review process or otherwise), it is obliged to notify the changes to its clients and via the asset management website. Compliance will ensure that such notifications are made.

7. Instrument Type Considerations

7.1 Equities

This Instrument Class includes equities, warrants and depositary receipts. The vast majority of equities transactions would be executed by passing an order to a relevant Broker.

For smaller orders, the portfolio manager will on many occasions consider that price is the most important execution factor. Other execution factors are permitted to be taken into account at the discretion of the relevant portfolio manager as is appropriate for the size and nature of the relevant order (and one or more of these other factors may displace price as the most important factor). The portfolio manager is not required to make a record of the execution factors that were taken into account in respect of each individual transaction (although may, of course, choose to do so).

Where the order is to be passed to a Broker for execution, the portfolio manager will select a Broker from those that have been approved that in the portfolio manager’s view has a track record of achieving the best result in terms of the relevant execution factors (taking into account the various Brokers’ geographic and product coverage). As an additional safety measure, CSAML may make use of limit orders where appropriate to ensure that its orders are executed at desirable prices.

Where the order is to be executed directly with an Execution Venue, generally the practice should be for the Portfolio Manager to check prices quoted by/available on at least three of the approved Execution Venues. However, in circumstances where the portfolio manager considers that speed of execution, certainty of execution and/or market impact are important execution factors, he or she is permitted to deal on the basis of the prices quoted by/available on a single Execution Venue.

For larger orders, the portfolio manager will often consider that certainty of execution, reduction of market impact and speed of execution will have greater importance and these factors will often drive the portfolio manager’s decisions as to whether to pass the order to a Broker or to execute directly with an Execution Venue. Often, to ensure quick executions and minimum market impact such orders may be split among multiple brokers.
7.2 **Bonds and Loans**

Fixed Income: where an order is not placed via a third party broker and where a reliable screen-based quotation system does not exist, generally the practice should be to obtain at least three quotes where possible, where practicable, and to record the quotes on the trade ticket or in the relevant trading system. If the quote with the best price is not selected, an explanation should be provided (e.g. smaller quantity than quoted). A price taken from a computerised information service such as Reuters or Bloomberg is an acceptable form of quote provided the page used is kept up to date with market movements, market size, or relative pricing in the case of more illiquid instruments. However, not all trades executed by Credit Suisse are in assets that are actively traded, or where independent price testing is not readily available. It is the responsibility of the portfolio manager to choose counterparties (e.g. brokers and dealers), therefore, based upon factors such as competitive pricing, transaction costs, prompt and reliable executions, financial stability, reputation, and how the counterparty’s inventory of assets aligns with the portfolio’s investment thesis.

In relation to transactions in bonds or loans, the Portfolio Manager will on many occasions consider that price (including costs) is the most important factor. Other execution factors are permitted to be taken into account at the discretion of the relevant Portfolio Manager as is appropriate for the size and nature of the relevant order. The Portfolio Manager is not required to make a record of the execution factors that were taken into account in respect of each individual transaction (although may, of course, choose to do so). In circumstances where speed of execution, certainty of execution and/or market impact are important execution factors, the Portfolio Manager is permitted to deal on the basis of the prices quoted by/available on a single Execution Venue.

In certain circumstances, transactions may be initiated by the Execution Venue (e.g. by a dealer) rather than by CSAML. In these circumstances, particularly where speed of execution, certainty of execution or market impact are perceived to be important execution factors, it will not always be desirable to check the available price against alternative sources and the Portfolio Manager is permitted to deal with the Execution Venue that has approached it.

7.3 **OTC Derivatives**

For transactions in OTC derivatives, the Portfolio Manager will on many occasions consider that price (including costs) is the most important factor. Other execution factors can be taken into account at the discretion of the relevant Portfolio Manager as is appropriate for the size and nature of the relevant order. In circumstances where speed of execution, certainty of execution and/or market impact are important execution factors, the Portfolio Manager is permitted to deal on the basis of the prices quoted by/available on a single Execution Venue.

In certain circumstances, transactions may be initiated by the Execution Venue rather than by CSAML. In these circumstances, particularly where speed of execution, certainty of execution or market impact are perceived to be important execution factors, it will not always be desirable to check the available price against alternative sources and the Portfolio Manager is permitted to deal with the Execution Venue that has approached it.
The best execution obligations apply to all financial instruments, irrespective of whether they are traded on trading venues or OTC, CSAML is required, where possible, to gather relevant market data in order to check whether the OTC price offered is fair and delivers on the best execution obligation. Express consent is required to execute orders outside a trading venue.

7.4 Exchange–Traded Derivatives

This Instrument Class covers exchange-traded futures and options contracts and exchange traded contracts for differences.

CSAML invests in exchange-traded derivative instruments to hedge against market risk or to gain exposure to an underlying asset.

The vast majority of exchange-traded derivatives transactions will be affected by passing an order to a relevant Broker.

The Portfolio Manager will on many occasions consider that price is the most important execution factor. Other execution factors are permitted to be taken into account at the discretion of the relevant Portfolio Manager as is appropriate for the size and nature of the relevant order (and one or more of these other factors may displace price as the most important factor). The Portfolio Manager is not required to make a record of the execution factors that were taken into account in respect of each individual transaction (although may, of course, choose to do so).

Where the order is to be passed to a Broker for execution, the Portfolio Manager will select a Broker from those that have been approved, that in Portfolio Manager’s view has a track record of achieving the best result in terms of the relevant execution factors (taking into account the various Brokers’ relevant exchange memberships, geographic and product coverage). As an additional safety measure, CSAML makes use of limit orders to ensure that its orders are executed at desirable prices.

Where the order is to be executed directly with an Execution Venue, generally the practice should be for the Portfolio Manager to check prices quoted by/available on at least three approved Execution Venues. However, in circumstances where the Portfolio Manager considers that speed of execution, certainty of execution and/or market impact are important execution factors, he or she is permitted to deal on the basis of the prices quoted by/available on a single Execution Venue.

7.5 FX Forwards, Perfect Asset Swaps and Interest Rate Derivatives

For transactions in FX Forwards, Perfect Asset Swaps and interest rate derivatives, the Portfolio Manager maybe constrained to trading with certain counterparties, for example where an ISDA agreement is in place.

8. General Factors regarding orders that are “worked in the market”

Where the client or Fund orders are executed directly with an Execution Venue, the Portfolio Manager will often check prices quoted by/available on at least three Execution Venues. However, in circumstances where the Portfolio Manager considers that speed of execution, certainty of execution and/or market impact are important execution factors, he or she is permitted to deal on the basis of the prices quoted by/available on a single Execution Venue.
For larger orders, the Portfolio Manager will often consider that certainty of execution, reduction of market impact and speed of execution will have greater importance and these factors will often drive the Portfolio Manager’s decisions as to whether to pass the order to a Broker or to execute directly with an Execution Venue. Often, to ensure quick executions and minimum market impact such orders may be split among multiple brokers.

9. **Client Order Handling and Allocations**

From time to time, CSAML will aggregate a number of client orders buying or selling the same security together for execution either via a Broker or directly with the Execution Venue. Once these client orders have been executed, the Portfolio Manager will allocate orders across the clients who participated in the order. In these cases such orders and executions will be treated as follows:

- Allocation of order fills between several clients will be prompt, fair and consistent. In most cases, depending on trading processes, allocations will have been made at pre-execution. Only failure to achieve execution of the full order will necessitate re-allocation, generally on a pro-rata basis. If pro-rata allocation is not possible then final allocation will be recorded with reference to Compliance/Business Head; and

- Aggregation of orders may, on occasion, work to clients’ disadvantage. The Portfolio Manager will only aggregate orders if it reasonably believes that doing so would be of benefit to all clients.

10. **List of Approved CSAML Brokers and/or Execution Venues**

Below is a list of the execution venues on which CSAML places significant reliance in meeting its obligation to take all sufficient steps to obtain on a consistent basis the best possible result for the execution of orders;

Ahorro Corporation Financiera, Sociedad De Valores S.A.  
Barclays Bank Plc.  
Bank of America Securities Limited  
Bank of America N.A.BNP Paribas London Branch  
BNP Paribas Bank N.V.  
BNP Paris  
BNP Paribas NY Branch  
BNP Paribas neiderlassung Frankfurt am Main  
BNP Paribas Securities Corp  
Cantor Fitzgerald  
Credit Suisse AG, Cayman Islands Branch  
Credit Suisse AG, London Branch  
Credit Suisse Asset Management LLC  
Credit Suisse International  
Credit Suisse Loan Funding LLC  
Credit Suisse Securities (USA) LLC  
Credit Suisse Securities (Europe) Limited  
Citibank International Plc.  
Citigroup Financial Products  
Citibank N.A.  
Citigroup Global Markets Ltd
Citigroup Global Markets Inc.
Citigroup Global Markets Limited
Commerzbank AG London Branch
Deutsche Bank Securities Inc
Deutsche Bank AG, London Branch
Deutsche Bank Luxembourg SA
Deutsche Bank AG New York Branch
Goldman Sachs Bank (Europe) Plc
Goldman Sachs Credit Partners L.P.
Goldman Sachs International
Goldman Sachs International Bank
Goldman Sachs Lending Partners LLC
Goldman Sachs Bank USA
HSBC Bank Plc
JP Morgan Europe Ltd
JP Morgan Securities Ltd
JP Morgan Chase Bank N.A.
JP Morgan Chase Bank N.A.
JP Morgan Securities LLC
Jefferies International Ltd
Macquarie Bank Limited, London Branch
Merrill Lynch International
Merrill Lynch International Bank Limited
Merrill Lynch International Bank Limited, London Branch
Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Inc
Mizuho Bank London Branch
Morgan Stanley and Co International Plc
National Westminster Bank Plc
Natixis
Niederlassung Frankfurt
Nomura International Plc
Oddo and Cie
RBS Securities Inc.
Seaport Europe
Stifel Nicolaus Europe Ltd
The Royal Bank of Scotland N.V.
The Royal Bank of Scotland Plc
The Royal Bank of Scotland Plc
UniCredit Bank AG
Wells Fargo Securities LLC
Wells Fargo Securities International Limited