

INDEX GUIDELINE

Al Powered Equity Index

Version 1.0

23 January 2024

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INTRODUCTION

This document (the "Guideline") is to be used as a guideline with regard to the composition, calculation and maintenance of the AI Powered Equity Index (the "Index").

The Guideline and the documents referenced herein contain the underlying principles and rules regarding the structure and operation of the Index. Solactive AG does not offer any explicit or tacit guarantee or assurance, neither pertaining to the results from the use of the Index nor the level of the Index at any certain point in time nor in any other respect. Solactive AG strives to the best of its ability to ensure the correctness of the calculation. There is no obligation for Solactive AG – irrespective of possible obligations to issuers – to advise third parties, including investors and/or financial intermediaries, of any errors in the Index. The publication of the Index by Solactive AG does not constitute a recommendation for capital investment and does not contain any assurance or opinion of Solactive AG regarding a possible investment in a financial instrument based on this Index.

1. INDEX SPECIFICATIONS

- > The Index is owned by EquBot Inc. ("EquBot") and calculated, and published by Solactive AG.
- It tracks the price movements of a portfolio of shares selected by EquBot from the constituents of the iShares Core S&P Total US Stock Market ETF (NYSE ARCA: ITOT) following a methodology based on artificial intelligence techniques, subject to certain allocation constraints.
- > The Index is calculated as Price Return ("PR"), Net Total Return ("NTR") and Total Return ("TR") Index.
- > The Index is denominated in USD.

1.1. SHORT NAME AND ISIN

The Index is published under the following identifiers:

Name	ISIN	ldentifier
Al Powered Equity Index (PR)	DE000SL0KR43	.AIEQPR
Al Powered Equity Index (NTR)	DE000SL0KR50	.AIEQNR
AI Powered Equity Index (TR)	DE000SL0KR68	.AIEQTR

1.2. INITIAL LEVEL OF THE INDEX

The Index is based on 1000 at the close of trading on 23rd Jan 2024.

1.3. DISTRIBUTION

The Index is published on the website (<u>www.solactive.com</u>) and is, in addition, available via the price marketing services of Boerse Stuttgart AG and may be distributed to all of its affiliated vendors. Each vendor decides on an individual basis as to whether it will distribute or display the Index via its information systems.

1.4. PRICES AND CALCULATION FREQUENCY

The level of the Index is calculated on each Calculation Day from 9:00 a.m. to 10:50 p.m. CET based on the Trading Prices on the Exchanges on which the Index Components are listed. Trading Prices of Index Components not listed in the Index Currency are converted using the current Reuters spot foreign exchange rate. Should there be no current Trading Price for an Index Component, the later of: (i) the most

recent Closing Price; or (ii) the last available Trading Price for the preceding Trading Day is used in the calculation.

In addition to the intraday calculation a closing level of the Index for each Calculation Day is also calculated. This closing level is based on the Closing Prices for the Index Components on the respective Exchanges on which the Index Components are listed. The Closing Prices of Index Components not listed in the Index Currency are converted using the 4pm London time WM Fixing quoted by Reuters. If there is no 4pm London time WM Fixing for the relevant Calculation Day, the last available 4pm London time WM Fixing will be used for the closing level calculation.

1.5. PUBLICATION

All specifications and information relevant for calculating the Index are made available on the Solactive website: <u>http://www.solactive.com</u>.

1.6. HISTORICAL DATA

Historical data will be maintained from the launch of the Index on 23rd Jan 2024.

1.7. LICENSING

Licenses to use the Index as the underlying value for derivative instruments are issued to stock exchanges, banks, financial services providers and investment houses by EquBot.

2. COMPOSITION OF THE INDEX

2.1. SELECTION OF THE INDEX COMPONENTS

The Index Components are selected in respect of each Selection Day from the Index Universe according to the rules-based, quantitative methodology elaborated by EquBot.

An introduction of EquBot and an overview of this methodology are given below.

The Index Components are subject to allocation constraints, as further detailed in section 2.2.

2.1.1. EquBot

EquBot Inc is a San Francisco, CA based AI investment solution provider. EquBot helps global investment professionals transform data into better outcomes. The company began with a grant from IBM and is currently an IBM partner.

Using both proprietary AI technology and IBM Watson[®], EquBot designs investment strategies that can utilize AI throughout the entire investment process. EquBot technology can combine both fundamental and quantitative analysis while formulating new investment insights through the use of AI. EquBot solutions utilize large amounts of data to build predictive financial models on over 50,000 globally traded companies, ETFs, and indcies.

Along with being the owner of the Index, EquBot also owns or supports indices that have over \$4.5 billion in tracking assets.

2.1.2. AI Forecasted Returns

In respect of each BASKET SELECTION DAY, EquBot computes the AI forecasted return ("Forecasted Return") of each INDEX COMPONENT. The Forecasted Return of an Index Component is its expected change in price over a 1-month horizon, relative to its current price.

2.1.3. Component Selection

On each Selection Day, the algorithm aims to select and assign weights to a subset of shares within the Index Universe in order to form the portfolio with the highest Forecasted Return under the allocation constraints set forth in section 2.2.

2.2. ALLOCATION CONSTRAINTS

The selection of Index Components from EquBot in respect of each Selection Day s shall be subject to the following constraints:

- (i) The weight in respect of each Index Component shall be subject to a 10% cap of any individual company share class.
- (ii) The weight of any one industry can not exceed 25%
- (iii) Under normal circumstances invest in at least 80% in equity securities

The excess weight that results from implementing these constraints shall be allocated into the I-Shares 1-3 Year Treasury Bond ETF (SHY UP Equity).

2.3. ADJUSTMENT

The initial composition of the Index is implemented on the close of 23rd Jan 2023.

Thereafter, the composition of the Index is reviewed on each Selection Day and adjusted over one Trading Day, on the close of each Trading Day during the following Adjustment Period, as follows:

- the target weight of each share within the Index Universe in respect of each Trading Day that doesn't fall during an Adjustment Period shall be equal to the weight of such share in respect of the preceding Selection Day, as determined in accordance with sections 2.1 and 2.2;
- (ii) the target weight of each share within the Index Universe in respect of each Trading Day falling during an Adjustment Period shall be determined in accordance with the following formula:

$$w_{i,r} = w_{i,r_0} + \frac{m \times (w_{i,s} - w_{i,r_0})}{1}$$

With:

 $w_{i,r}$ = the target weight of share *i* in respect of such Trading Day

- w_{i,r_0} = the target weight of share *i* in respect of the Trading Day immediately preceding such Adjustment Period
- m = (a) if such Trading Day is the first Trading Day of such Adjustment Period, 1.
- $w_{i,s}$ = the weight of share *i* in respect of the preceding Selection Day, as determined in accordance with sections 2.1 and 2.2

2.4. DISCONTINUATION OF THE SELECTION PROCESS

In the event that EquBot would no longer be able to compute or communicate the selection of Index Components and their weights, the index would then be composed of a unique Index Component with a weight of 100% (that shall not be subject to the allocation constraints described in section 2.2). Such Index Component shall be the SPDR S&P 500 ETF Trust (SPY UP).



3. CALCULATION OF THE INDEX

3.1. INDEX FORMULA

The level of the Index on a Business Day at the relevant time is calculated in accordance with the following formula:

$$Index_t = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \quad x_{i,t} \times p_{i,t}$$

With:

 $x_{i,t}$ = Fraction of Shares of the Index Component *i* on Business Day *t*

 $p_{i,t}$ = Trading Price of Index Component *i* on Business Day *t*

3.2. ACCURACY

- > The level of the Index will be rounded to 2 decimal places.
- > The Fraction of Shares of the Index Components will be rounded to six decimal places.

3.3. ADJUSTMENTS

Under certain circumstances, an adjustment of the Index may be necessary between two regular Adjustment Periods. Basically, such adjustment is needed to be made if a corporate action (as specified in Section 3.4 below) in relation of an Index Component occurs. Such adjustment may need to be done in relation to an Index Component and/or may also affect the Number of Index Shares and/or the weighting of certain Index Components and will be made in compliance with the Solactive Equity Index Methodology, which incorporated by reference and available on the Solactive website: is https://www.solactive.com/documents/equity-index-methodology/.

Solactive will announce the Index adjustment giving a notice period of at least two Trading Days (with respect to the affected Index Component) on the Solactive website under the Section "Announcements", which is available at https://www.Solactive.com/news/announcements/. The Index adjustments will be implemented on the effective day specified in the respective notice.

3.4. CORPORATE ACTIONS

As part of the Index maintenance Solactive will consider various events – also referred to as corporate actions – which result in an adjustment to the Index between two regular Adjustment Periods. Such events have a material impact on the price, weighting or overall integrity of Index Components. Therefore, they

need to be accounted for in the calculation of the Index. Corporate actions will be implemented from the cum-day to the ex-day of the corporate action, so that the adjustment to the Index coincides with the occurrence of the price effect of the respective corporate action.

Adjustments to the Index to account for corporate actions will be made in compliance with the Solactive Equity Index Methodology, which is available on the Solactive website: <u>https://www.solactive.com/documents/equity-index-methodology/</u>. This document contains for each corporate action a brief definition and specifies the relevant adjustment to the Index variables.

While Solactive aims at creating and maintaining its methodology for treatment of corporate actions as generic and transparent as possible and in line with regulatory requirements, it retains the right in accordance with the Solactive Equity Index Methodology to deviate from these standard procedures in case of any unusual or complex corporate action or if such a deviation is made to preserve the comparability and representativeness of the Index over time.

SOLACTIVE considers following, but not conclusive, list of corporate actions as relevant for INDEX maintenance:

- Cash Distributions (e.g. payment of a dividend)
- Stock distributions (e.g. payment of a dividend in form of additional shares)
- Stock distributions of another company (e.g. payment of a dividend in form of additional shares of another company (e.g. of a subsidiary))
- Share splits (company's present shares are divided and therefore multiplied by a given factor)
- Reverse splits (company's present shares are effectively merged)
- Capital increases (such as issuing additional shares)
- Share repurchases (a company offer its shareholders the option to sell their shares to a fixed price)
- Spin-offs (the issuer of (Index Component) shares splits its business activities into two or more entities and distributes new equity shares in the created entities to the shareholders of the former entity)
- Mergers & Acquisitions (transaction in which the ownership of a company (or other business organizations) are transferred or consolidated with other entities, e.g. fusion of two or more separate companies into one entity)
- Delistings (company's shares are no longer publicly traded at a stock exchange)
- Nationalization of a company (effective control of a legal entity is taken over by a state)
- Insolvency

For the purpose of the interpretation of the Solactive Equity Index Methodology, the Total Return version of the index shall be deemed to be a Gross Total Return Index.

3.5. MISCELLANEOUS

3.5.1. Recalculation

Solactive makes the greatest possible efforts to accurately calculate and maintain its indices. However, errors in the determination process may occur from time to time for variety reasons (internal or external) and therefore, cannot be completely ruled out. Solactive endeavors to correct all errors that have been identified within a reasonable period of time. The understanding of "a reasonable period of time" as well as the general measures to be taken are generally depending on the underlying and is specified in the Solactive Correction Policy, which is incorporated by reference and available on the Solactive website: https://www.solactive.com/documents/correction-policy/.

3.5.2. Market Disruption

In periods of market stress Solactive calculates its indices following predefined and exhaustive arrangements as described in the Solactive Disruption Policy, which is incorporated by reference and available on the Solactive website: <u>https://www.solactive.com/documents/disruption-policy/</u>. Such market stress can arise due to a variety of reasons, but generally results in inaccurate or delayed prices for one or more Index Components. The determination of the Index may be limited or impaired at times of illiquid or fragmented markets and market stress.

4. MISCELLANEOUS

4.1. DISCRETION

Any discretion which may need to be exercised in relation to the determination of the Index) shall be made in accordance with strict rules regarding the exercise of discretion or expert judgement.

4.2. METHODOLOGY REVIEW

The methodology of the Index is subject to regular review, at least annually. In case a need of a change of the methodology has been identified within such review (e.g. if the underlying market or economic reality has changed since the launch of the Index, i.e. if the present methodology is based on obsolete assumptions and factors and no longer reflects the reality as accurately, reliably and appropriately as before), such change will be made in accordance with the Solactive Methodology Policy, which is incorporated by reference and available on the Solactive website: https://www.solactive.com/documents/methodology-policy/.

Such change in the methodology will be announced on the Solactive website under the Section "<u>Announcement</u>", which is available at https://www.solactive.com/news/announcements/. The date of the last amendment of this Index is contained in this Guideline.

4.3. CHANGES IN CALCULATION METHOD

The application by the Index Administrator of the method described in this document is final and binding. The Index Administrator shall apply the method described above for the composition and calculation of the Index. However, it cannot be excluded that the market environment, supervisory, legal and financial or tax reasons may require changes to be made to this method. The Index Administrator may also make changes to the terms and conditions of the Index and the method applied to calculate the Index that it deems to be necessary and desirable in order to prevent obvious or demonstrable error or to remedy, correct or supplement incorrect terms and conditions. The Index Administrator is not obliged to provide information on any such modifications or changes. Despite the modifications and changes, the Index Administrator will take the appropriate steps to ensure a calculation method is applied that is consistent with the method described above.

4.4. TERMINATION

Solactive makes the greatest possible efforts to ensure the resilience and continued integrity of its indices over time. Where necessary, Solactive follows a clearly defined and transparent procedure to adapt Index

methodologies to changing underlying markets (see Section 4.2 "Methodology Review") in order to maintain continued reliability and comparability of the indices. Nevertheless, if no other options are available the orderly cessation of the Index may be indicated. This is usually the case when the underlying market or economic reality, which an index is set to measure or to reflect, changes substantially and in a way not foreseeable at the time of inception of the index, the index rules, and particularly the selection criteria, can no longer be applied coherently or the index is no longer used as the underlying value for financial instruments, investment funds and financial contracts.

Solactive has established and maintains clear guidelines on how to identify situations in which the cessation of an index is unavoidable, how stakeholders are to be informed and consulted and the procedures to be followed for a termination or the transition to an alternative index. Details are specified in the Solactive Termination Policy, which is incorporated by reference and available on the Solactive website: <u>https://www.solactive.com/documents/termination-policy/.</u>

4.5. OVERSIGHT

An oversight committee composed of staff from Solactive and its subsidiaries (the "Oversight Committee") is responsible for decisions regarding any amendments to the rules of the Index. Any such amendment, which may result in an amendment of the Guideline, must be submitted to the Oversight Committee for prior approval and will be made in compliance with the Methodology Policy, which is available on the Solactive website: https://www.solactive.com/documents/

5. DEFINITIONS

"Adjustment Day" is the last Business Day of each month.

"Adjustment Period" means (i) 30 January 2004 and (ii) the period starting from (and including) each Adjustment Day until (and including) the immediately following 1 Trading Day.

An "Adjustment Period Trading Day" is any Trading Day falling during an Adjustment Period.

A "Business Day" is any day on which the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) is open for trading.

A "Calculation Day" means a Business Day.

The "Closing Price" in respect of an Index Component and a Trading Day is a security's final regular-hours Trading Price published by the Exchange and determined in accordance with the Exchange regulations. If the Exchange has no or has not published a Closing Price in accordance with the Exchange rules for an Index Component, the last Trading Price will be used.

The "Exchange" is, in respect of the Index and every Index Component, the regulated stock exchange in the United States where the respective Index Component has its primary listing.

"Factset" means FactSet Research Systems Inc..

The "Fraction of Shares of the Index Component" is, in respect of an Index Component and a Calculation Day, the number of shares of such Index Component included in the Index on such Calculation Day. This number is calculated as the target weight of such Index Component in respect of the immediately preceding Calculation Day, multiplied by the closing level of the Index in respect of such Calculation Day divided by the Closing Price of such Index Component in respect of such Calculation Day.

The "Index Component" is each share currently included in the Index.

The "Index Currency" is USD.

The "Index Universe" in respect of a Selection Day are the constituents of the iShares Core S&P Total US Stock Market ETF (NYSE ARCA: ITOT).

"Selection Day" is the Business Day falling four Business Days before each Adjustment Day, disregarding any potential change of the Adjustment Day announced after Selection Day.

"Trading Day" is any day on which the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) and the NASDAQ are both open for trading.

The "Trading Price" in respect of an Index Component and a Trading Day is the most recent published price at which the Index Component was traded on the respective Exchange.

6. APPENDIX

6.1. CONTACT DATA

Solactive AG German Index Engineering Platz der Einheit 1 60327 Frankfurt am Main Germany

Tel.: +49 (0) 69 719 160 00 Fax: +49 (0) 69 719 160 25 Email: info@solactive.com Website: www.solactive.com



CONTACT

Solactive AG German Index Engineering Platz der Einheit 1 60327 Frankfurt am Main Germany Tel.: +49 (0) 69 719 160 00 Fax: +49 (0) 69 719 160 25 Email: info@solactive.com