

# INDEX GUIDELINE

*SOLACTIVE UNITED STATES FINANCIAL SECTOR AR INDEX*

*Version 1.1*

*24 May 2024*



# TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction .....	3
1. Index Specifications .....	4
1.1. Scope of the Index .....	4
1.2. Identifiers and Publication .....	4
1.3. Initial Level of the Index .....	4
1.4. Prices and calculation frequency .....	4
1.5. Licensing.....	5
2. Index Selection .....	6
2.1. Index Universe Requirements.....	6
2.2. Selection of the Index Components .....	6
2.3. Weighting of the Index Components.....	6
3. Rebalance .....	7
3.1. Ordinary Rebalance .....	7
3.2. Extraordinary Rebalance .....	7
4. Calculation of the Index .....	8
4.1. Index formula .....	8
4.2. Accuracy .....	8
4.3. Adjustments.....	8
4.4. Corporate actions.....	8
4.5. Recalculation.....	8
4.6. Market Disruption.....	9
5. Miscellaneous .....	10
5.1. Discretion .....	10
5.2. Methodology Review.....	10
5.3. Changes in calculation method.....	10
5.4. Termination .....	10
5.5. Extraordinary Termination.....	11
5.6. Oversight .....	11
6. Definitions.....	12
7. History OF Index Changes.....	13
Contact.....	14



## INTRODUCTION

This document (the "**GUIDELINE**") is to be used as a guideline with regard to the composition, calculation and maintenance of the Solactive United States Financial Sector AR Index (the "**INDEX**"). Any amendments to the rules made to the GUIDELINE are approved by the OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE specified in Section 5.5. The INDEX is owned, calculated, administered and published by Solactive AG ("**SOLACTIVE**") assuming the role as administrator (the "**INDEX ADMINISTRATOR**") under the Regulation (EU) 2016/1011 (the "**BENCHMARK REGULATION**" or "**BMR**"). The name "Solactive" is trademarked.

*The text uses defined terms which are formatted with "SMALL CAPS". Such Terms shall have the meaning assigned to them as specified in Section 6 (Definitions).*

**The GUIDELINE and the policies and methodology documents referenced herein contain the underlying principles and rules regarding the structure and operation of the INDEX. SOLACTIVE 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 strives to the best of its ability to ensure the correctness of the calculation. There is no obligation for SOLACTIVE – 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 does not constitute a recommendation for capital investment and does not contain any assurance or opinion of SOLACTIVE regarding a possible investment in a financial instrument based on this INDEX.**



# 1. INDEX SPECIFICATIONS

## 1.1. SCOPE OF THE INDEX

The INDEX aims to track the performance of the Solactive United States Financial Sector Index TR adjusted for a synthetic dividend of 35 index points per annum.

The INDEX is calculated in USD.

## 1.2. IDENTIFIERS AND PUBLICATION

The INDEX is published under the following identifiers:

Name	ISIN	Currency	Type	BBG ticker	RIC
Solactive United States Financial Sector AR Index	DE000SLOA7D2	USD	AR*	SOUSFIAR Index	.SOUSFIAR

\*AR means that the Index is calculated as adjusted return index, following the formula specified in Section 4.

The INDEX is published on the website of the INDEX ADMINISTRATOR ([www.solactive.com](http://www.solactive.com)) and is, in addition, available via the price marketing services of Boerse Stuttgart GmbH 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.

Any publication in relation to the INDEX (e.g. notices, amendments to the GUIDELINE) will be available at the website of the INDEX ADMINISTRATOR: <https://www.solactive.com/news/announcements/>.

## 1.3. INITIAL LEVEL OF THE INDEX

The initial level of the INDEX on the START DATE is 1310.54046264011 (rounded 1310.54). The INDEX level has been fixed at UNDERLYING INDEX level as of the 19th of August, 2020 at 1321.39. Historical values from the LIVE DATE will be recorded in accordance with Article 8 of the BMR. Levels of the INDEX published for a period prior to the LIVE DATE have been back-tested.

## 1.4. PRICES AND CALCULATION FREQUENCY

The level of the INDEX is calculated on each CALCULATION DAY from 9:30 a.m. to 4:52 p.m. EST based on the INDEX PRICES of the INDEX COMPONENT.

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 COMPONENT.



## 1.5. LICENSING

Licenses to use the INDEX as the underlying value for financial instruments, investment funds and financial contracts may be issued to stock exchanges, banks, financial services providers and investment houses by SOLACTIVE.



## 2. INDEX SELECTION

Not applicable

### 2.1. INDEX UNIVERSE REQUIREMENTS

Not applicable

### 2.2. SELECTION OF THE INDEX COMPONENTS

The only INDEX COMPONENT of the index is the Solactive United States Financial Sector Index TR (ISIN: DE000SLOBGC5, Bloomberg: SOUSFITR Index), in the following referred to as the UNDERLYING INDEX.

### 2.3. WEIGHTING OF THE INDEX COMPONENTS

Not applicable



## 3. REBALANCE

### 3.1. ORDINARY REBALANCE

Not applicable

### 3.2. EXTRAORDINARY REBALANCE

The INDEX is not rebalanced extraordinarily.



## 4. CALCULATION OF THE INDEX

### 4.1. INDEX FORMULA

The INDEX is calculated as an adjusted return Index according to the following formula:

$$Index_t = Index_{t-1} * \frac{UI_t}{UI_{t-1}} - SD * \frac{DC_{t,t-1}}{360}$$

Where:

*Index<sub>t</sub>*: The level of the INDEX as of CALCULATION DAY t

*Index<sub>t-1</sub>*: The level of the INDEX as of CALCULATION DAY t-1

*UI<sub>t</sub>*: The level of the UNDERLYING INDEX as of CALCULATION DAY t

*UI<sub>t-1</sub>*: The level of the UNDERLYING INDEX as of CALCULATION DAY t-1

*SD*: The Synthetic Dividend of 35 index points per annum

*DC<sub>t,t-1</sub>*: The number of calendar days between CALCULATION DAY t (including) and CALCULATION DAY t-1 (excluding)

### 4.2. ACCURACY

The level of the INDEX will be rounded to 2 decimal places. INDEX PRICES will be rounded to 2 decimal places for the Closing Calculation.

### 4.3. ADJUSTMENTS

Not applicable

### 4.4. CORPORATE ACTIONS

Not applicable

### 4.5. 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/>.

#### 4.6. 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: <https://www.solactive.com/documents/disruption-policy/>. 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.



## 5. MISCELLANEOUS

### 5.1. DISCRETION

Any discretion which may need to be exercised in relation to the determination of the INDEX (for example the determination of the INDEX UNIVERSE (if applicable), the selection of the INDEX COMPONENTS (if applicable) or any other relevant decisions in relation to the INDEX) shall be made in accordance with strict rules regarding the exercise of discretion or expert judgement.

### 5.2. 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 "[Announcement](https://www.solactive.com/news/announcements/)", which is available at <https://www.solactive.com/news/announcements/>. The date of the last amendment of this INDEX is contained in this GUIDELINE.

### 5.3. 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.

### 5.4. 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 5.2 "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: <https://www.solactive.com/documents/termination-policy/>.

## 5.5. EXTRAORDINARY TERMINATION

In the event the level of the Index is calculated as zero or below zero (negative), the index will be terminated. SOLACTIVE will announce such termination on its website [www.solactive.com](http://www.solactive.com) as soon as reasonably possible after the Index is calculated as zero or below zero.

For Clarification, SOLACTIVE may terminate indices for other reasons and in accordance with Solactive's policies

## 5.6. 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/methodology-policy/>.



## 6. DEFINITIONS

“**BENCHMARK REGULATION**” shall have the meaning as defined in Section “Introduction”.

“**BMR**” shall have the meaning as defined in Section “Introduction”.

“**CALCULATION DAY**” is a day on which the New York Stock Exchange (MIC: XNYS) and the NASDAQ Stock Exchange (MIC: XNAS) are open for general business.

The “**CLOSING PRICE**” in respect of an INDEX COMPONENT and a CALCULATION DAY is a security's final regular-hours INDEX PRICE as calculated and published by SOLACTIVE.

“**GUIDELINE**” shall have the meaning as defined in Section “Introduction”.

“**INDEX**” shall have the meaning as defined in Section “Introduction”.

“**INDEX ADMINISTRATOR**” shall have the meaning as defined in Section “Introduction”.

“**INDEX COMPONENT**” is each security reflected in the INDEX.

“**INDEX COMPONENT REQUIREMENTS**” shall have the meaning as defined in Section 2.2.

“**INDEX CURRENCY**” is the currency specified in the column “Currency” in the table in Section 1.2.

“**INDEX PRICE**” is the level of the UNDERLYING INDEX as calculated and published by SOLACTIVE.

“**INDEX UNIVERSE REQUIREMENTS**” shall have the meaning as defined in Section 2.1.

“**INDEX UNIVERSE**” is the sum of all financial instruments which fulfill the INDEX UNIVERSE REQUIREMENTS.

“**LIVE DATE**” is 27<sup>th</sup> August 2020.

“**OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE**” shall have the meaning as defined in Section 5.5.

“**SOLACTIVE**” shall have the meaning as defined in Section “Introduction”.

“**START DATE**” is 18<sup>th</sup> August 2017.



## 7. HISTORY OF INDEX CHANGES

Version	Date	Description
1.0	2020-08-27	Index Guideline creation ( <i>initial version</i> )
1.1	2024-05-24	Addition of the EXTRAORDINARY TERMINATION section (5.5) and clarification of the INDEX calculation formula

# 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](mailto:info@solactive.com)

Website: [www.solactive.com](http://www.solactive.com)

© Solactive AG