

# INDEX GUIDELINE

Solactive Australian Bank Credit Index

Version 1.0

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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 SOLACTIVE AUSTRALIAN BANK CREDIT INDEX (the "INDEX"). Any amendments to the rules made to the GUIDELINE are approved by the OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE as specified in the Bond Index Methodology. 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 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 of financial instruments or investment funds referencing the INDEX under a valid license – 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 Australian bank bonds and preferred shares issued by APRA-regulated ADIs and denominated in AUD.

- Index tracks the Australian banking sector and includes the full capital structure excluding equities.
- INDEX CURRENCY IS AUD.



#### 1.2. IDENTIFIERS AND PUBLICATION

The INDEX is published under the following identifiers:

Name	ISIN	Currency	Туре	Calculation Formula*	RIC	BBG ticker
SOLACTIVE AUSTRALIAN BANK CREDIT INDEX	DE000SL0L8S5	AUD	TR	Periodic	.SOLAUBCI	SOLAUBCI
SOLACTIVE AUSTRALIA BANK CREDIT BOND INDEX	DE000SL0ELY3	AUD	TR	Periodic	.SOLAUDHF	
SOLACTIVE AUSTRALIA BANK CREDIT PREFERRED SHARES INDEX	DE000SL0ELZ0	AUD	TR	Periodic	.SOLAUDPF	

<sup>\*</sup>The calculation formula refers to the index calculation's dependency on cash reinvestment, based on whether the cash reinvestment occurs on a daily/direct basis or periodically.

The INDEX is published on the website of the INDEX ADMINISTRATOR (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: <a href="https://www.solactive.com/news/announcements/">https://www.solactive.com/news/announcements/</a>.

#### 1.3. INITIAL LEVEL OF THE INDEX

The initial level of the INDEX is 1000. Levels of the INDEX published for a period prior to this date have been back-tested. Historical values will be recorded in accordance with Article 8 of the BMR.

# 1.4. PRICES AND CALCULATION FREQUENCY

The INDEX is calculated and distributed once every Business Day based on the Last Evaluated Bid Price. Bonds added in a rebalancing (see Section 3) are included in the INDEX at the Last Evaluated Ask Price on the relevant Rebalance Day. Bonds which are excluded from the INDEX in a rebalance are reflected in the

TR means that the INDEX is calculated as Total Return index as described in the Bond Index Methodology, which is available on the Solactive website: <a href="https://www.solactive.com/documents/bond-index-methodology/">https://www.solactive.com/documents/bond-index-methodology/</a>



calculation of the level of the INDEX for the REBALANCE DAY at the Last Evaluated Bid Price on the relevant REBALANCE DAY. INDEX analytical values are calculated each BUSINESS DAY using the Last Evaluated Mid Price based on FIXING TIME. Prices of INDEX COMPONENTS not listed in the INDEX CURRENCY are converted using the WM Fixing by quoted by Reuters.

### 2. INDEX SELECTION

On each Selection Day, all bonds which meet the INDEX COMPONENT REQUIREMENTS are eligible for inclusion in the INDEX and will be added as INDEX COMPONENT on the REBALANCE DAY. Additionally, on each Selection Day, it will be evaluated whether all current INDEX COMPONENTS still meet the INDEX COMPONENT REQUIREMENTS. Each INDEX COMPONENT that does not meet the INDEX COMPONENT REQUIREMENTS will be removed from the INDEX on the next REBALANCE DAY.

#### 2.1. SELECTION OF THE INDEX COMPONENTS

The initial composition of each INDEX, as well as any selection for a rebalance (as specified in Section 3) is determined using the following rules:

- Index members should be the members of one of the following sub-indices: SOLAUDHF and SOLAUDPF.
- Bonds eligible for SOLAUDHF satisfy the following conditions:
  - o Corporate Bonds denominated in AUD.
  - o Security's Country of risk is Australia.
  - Senior and Subordinate bonds are included. Capital seniority ranking levels are broadly divided into Senior and Subordinate debt, and it each category contains the following subcategories:
    - Senior debt
      - Senior. Senior Preferred. Senior Non-Preferred and Senior Subordinate.
    - Subordinate debt
      - Junior Preferred, Junior Subordinate and Junior.
  - o Include issuers from finance sector that are APRA-regulated authorized deposit taking institutions.
  - o Minimum Amount Outstanding should be at least AUD500 million.
  - o Minimum time to maturity should be at least 1 year from the rebalancing date. For callable securities, minimum time to maturity should be at least 1 year until next call date.



- Asset-backed securities and inflation-linked bonds are excluded.
- o Bonds issued in offshore jurisdictions are excluded.
- o Private Placements are not eligible for inclusion in the index.
- o Institutional preferred shares with a face value of 1000 will be included in this index.
- o The average rating of the bonds must be equal or between AAA and BBB-. The average rating is calculated by summing up the numerical score of all available ratings from S&P and Moody's and dividing it by the number of available ratings. If only one rating is available, it must be equal to minimum BBB-. If two or more ratings are available, the average must be equal or between AAA and BBB-.
- Bonds eligible for SOLAUDPF satisfy the following conditions:
  - Preferred shares denominated in AUD.
  - o Security's Country of risk is Australia.
  - o Include issuers from finance sector that are APRA-regulated authorized deposit taking institutions.
  - o Minimum Amount Outstanding should be at least AUD500 million.
  - Minimum time to maturity should be at least 1 year from the rebalancing date. For callable securities, minimum time to maturity should be at least 1 year until next call date.
  - o Preferred shares issued in offshore jurisdictions are excluded.
- Private Placements are not eligible for inclusion in the index.
- For bonds eligible for any of the two auxiliary indices, a price from the PRICING PROVIDER must be available for each INDEX COMPONENT on SELECTION DAY.

The determination of the INDEX COMPONENTS is fully rule-based and the INDEX ADMINISTRATOR has no discretion.

#### 2.2. WEIGHTING OF THE INDEX COMPONENTS

On each Selection Day each Index Component is weighted using the market value based on the Last Evaluated Mid-Prices and accrued interest as on the Selection Day in order to achieve the aim of the Index. The weighting of the Index Components will be as follows:

 Capping of 70% and 30% are applied on the market value weights of non-preferred and preferred shares securities on the combined index of the SOLAUDHF and SOLAUDPF.



• Capping of 40% and 30% on market value weights is applied based on the capital seniority ranking levels – Senior and Subordinate on SOLAUDHF index.

### 3. ORDINARY REBALANCE

In order to reflect the new selection of the INDEX COMPONENTS determined on the SELECTION DAY (in accordance with Section 2.1) the INDEX is adjusted on the REBALANCE DAY after CLOSE OF BUSINESS.

For more information on the rebalance procedure please refer to the Bond Index Methodology, which is incorporated by reference and available on the SOLACTIVE website: <a href="https://www.solactive.com/documents/bond-index-methodology/">https://www.solactive.com/documents/bond-index-methodology/</a>.

SOLACTIVE will publish any changes made to the INDEX COMPONENTS with sufficient notice before the REBALANCE DAY on the SOLACTIVE webpage.

# 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 REBALANCE DAYS. 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. Adjustments to the INDEX to account for corporate actions will be made in compliance with the Bond Index Methodology.

# 5. DEFINITIONS

"BENCHMARK REGULATION" shall have the meaning as defined in Section "Introduction".

"BMR" shall have the meaning as defined in Section "Introduction".

"BUSINESS DAY" is with respect to the INDEX each day Monday to Friday except the following sets of days: based on the holiday calendar. The index follows Australian Stock Exchange (ASX) holiday calendar.

"CLOSE OF BUSINESS" is a time stamp when an INDEX is calculated.

"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.

"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 CALCULATOR" is Solactive or any other appropriately appointed successor in this function.

"INDEX COMPONENT" is each bond reflected in the INDEX.

"INDEX COMPONENT REQUIREMENTS" shall have the meaning as defined in Section 2.1.

"INDEX CURRENCY" is the currency specified in the column "Currency" in the table in Section 1.2.

"ISSUER" is the issuing entity of the respective bond.

"OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE" shall have the meaning as defined in the Bond Index Methodology.

"PRICING PROVIDER" is Bloomberg (BVAL).

"Last Evaluated Mid Price" is the average between the Last Evaluated Ask Price and the Last Evaluated Bid Price.

"Last Evaluated Ask Price" is the last available evaluated ask price by the Pricing Provider.

"Last Evaluated Bid Price" is the last available evaluated bid price by the Pricing Provider.

"REBALANCE DAY" is last BUSINESS DAY of every month. If that day is not a Business Day the REBALANCE DAY will be the immediately following Business Day.

"SELECTION DAY" is 5 BUSINESS DAYS before the scheduled REBALANCE DAY, disregarding any potential change of the REBALANCE DAY

Please note that the definitions included in the Bond Index Methodology apply to this guideline. In case of a discrepancy, the definition presented in the guidelines should prevail.



# 6. HISTORY OF INDEX CHANGES

Version	Date	Description
1.0	28 June 2024	Index Guideline creation ( <i>initial version</i> )



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