



# Hedging Counterparties Policy

*Pepperstone Group Limited*

*October 2017*



## INTRODUCTION

This policy explains the methodologies that Pepperstone Group Limited (**'Pepperstone' 'we' 'us' 'our'**) uses to manage market risk and to decide upon the size of our exposure limits to our counterparties. This policy has been developed with reference to the ASIC Regulatory Guide 227.

"Credit risk" is the risk that a counterparty of ours fails to perform its obligations which results in us incurring financial loss. By managing our credit risk, we intend to protect both our business and our clients from any sudden changes in the liquidity, credit quality or solvency of our banks or brokers.

We primarily take on market risk to facilitate instant execution of client trades. For this reason our market risk limits are generally very conservative.

This policy covers how Pepperstone deals with:

- (I) market risk;
- (II) credit risk; and
- (III) selecting and assessing counterparties.

### 1. Market Risk Mitigation, Monitoring and Reporting

We do not take proprietary positions based on an expectation of market movements. However, since we do not hedge all client transactions, we may have a net position in any of the markets on which we offer financial products. As such, we have exposure to market risk to the extent that it has a residual un-hedged position.

We have internal market risk procedures for setting limits for every financial market in which our clients trade, as well as certain groups of markets which we consider to be correlated. These rules limit the net exposure arising from client activities and hedging consistent with our risk appetite.

Our risk management systems allow us to continually monitor our exposure against these limits in real time and on a group-wide basis. If our exposure exceeds the limits as a result of clients' activities, we will carry out sufficient hedging to bring the exposure back within the defined limit.

Changes to our internal market risk procedures require approval by the Pepperstone Board of Directors.



## 2. Credit Risk Mitigation and Reporting

We have internal counterparty credit risk procedures for assessing credit risk and setting credit risk limits. These procedures are reviewed once every six months, and presented to the Board for approval should any changes be proposed.

We review the credit quality of our major counterparties on an on-going basis, with a formal risk review for each counterparty performed at a minimum on an annual basis and more frequently if there is a significant change in market conditions or relevant news.

Our exposures to each counterparty are monitored on a daily basis and reported to our Risk Manager.

It is our policy to reduce the risk of counterparty failure through diversification and by setting each counterparty a risk-assessed exposure limit.

## 3. Minimum Criteria for Accepting Hedging Counterparties

We assess a potential hedging counterparty against a list of qualifying criteria that address whether they are of sufficient financial standing.

We do not accept a potential hedging counterparty unless they meet the minimum qualification criteria, which require the hedging counterparty to:

- 3.1 have adequate financial and compliance resources;
- 3.2 have an adequate financial license in its jurisdiction;
- 3.3 hold client funds in a reputable bank; and
- 3.4 have a good reputation within the financial industry.

Addition of new hedging counterparties or changes to existing counterparty limits require approval by Pepperstone's Board of Directors.

## 4. List of Current Hedging Counterparties

Currently we cooperate with the following hedging counterparties:

- 4.1 Sucden Financial Limited;
- 4.2 IS Prime Limited;
- 4.3 LMAX Limited;
- 4.4 GAIN Capital.
- 4.5 FXOpen Ltd;
- 4.6 CMC Asia Pacific Pty Ltd; and
- 4.7 CMC Markets UK Plc.

If you need any additional information, please feel free to contact us at [support@pepperstone.com](mailto:support@pepperstone.com).

---