

**COMPANION POLICY 21-101CP  
TO NATIONAL INSTRUMENT 21-101  
MARKETPLACE OPERATION**

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**PART 1 INTRODUCTION**

**1.1 Introduction** - Traditionally, the Canadian securities regulatory authorities have regulated securities markets by regulating dealers, exchanges and, in some jurisdictions, quotation and trade reporting systems. In recent years, particularly in the United States, new types of markets have emerged that take different forms and trade securities in a different manner than on those markets. These entities are referred to as alternative trading systems. While the existing regulatory system will generally apply to the activities of these markets, there are instances where the existing regulatory system needs to be supplemented. Accordingly, the Canadian securities regulatory authorities have adopted National Instrument 21-101 Marketplace Operation (the "Instrument") to create an appropriate regulatory regime to deal with these new types of markets and to supplement the regime applicable to exchanges and quotation and trade reporting systems.

The purpose of this Companion Policy is to state the views of the Canadian securities regulatory authorities on various matters related to the Instrument, including:

- (a) a discussion of the general approach taken by the Canadian securities regulatory authorities in, and the general regulatory purpose for, the Instrument; and
- (b) the interpretation of various terms and provisions in the Instrument.

**1.2 Definition of Exchange-Traded Security** – Section 1.1 of the Instrument defines an “exchange-traded security” as a security that is listed on a recognized exchange or is quoted on a recognized quotation and trade reporting system or is listed on an exchange or quoted on a quotation and trade reporting system that is recognized for the purposes of NI 21-101 and NI 23-101. A security that is inter-listed would be considered to be an exchange-traded security. A security that is listed only on a foreign exchange or quoted only on a foreign quotation and trade reporting system falls within the definition of “foreign exchange-traded security”.

**1.3 Definition of Foreign Exchange-Traded Security** – The definition of foreign exchange-traded security includes a reference to ordinary members of the International Organization of Securities Commissions (IOSCO). To determine the current list of ordinary members, reference should be made to the IOSCO website at [www.iosco.org](http://www.iosco.org).

## **PART 2                      MARKETPLACE**

### **2.1      Marketplace**

- (1)      The Instrument uses the term "marketplace" to encompass the different types of trading systems that match trades.
- (2)      Two of the characteristics of a "marketplace" are
  - (a)      that it brings together orders for securities of multiple buyers and sellers; and
  - (b)      that it uses established, non-discretionary methods under which the orders interact with each other.
- (3)      The Canadian securities regulatory authorities consider that a person or company brings together orders for securities if it
  - (a)      displays, or otherwise represents to marketplace participants, trading interests entered on the system; or
  - (b)      receives orders centrally for processing and execution (regardless of the level of automation used).
- (4)      The Canadian securities regulatory authorities are of the view that "established, non-discretionary methods" include any methods that dictate the terms of trading among the multiple buyers and sellers entering orders on the system. Such methods include providing a trading facility or setting rules governing trading among marketplace participants. Common examples include a traditional exchange and a computer system, whether comprised of software, hardware, protocols, or any combination thereof, through which orders interact, or any other trading mechanism that provides a means or location for the bringing together and execution of orders. Rules imposing execution priorities, such as time and price priority rules, would be "established, non-discretionary methods."
- (5)      The Canadian securities regulatory authorities do not consider the following systems to be marketplaces for purposes of the Instrument:
  1.      A system operated by a person or company that only permits one seller to sell its securities, such as a system that permits issuers to sell their own securities to investors.

2. A system that merely routes orders for execution to a facility where the orders are executed.
3. A system that posts information about trading interests, without facilities for execution.

In the first two cases, the criteria of multiple buyers and sellers would not be met. In the last two cases, routing systems and bulletin boards do not establish non-discretionary methods under which parties entering orders interact with each other.

- (6) A person or company operating any of the systems described in subsection (5) should consider whether the person or company is trading for the purposes of securities legislation and is required to be registered as a dealer under securities legislation.
- (7) Inter-dealer bond brokers have a choice as to how to be regulated under the Instrument and NI 23-101. Each inter-dealer bond broker can choose to be subject to IDA By-law No. 36 and IDA Regulation 2100, fall within the definition of inter-dealer bond broker in the Instrument and be subject to the transparency requirements of Part 8 of the Instrument. Alternatively, the inter-dealer bond broker can choose to be an ATS and comply with the provisions of the Instrument and NI 23-101 applicable to a marketplace and an ATS. An inter-dealer bond broker that chooses to be an ATS will not be subject to By-law No. 36 or IDA Regulation 2100, but will be subject to all other IDA requirements applicable to a dealer.

## **PART 3 CHARACTERISTICS OF EXCHANGES, QUOTATION AND TRADE REPORTING SYSTEMS AND ATSS**

### **3.1 Exchange**

- (1) Canadian securities legislation of most jurisdictions does not define the term "exchange".
- (2) The Canadian securities regulatory authorities generally consider a marketplace, other than a quotation and trade reporting system, to be an exchange for purposes of securities legislation, if the marketplace
  - (a) requires an issuer to enter into an agreement in order for the issuer's securities to trade on the marketplace, *i.e.*, the marketplace provides a listing function;

- (b) provides, directly, or through one or more marketplace participants, a guarantee of a two-sided market for a security on a continuous or reasonably continuous basis, *i.e.*, the marketplace has one or more marketplace participants that guarantee that a bid and an ask will be posted for a security on a continuous or reasonably continuous basis. For example, this type of liquidity guarantee can be carried out on exchanges through traders acting as principal such as registered traders, specialists or market makers;
  - (c) sets requirements governing the conduct of marketplace participants, in addition to those requirements set by the marketplace in respect of the method of trading or algorithm used by those marketplace participants to execute trades on the system (see subsection (3)); or
  - (d) disciplines marketplace participants, in addition to discipline by exclusion from trading, *i.e.*, the marketplace can levy fines or take enforcement action.
- (3) An ATS that requires a subscriber to agree to comply with the requirements of a regulation services provider as part of its contract with that subscriber is not setting "requirements governing the conduct of subscribers". In addition, marketplaces are not precluded from imposing credit conditions on subscribers or requiring subscribers to submit financial information to the marketplace.
- (4) The criteria in subsection 3.1(2) are not exclusive and there may be other instances in which the Canadian securities regulatory authorities will consider a marketplace to be an exchange.

### **3.2 Quotation and Trade Reporting System**

- (1) Canadian securities legislation in certain jurisdictions contains the concept of a quotation and trade reporting system. A quotation and trade reporting system is defined under Canadian securities legislation in those jurisdictions as a person or company, other than an exchange or registered dealer, that operates facilities that permit the dissemination of price quotations for the purchase and sale of securities and reports of completed transactions in securities for the exclusive use of registered dealers. A person or company that carries on business as a vendor of market data or a bulletin board with no execution facilities would not normally be considered to be a quotation and trade reporting system.
- (2) A quotation and trade reporting system is considered to have "quoted" a security if
- (a) the security has been subject to a listing or quoting process, and

- (b) the issuer issuing the security or the dealer trading the security has entered into an agreement with the quotation and trade reporting system to list or quote the security.

### **3.3 Definition of an ATS**

- (1) In order to be an ATS for the purposes of the Instrument, a marketplace cannot engage in certain activities or meet certain criteria such as
  - (a) requiring listing agreements,
  - (b) having one or more marketplace participants that guarantee that a two-sided market will be posted for a security on a continuous or reasonably continuous basis,
  - (c) setting requirements governing the conduct of subscribers, in addition to those requirements set by the marketplace in respect of the method of trading or algorithm used by those subscribers to execute trades on the system, and
  - (d) disciplining subscribers.

A marketplace, other than a quotation and trade reporting system, that engages in any of these activities or meets these criteria would, in the view of the Canadian securities regulatory authorities, be an exchange and would have to be recognized as such in order to carry on business, unless exempted from this requirement by the securities regulatory authorities.

- (2) An ATS can establish trading algorithms that provide that a trade takes place if certain events occur. These algorithms are not considered to be “requirements governing the conduct of subscribers”.
- (3) A marketplace that would otherwise meet the definition of an ATS in the Instrument may apply to the Canadian securities regulatory authorities for recognition as an exchange.

### **3.4 Requirements Applicable to ATSS**

- (1) Part 6 of the Instrument applies only to an ATS that is not a recognized exchange or a member of a recognized exchange or an exchange recognized for the purposes of the Instrument and NI 23-101. If an ATS is recognized as an exchange, the provisions of the Instrument relating to marketplaces and recognized exchanges apply.

- (2) If the ATS is a member of an exchange, the rules, policies and other similar instruments of the exchange apply to the ATS.
- (3) Under subsection 6.1(a) of the Instrument, an ATS that is not a member of a recognized exchange or an exchange recognized for the purposes of the Instrument and NI 23-101 must register as a dealer if it wishes to carry on business. Unless otherwise specified, an ATS registered as a dealer is subject to all of the requirements applicable to dealers under Canadian securities legislation, including the requirements imposed by the Instrument and NI 23-101. An ATS will be carrying on business in a local jurisdiction if it provides direct access to subscribers located in that jurisdiction.
- (4) If an ATS registered as a dealer in one jurisdiction in Canada provides access in another jurisdiction in Canada to subscribers who are not registered dealers under securities legislation, the ATS must be registered in that other jurisdiction. However, if all of the ATS's subscribers in the other jurisdiction are registered as dealers in that other jurisdiction, the securities regulatory authority in the other jurisdiction may consider granting the ATS an exemption from the requirement to register as a dealer under subsection 6.1(a) of the Instrument and from the registration requirements of securities legislation. In determining if the exemption is in the public interest, a securities regulatory authority will consider a number of factors, including whether the ATS is registered in another jurisdiction and whether the ATS deals only with registered dealers in that jurisdiction.
- (5) Subsection 6.1(b) of the Instrument prohibits an ATS to which the provisions of the Instrument apply from carrying on business unless it is a member of a self-regulatory entity. Membership in a self-regulatory entity is required for purposes of membership in the Canadian Investor Protection Fund, capital requirements and clearing and settlement procedures. At this time, the IDA is the only entity that would come within the definition.
- (6) Subsection 6.7(1) of the Instrument requires an ATS to notify the securities regulatory authority if one of three thresholds is met or exceeded. Upon being informed that one of the thresholds is met or exceeded, the securities regulatory authority intends to review the ATS, its structure and operations in order to consider whether the person or company operating the ATS should be considered to be an exchange for purposes of securities legislation. The securities regulatory authority intends to conduct this review because each of these thresholds may be indicative of an ATS having market dominance over a type of security, such that it would be more appropriate that the ATS be regulated as an exchange. If more than one Canadian

securities regulatory authority is conducting this review, the reviewing jurisdictions intend to coordinate their review. The volume thresholds referred to in subsection 6.7(1) and section 12.2 of the Instrument are based on the type of security. The Canadian securities regulatory authorities consider a type of security to refer to a distinctive category of security such as equity securities, preferred securities, debt securities or options.

- (7) The securities regulatory authorities will calculate and publish the calculation for the average daily dollar value of trading volume, the total trading volume and the total number of trades on all marketplaces for each calendar quarter for each type of security.
- (8) Subsections 6.10(2) and 6.11(2) of the Instrument require an ATS to obtain an acknowledgement from its subscribers. The acknowledgement may be obtained in a number of ways, including requesting the subscriber's signature or requesting that the subscriber initial an initial box or check a check-off box. This may be done electronically. The acknowledgement must be specific to the information required to be disclosed under the relevant subsection and must confirm that the subscriber has received the required disclosure. The Canadian securities regulatory authorities are of the view that it is the responsibility of the ATS to ensure that an acknowledgement is obtained from the subscriber in a timely manner.

## **PART 4 RECOGNITION AS AN EXCHANGE OR QUOTATION AND TRADE REPORTING SYSTEM**

### **4.1 Recognition as an Exchange or Quotation and Trade Reporting System**

- (1) In determining whether to recognize an exchange or quotation and trade reporting system, the Canadian securities regulatory authorities must determine whether it is in the public interest to do so.
- (2) In exercising this discretion, the Canadian securities regulatory authorities will look at a number of factors, including
  - (a) the manner in which the exchange or quotation and trade reporting system proposes to comply with the Instrument;
  - (b) whether the exchange or quotation and trade reporting system has fair and meaningful representation on its governing body, in the context of the nature and structure of the exchange or quotation and trade reporting system;

- (c) whether the exchange or quotation and trade reporting system has sufficient financial resources for the proper performance of its functions; and
- (d) whether the rules, policies and other similar instruments of the exchange or quotation and trade reporting system ensure that its business is conducted in an orderly manner so as to afford protection to investors.

## **PART 5 ORDERS**

### **5.1 Orders**

- (1) The term "order" is defined in section 1.1 of the Instrument as a firm indication by a person or company, acting as either principal or agent, of a willingness to buy or sell a security. By virtue of this definition, a marketplace that displays good faith, non-firm indications of interest, including, but not limited to, indications of interest to buy or sell a particular security without either prices or quantities associated with those indications, is not displaying "orders".
- (2) The label put on a transaction is not determinative of whether the transaction constitutes an order. Instead, whether or not an indication is "firm" will depend on what actually takes place between the buyer and seller. At a minimum, the Canadian securities regulatory authorities will consider an indication to be firm if it can be executed without further discussion between the person or company entering the indication and the counterparty. Even if the person or company must give its subsequent agreement to an execution, the Canadian securities regulatory authorities will still consider the indication to be firm if this subsequent agreement is always, or almost always, granted so that the agreement is largely a formality. For instance, an indication where there is a clear or prevailing presumption that a trade will take place at the indicated price, based on understandings or past dealings, will be viewed as an order.
- (3) A firm indication of a willingness to buy or sell a security includes bid or offer quotations, market orders, limit orders and any other priced orders. For the purpose of sections 7.1, 8.1 and 8.3 of the Instrument, the Canadian securities regulatory authorities do not consider special term orders such as all or none, minimum fill or cash or delay delivery to be firm indications.
- (4) The determination of whether an order has been placed does not turn on the level of automation used. Orders can be given over the telephone, as well as electronically.

## **PART 6 FORMS FILED BY MARKETPLACES**

### **6.1 Forms Filed by Marketplaces**

- (1) Subsection 3.1(1) of the Instrument requires an applicant for recognition as an exchange to file Form 21-101F1. This subsection does not apply to an exchange that was recognized before the Instrument came into force.
- (2) The forms filed by a marketplace under the Instrument will be open for public inspection unless the person or company filing the form applies to the securities regulatory authority to keep the form confidential and the securities regulatory authority agrees to do so. In determining whether to keep a form confidential, the securities regulatory authority will look at the type of information on the form and determine whether the desirability of avoiding disclosure outweighs the desirability of public disclosure.
- (3) Under subsection 3.2(1) of the Instrument, at least 45 days prior to implementing a significant change to a matter set out in Form 21-101F1, a recognized exchange must file information describing the change or an amendment to the information provided in Form 21-101F1, in each case, in the manner set out in Form 21-101F1. In the view of the Canadian securities regulatory authorities, a significant change includes a change to the information contained in Exhibits A, B, G, I, J, K, M, N, P and Q of Form 21-101F1. This is also applicable to recognized quotation and trade reporting systems under subsection 4.2(1) of the Instrument.
- (4) A recognized exchange or recognized quotation and trade reporting system that files amendments to the information provided in Form 21-101F1 should number each filing consecutively.
- (5) Securities legislation or the terms and conditions of the recognition of the exchange or quotation and trade reporting system may require that a recognized exchange or recognized quotation and trade reporting system that is voluntarily surrendering its recognition file a notice or application with the securities regulatory authority.
- (6) Under subsection 6.4(2) of the Instrument, at least 45 days prior to implementing a significant change to a matter set out in Form 21-101F2, an ATS is required to file an amendment to the information provided in Form 21-101F2 in the manner set out in Form 21-101F2. The Canadian securities regulatory authorities consider that a significant change includes any change to the operating platform of an ATS, the types of securities traded, or the types of subscribers.

- (7) Subsection 6.4(4) of the Instrument requires an ATS to file Form 21-101F3 by the following dates: April 30 (for the quarter ending March 31), July 30 (for the quarter ending June 30), October 30 (for the quarter ending September 30) and January 30 (for the quarter ending December 31).
- (8) If an ATS files notice of its intention to carry on exchange activities pursuant to section 6.6 of the Instrument, and the ATS intends to begin to carry on business as an exchange, the ATS is required to file Form 21-101F1.

**6.2 Forms Filed in Electronic Format** – The Canadian securities regulatory authorities request that all forms and exhibits required to be filed under the Instrument be filed in electronic format, where possible.

## **PART 7 CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS APPLICABLE ONLY TO EXCHANGES AND QUOTATION AND TRADE REPORTING SYSTEMS**

**7.1 Access Requirements** - Section 5.1 of the Instrument sets out access requirements that apply to a recognized exchange and a recognized quotation and trade reporting system. The Canadian securities regulatory authorities note that the requirements regarding access for members do not, however, restrict the authority of an exchange or quotation and trade reporting system to maintain reasonable standards for access.

**7.2 Compliance Rules** - Section 5.4 of the Instrument requires a recognized exchange and recognized quotation and trade reporting system to have appropriate procedures to deal with violations of rules, policies or other similar instruments of the exchange or quotation and trade reporting system. This section does not preclude enforcement action by any other person or company, including the Canadian securities regulatory authorities or the regulation services provider.

**7.3 Filing of Rules** - Section 5.5 of the Instrument requires a recognized exchange and recognized quotation and trade reporting system to file all rules, policies and other similar instruments and amendments as required by the securities regulatory authority. Initially, all rules, policies and other similar instruments will be reviewed before implementation by the exchange or quotation and trade reporting system. It is the intention of the securities regulatory authority to develop and implement a protocol that will set out the procedures to be followed with respect to the review and approval of rules, policies and other similar instruments and amendments.

## **PART 8 CONFIDENTIAL TREATMENT OF TRADING INFORMATION BY ATSS**

**8.1 Confidential Treatment of Trading Information by ATSS**

- (1) Subsection 6.8(2) of the Instrument provides that an ATS shall not carry on business as an ATS unless it has implemented reasonable safeguards and procedures to protect a subscriber's trading information. These include
  - (a) limiting access to the trading information of subscribers, such as the identity of subscribers and their orders, to those employees of, or persons or companies retained by, the ATS to operate the system or to be responsible for its compliance with Canadian securities legislation; and
  - (b) having in place procedures to ensure that employees of the ATS cannot use such information for trading in their own accounts.
- (2) The procedures referred to in subsection (1) should be clear and unambiguous and presented to all employees and agents of the ATS, whether or not they have direct responsibility for the operation of the ATS.
- (3) Nothing in section 6.8 of the Instrument prohibits an ATS from complying with National Policy 41 Shareholder Communication, or its successor instrument. This statement is necessary because an investment dealer that operates an ATS may be an intermediary for the purposes of National Policy 41, or its successor instrument, and may be required to disclose information under that Instrument.

## **PART 9 INFORMATION TRANSPARENCY REQUIREMENTS FOR MARKETPLACES DEALING IN EXCHANGE-TRADED SECURITIES AND FOREIGN EXCHANGE-TRADED SECURITIES**

### **9.1 Information Transparency Requirements for Marketplaces Dealing in Exchange-Traded Securities and Foreign Exchange-Traded Securities**

- (1) Subsection 7.1(1) of the Instrument requires a marketplace that displays orders of exchange-traded securities or foreign exchange-traded securities to any person or company to provide to an information processor information regarding such orders as required by the information processor. It is expected that, initially, an information processor will receive information regarding the type, the issuer, the class, the symbol and the series of the security, the five best bid prices and the five best ask prices for each exchange-traded security or foreign exchange-traded security other than an option and the total disclosed volume at each of those prices. In addition, an information processor will receive information regarding the underlying interest, the expiry month, the strike price, the best bid price and the best ask price for each option traded and the total disclosed volume at each of those prices. The “best bid price” refers to the highest price of an order to buy a particular security. The “best ask price”

for a security refers to the lowest price of an order to sell a particular security. The term "total disclosed volume" refers to the amount of the orders that is displayed in the marketplace. Volumes that are not disclosed or that are "reserve" or hidden volumes are not required to be displayed. An information processor may determine that additional or different information should be received and displayed.

- (2) The Canadian securities regulatory authorities are of the view that the requirements in sections 7.1 and 7.2 are a means to provide an accurate and timely representation of the Canadian securities market, including order and trade information for foreign exchange-traded securities traded on Canadian marketplaces.
- (3) The Canadian securities regulatory authorities expect that information required to be provided to an information processor under the Instrument will be provided in real-time or as close to real-time as possible.
- (4) Section 7.2 of the Instrument requires the marketplace to provide accurate and timely information regarding details of all trades of exchange-traded securities or foreign exchange-traded securities to an information processor as required by the information processor. For each exchange-traded security or foreign exchange-traded security other than an option, this information includes details as to the type, issuer, class and series of the security, the volume traded, the symbol, the price and time of the trade and any other information required by the information processor. For an option, this information includes details as to the underlying interest, the expiry month, whether the option is a put or a call, the strike price, the volume traded, the price and the time of the trade and any other information required by the information processor.

**9.2 Consolidated Feed** - Section 7.3 of the Instrument requires an information processor to produce a consolidated feed in real-time showing the information provided to the information processor. The consolidated feed will consist of the best five bid prices and the best five ask prices transmitted to it for each security and all of the trade information provided by marketplaces pursuant to Part 7 of the Instrument. Special terms orders will not be included in the consolidated feed. It is up to the marketplace to determine whether broker identification numbers will be provided to the information processor for inclusion in the consolidated feed.

## **PART 10 INFORMATION TRANSPARENCY REQUIREMENTS FOR UNLISTED DEBT SECURITIES**

### **10.1 Information Transparency Requirements for Marketplaces Dealing in Unlisted Debt Securities**

- (1) Subsection 8.1(1) of the Instrument requires marketplaces that display orders of unlisted debt securities to provide to an information processor information regarding such orders as required by the information processor. It is intended that marketplaces will provide information to the information processor relating to all orders of unlisted debt securities that are displayed on the marketplace.
- (2) Initially, the Canadian securities regulatory authorities expect that the information processor will require a marketplace to provide order information for all unlisted debt securities traded on the marketplace, including details as to the type, the issuer, the coupon, and the maturity of security, the best bid price, the best ask price and the total disclosed volume at those prices. The “best bid price” refers to the highest price of an order to buy a particular security. The “best ask price” for a security refers to the lowest price of an order to sell a particular security. The term "total disclosed volume" refers to the amount of the orders that is displayed in the marketplace. Volumes that are not disclosed or that are "reserve" or hidden volumes are not required to be displayed. The information processor may determine that additional or different information should be received and displayed. It is up to the marketplace to determine whether broker identification numbers will be provided to the information processor for inclusion in the consolidated feed.
- (3) Section 8.2 of the Instrument requires the marketplace to provide to the information processor accurate and timely information regarding details of all trades of unlisted debt securities as required by the information processor. This information includes details as to the type, issuer, class and series of the security, the volume traded, the price and the time of the trade and any additional information required by the information processor.
- (4) The Canadian securities regulatory authorities expect that information required to be provided to an information processor under sections 8.1 and 8.2 of the Instrument will be provided in real-time or as close to real-time as possible.

## **10.2 Information Transparency Requirements for Inter-Dealer Bond Brokers and Dealers Trading Unlisted Debt Securities**

- (1) Section 8.3 of the Instrument requires an inter-dealer bond broker to provide to an information processor accurate and timely information regarding orders for government debt securities traded through the inter-dealer bond broker as required by the information processor.
- (2) Initially, the information processor will require an inter-dealer bond broker to provide

order information for certain benchmark and designated government debt securities traded through the inter-dealer bond broker, including details as to the type, the issuer, the coupon, and the maturity of security, the best bid price, the best ask price and the total disclosed volume at those prices. The discussion of the meaning of these terms is in subsection 10.1(2).

- (3) Section 8.4 of the Instrument requires an inter-dealer bond broker to provide to an information processor accurate and timely information regarding details of trades of unlisted debt securities executed through the inter-dealer bond broker as required by the information processor. This requirement applies to both government debt securities and corporate debt securities.
- (4) Section 8.5 requires a dealer executing trades of corporate debt securities outside of a marketplace to provide to an information processor accurate and timely information regarding details of trades of corporate debt securities executed by or through the dealer as required by the information processor.
- (5) Initially, inter-dealer bond brokers will have to provide information regarding details of trades of certain benchmark and designated government debt securities including details as to the type, the issuer, the series, the coupon and the maturity of the security, the volume traded, the price and time of the trade and any additional information required by the information processor.
- (6) Initially, inter-dealer bond brokers and dealers will have to provide information regarding details of trades of certain designated corporate debt securities. This will include details as to the type, the issuer, the class, the series, the coupon and the maturity, the price and time of the trade and any additional information required by the information processor. The price of the security will include any mark-up or mark-down.
- (7) For investment grade corporate debt securities, inter-dealer bond brokers and dealers will have to provide the actual quantity of bonds traded if the total par value of the trade is \$2 million or less. For a trade with a par value above \$2 million, the volume will be disseminated as "\$2million+". An "investment grade corporate debt security" is a corporate debt security that is rated by one of the listed rating organizations at or above one of the following rating categories or a rating category that preceded or replaces a category listed below:

<b>Rating Organization</b>	<b>Long Term Debt</b>	<b>Short Term Debt</b>
Fitch, Inc.	BBB	F3
Dominion Bond Rating Service Limited	BBB	R-2
Moody's Investors Service, Inc.	Baa	Prime-3
Standard & Poors Corporation	BBB	A-3

- (8) For non-investment grade corporate debt securities, inter-dealer bond brokers and dealers will have to provide the actual quantity of bonds traded if the total par value of the trade is \$200,000 or less. For a trade with a par value above \$200,000, the volume will be disseminated as "\$200,000+". A "non-investment grade corporate debt security" is a corporate debt security that is not an investment grade corporate debt security.
- (9) The information processor will publish the list of benchmark and designated government debt securities and the list of corporate debt securities.
- (10) Order and trade information regarding government debt securities traded through an inter-dealer bond broker will be provided to the information processor in real-time or as close to real-time as possible. Initially, trade information regarding corporate debt securities traded through an inter-dealer bond broker or by or through a dealer will be provided within one hour of the trade.

**10.3 Consolidated Feed** - Section 8.6 of the Instrument requires the information processor to produce a consolidated feed in real-time showing the information provided to the information processor.

## **PART 11 MARKET INTEGRATION**

### **11.1 Phased Implementation**

- (1) As market integration is a complex task and raises some significant technology challenges, the Canadian securities regulatory authorities believe that a phased approach to market integration is preferable. Accordingly, subsection 9.2(1) and section 9.3 of the Instrument provide the requirements for the first phase of market integration ("Phase 1 Integration"). The Phase 1 Integration requirements will be in place before January 1, 2004. On and after January 1, 2004, a marketplace must either enter into an agreement with a market integrator or, if there is no market integrator, a marketplace must establish an electronic connection to all other marketplaces ("Phase 2 Integration").

- (2) Phase 1 Integration will require any marketplace that wishes to operate in Canada to establish an electronic connection to the principal market for each security being traded on its system before executing a trade of that security.
- (3) Following the enactment of the Instrument and each year, an information processor that receives information regarding a security will determine the marketplace that had the largest trading volume for that security in that calendar year, notify in writing each marketplace that trades that security of the marketplace determined to be the principal market and publish the name of that marketplace. If there is no information processor, the Canadian securities regulatory authorities will determine the principal market for each security and will make that determination publicly available.
- (4) Section 9.3(2) of the Instrument provides that a marketplace does not have to be connected to the principal market if the principal market for a security as determined is different from the previous principal market, the marketplace is connected to the previous principal market and the trade occurs within 30 days of the date the marketplace receives written notice of the principal market from the information processor or securities regulatory authorities. This is a transition provision that gives a marketplace thirty days to connect to the principal market.
- (5) Phase 2 Integration will establish more complete market integration and order routing between all marketplaces in order to ensure that there will be price protection for all orders between all competing marketplaces. Market integration may be achieved by establishing a market integrator or extending the requirement to link to the principal market by requiring all marketplaces to link with each other. Each marketplace will send orders to other systems by way of a direct connection or through a market integrator. Each system will maintain control over its own orders and will have responsibility for managing order execution.

**11.2 Execution of Orders** - Subsection 9.4(1) of the Instrument requires a marketplace, when receiving an order from another marketplace, to apply its own rules to the execution of that order. This requirement applies during both Phase 1 Integration and Phase 2 Integration. This requires a marketplace that displays orders through an information processor to provide access to its passive booked orders. When an active order is routed to the system in which the passive order is booked, then execution will be completed according to the rules of the system in which the passive order is booked. A passive order is an order that has been placed in the order book because it was not executable at time of entry and is now waiting to be executed. An active order is an order that comes into the market seeking a counterparty that is either a market order or an executable limit order (a buy order with a limit at or above the present ask price or a sell order with a limit at or below the present bid price).

### **11.3 Equivalent Access**

- (1) The Canadian securities regulatory authorities believe that a marketplace participant should be able to execute against another marketplace's order that is provided to an information processor to the same extent as if that order had been reflected in the marketplace in which the marketplace participant is a member, a user or a subscriber. Accordingly, subsection 9.4(2) of the Instrument requires a marketplace to be able to receive from or send orders to other marketplaces to which it is linked.
- (2) Examples of where the Canadian securities regulatory authorities would consider a marketplace not to be in compliance with subsection 9.4(2) of the Instrument include
  - (a) the marketplace responding to orders entered by a person or company that is not a marketplace participant in that marketplace more slowly than it responds to orders by a marketplace participant in that marketplace;
  - (b) the marketplace using different technology to execute orders entered by a person or company that is not a marketplace participant in that marketplace, if that technology would not provide an equivalent service to orders entered by a marketplace participant in that marketplace; or
  - (c) the marketplace charging fees that have the effect of creating barriers to access for a person or company that is not a marketplace participant in that marketplace.
- (3) The Canadian securities regulatory authorities will not consider a marketplace to be in breach of subsection 9.4(2) of the Instrument merely because it has a different fee structure for persons or companies that are not marketplace participants in the marketplace. Instead the Canadian securities regulatory authorities will look at whether the different fee structure can be justified or whether it has only been implemented in order to create a barrier to access for those persons or companies.

### **11.4 Establishing a Market Integrator** – When choosing a market integrator, the Canadian securities regulatory authorities will look at a number of factors, including,

- (a) the performance capability, standards and procedures for providing access to orders in various marketplaces;
- (b) whether all marketplaces may obtain access to the market integrator on fair and reasonable terms which are not unreasonably discriminatory;

- (c) personnel qualifications; and
- (d) whether the market integrator has sufficient financial resources for the proper performance of its functions.

## **PART 12 DISCLOSURE OF TRANSACTION FEES FOR MARKETPLACES**

**12.1 Disclosure of Transaction Fees for Marketplaces** - Section 10.1 of the Instrument requires that each marketplace disclose the schedule of transaction fees to an information processor. It is not the intention of the Canadian securities regulatory authorities that a commission fee charged by a dealer for dealer services be disclosed to an information processor. Each marketplace is required to publicly post with an information processor a schedule of all trading fees that are applicable to outside marketplace participants that are accessing an order and executing a trade displayed through an information processor. The requirement to disclose transaction fees does not require a combined price calculation by each marketplace.

## **PART 13 RECORDKEEPING REQUIREMENTS FOR MARKETPLACES**

**13.1 Recordkeeping Requirements for Marketplaces** - Part 11 of the Instrument requires a marketplace to maintain certain records. Generally, under provisions of Canadian securities legislation, the Canadian securities regulatory authorities can require a marketplace to deliver to them any of the records required to be kept by them under securities legislation, including the records required to be maintained under Part 11.

**13.2 Synchronization of Clocks** – Subsection 11.5(1) requires a marketplace trading exchange-traded securities or foreign exchange-traded securities, an information processor receiving information about those securities, a dealer trading those securities and a regulation services provider monitoring the activities of marketplaces trading those securities shall synchronize their clocks. Subsection 11.5(2) requires a marketplace trading corporate debt securities or government debt securities, an information processor receiving information about those securities, a dealer trading those securities, an inter-dealer bond broker trading those securities and a regulation services provider monitoring the activities of marketplaces, inter-dealer bond brokers or dealers trading those securities shall synchronize their clocks. The Canadian securities regulatory authorities are of the view that synchronization means that in most circumstances, the clocks will be within 2 seconds of each other. The clocks should be checked at least daily for synchronization and should be adjusted on a weekly basis. For exchange-traded securities and foreign exchange-traded securities, the marketplaces, information processor, dealers and regulation services provider should select an appropriate national time standard to be used by all parties to synchronize the clocks. For unlisted debt securities, the marketplaces, information processor, dealers and regulation services provider should select an appropriate national time standard to be used by all parties to synchronize the clocks.

## **PART 14      CAPACITY, INTEGRITY AND SECURITY OF MARKETPLACE SYSTEMS**

### **14.1      Capacity, Integrity and Security of Marketplace Systems**

- (1)      Subsection (a) of section 12.1 of the Instrument requires a marketplace to meet certain systems, capacity, integrity and security standards. Subsections (b) and (c) of section 12.1 of the Instrument require a recognized exchange, a recognized quotation and trade reporting system and an ATS that exceeds the threshold in section 12.2 of the Instrument to meet certain additional systems, capacity, integrity and security standards.
- (2)      The activities in subsection (a) of section 12.1 of the Instrument must be carried out at least once a year. The Canadian securities regulatory authorities would expect these activities to be carried out even more frequently if there is a change to the marketplace that is material either in terms of structure or volume of trading that necessitates that these functions be carried out more frequently in order to ensure that the marketplace can appropriately service its marketplace participants.
- (3)      The independent review contemplated by subsection (b) of section 12.1 of the Instrument should be performed by competent, independent audit personnel following established audit procedures and standards.
- (4)      An ATS becomes subject to subsections (b) and (c) of section 12.1 of the Instrument after it first satisfies the trading volume test in section 12.2 of the Instrument. It remains subject to subsections (b) and (c) of section 12.1 even if, thereafter, it no longer satisfies the trading volume test, unless it is successful in obtaining relief under section 15.1 of the Instrument.

## **PART 15      CLEARING AND SETTLEMENT**

**15.1      Clearing and Settlement** - Subsection 13.1(1) of the Instrument requires that all trades executed through an ATS shall be reported and settled through a clearing agency. Subsections 13.1(2) and (3) of the Instrument require that an ATS and its subscriber enter into an agreement that specifies which entity will report and settle the trades of securities. If the subscriber is registered as a dealer under securities legislation, either the ATS, the subscriber or an agent for the subscriber that is a member of a clearing agency may report and settle trades. If the subscriber is not registered as a dealer under securities legislation, either the ATS or an agent for the subscriber that is a clearing member of a clearing agency may report and settle trades. The ATS is responsible for ensuring that an agreement with the subscriber is in place before any trade is executed for the subscriber. If the agreement is not in place at the time of the execution of the trade, the ATS is responsible for clearing and settling that trade if a default occurs.

## **PART 16 INFORMATION PROCESSOR**

### **16.1 Information Processor**

- (1) The Canadian securities regulatory authorities believe that it is important for those who trade to have access to accurate information on the prices at which trades in particular securities are taking place (i.e., last sale reports) and the prices at which others have expressed their willingness to buy or sell (i.e., orders).
- (2) The purpose of an information processor is to ensure the availability of prompt and accurate order and trade information and to guarantee fair access to the information.

### **16.2 Selection of an Information Processor**

- (1) The Canadian securities regulatory authorities will review Form 21-101F5 to determine whether it is contrary to the public interest for the person or company who filed the form to act as an information processor. The Canadian securities regulatory authorities will look at a number of factors when reviewing the form filed, including,
  - (a) the performance capability, standards and procedures for the collection, processing, distribution, and publication of information with respect to orders for, and trades in, securities;
  - (b) whether all marketplaces may obtain access to the information processor on fair and reasonable terms which are not unreasonably discriminatory;
  - (c) personnel qualifications;
  - (d) whether the information processor has sufficient financial resources for the proper performance of its functions;
  - (e) the existence of another entity performing the proposed function for the same type of security;
  - (f) the systems report referred to in subsection 14.5(b) of the Instrument.
- (2) The Canadian securities regulatory authorities request that the forms and exhibits be filed in electronic format, where possible.

**16.3 Change to Information** - Under subsection 14.2(1) of the Instrument, an information processor is required to file an amendment to the information provided in Form 21-101F5 at least 45 days before implementing a significant change involving a matter set out in Form 21-101F5, in the manner set out in Form 21-101F5. In the view of the Canadian securities regulatory authorities, a significant change includes a change to the information contained in Exhibits A, B, F, G, H, O, P, Q, R and S and Item 10 of Form 21-101F5.