

Russell Contingency Overview



Overview

As Nasdaq and the securities industry prepare for the upcoming Russell Reconstitution, Nasdaq is highly confident that its systems will provide the reliability and capacity required to ensure a smooth, successful Reconstitution. Nonetheless, for the past several years, in advance of the Russell Reconstitution, Nasdaq has published its contingency plan in order to prepare the industry for unusual market conditions.

Due to the unpredictability of market events, Nasdaq has attempted to create a simple contingency plan that can address a wide range of scenarios in a manner similar to the regular closing cross.

Guidelines Governing Contingencies

Because Nasdaq cannot predict every possible scenario that could occur, it will employ the following guidelines in determining how to react to an unusual market condition:

- 1) It is critical that, if at all possible, Nasdaq determine the Closing Price and closing cross executions even if the process must occur after the standard 4:00 p.m., Eastern Time (ET), closing time.
- 2) The industry must be provided with a closing price on the date of the Reconstitution and no later. Nasdaq will publish the Nasdaq Official Closing Price (NOCP) through regular channels as soon as possible after the price has been established.
- 3) In the event the standard closing cross process fails to generate the NOCP in one or more securities, Nasdaq will invoke the contingency closing cross process detailed below in each impacted security and notify participants as soon as possible.

Primary Contingency Closing Cross Process

- Nasdaq will invoke an offline process which will allow eligible orders to execute against the consolidated last sale prior to 4:00pm. The last sale consolidated price will become the Nasdaq Official Closing Price "NOCP". This process is independent from the matching engine application and will be utilized in the event of systemic failure.
- All Market-on-Close, Limit-on-Close and Imbalance Only orders received and not cancelled prior to 3:50pm will be eligible to participate.
- All Imbalance Only orders received between 3:50 and 4:00pm will be eligible to participate.
- Orders in the continuous market will not be eligible to participate in the contingency closing cross process as the process is offline and can't interact with the continuous limit order book.
- In order to maximize the number of shares executed in the closing cross Nasdaq will identify eligible orders which, on a price-time priority basis, can cross at the NOCP (i.e. the consolidated last sale prior to 4:00pm).
 - If an order imbalance exists after all the buy and sell MOC/LOC interest is considered, Imbalance Only orders will be eligible to participate to offset any remaining share imbalance in order to maximize the number of paired shares that can execute in the cross.

Delivery of Executions & Market Data

- Nasdaq will publish the NOCP and total shares executed in the offline cross to the SIP.
- Individual component executions will be delivered to participants via a flat file (formatted in DROP protocol). Any MOC/LOC or Imbalance Only order not receiving an execution should be considered cancelled.

Secondary Contingency Closing Cross Process

If Nasdaq determines that both the standard cross and the primary contingency processes are unavailable, Nasdaq will employ the following secondary contingency plan for determining the closing price.

Timeline prior to 15:00 ET:

Nasdaq will designate an alternate exchange (NYSE Arca) and the Nasdaq Official Closing Price for those securities will be:

- The official closing price established for such security under the rules of the designated alternate exchange.
- If there is no official closing price in a security on the designated alternate exchange, the Nasdaq Official Closing Price will be the volume-weighted average price of the consolidated last-sale eligible prices of the last five minutes of trading during regular trading hours, including any closing transactions on an exchange and any trade breaks or corrections up to the time the VWAP is processed.
- If there were no consolidated last-sale eligible trades in the last five minutes of trading during regular trading hours, the Nasdaq Official Closing Price of such security will be the last consolidated last-sale eligible trade for such security during regular trading hours on that trading day.
- If there were no consolidated last-sale eligible trades the Nasdaq Official Closing Price of such security will be the prior day's Nasdaq Official Closing Price.
- If no Nasdaq Official Closing Price for a security can be determined under the subsections above, the Exchange would not publish an Official Closing Price for such security.

Timeline after 15:00 ET:

- The Nasdaq Official Closing Price will be the volume-weighted average price of the consolidated last-sale eligible prices of the last five minutes of trading during regular trading hours, including any closing transactions on an exchange and any trade breaks or corrections up to the time the VWAP is processed.
- If there were no consolidated last-sale eligible trades in the last five minutes of trading during regular trading hours, the Nasdaq Official Closing Price of such security will be the last consolidated last-sale eligible trade for such security during regular trading hours on that trading day.
- If there were no consolidated last-sale eligible trades the Nasdaq Official Closing Price of such security will be the prior day's Nasdaq Official Closing Price.
- If no Nasdaq Official Closing Price for a security can be determined under the subsections above, the Exchange would not publish an Official Closing Price for such security.

Emergency Communications Media

Nasdaq will use the following communications media to inform the market participants of the unusual market conditions, as well as to notify market participants of Nasdaq's actions to address those conditions:

- 1) System Status Alert page on the Nasdaq Trader® website

- 2) On June 23, 2017, Nasdaq, NYSE, NYSE Arca and NYSE MKT will hold a joint market-wide call beginning at 3:00 p.m., ET, and lasting approximately two hours. The call details are:
 - Dial In: +1 800 936-9761
 - Conference ID#: 33413652
 - Topic: Russell Reconstitution
 - Leader: David Lawn
- 3) Nasdaq will also use Equity Trader Alerts and email notifications as needed.
- 4) NYSE, NYSE Arca, and NYSE MKT will use email notifications as needed.

Sample Data

View a sample Russell Contingency DROP file [here](#)