

**Indxx Global Fintech Thematic Index:**

**Methodology**

**March, 2017**

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# Indxx Global Fintech Thematic Index

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## Index Description

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*The Indxx Global Fintech Thematic Index is designed to track the performance of companies listed in developed markets that are offering technology-driven financial services which are disrupting existing business models in the financial services and banking sectors.*

## Creation of Master list

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### ***Investable Universe***

- The Index is designed to include the most liquid and investable universe of companies listed on developed markets exchanges as defined by Indxx. For more information, please refer to the document 'Country Classification and Investability Requirements', by visiting the 'Index Documents' section on <http://www.indxx.com/announcements.php>
- Companies must have a minimum market capitalization of \$100 million and a minimum average daily turnover for the last 6 months greater than or equal to \$2 million.
- The stock must have traded on 90% of the eligible trading days in the last 6 months. In case a security does not have a trading history of 6 months (e.g., IPOs), such a security must have started trading at least 3 months before the start of the Reconstitution/Rebalancing Process, and should have traded on 90% of the eligible trading days for the past 3 months.

### ***Free Float***

All constituents must have a minimum free float equivalent to 10% of shares outstanding.

### ***Geographical Focus***

The security should have its primary listing in developed markets as defined by Indxx.

### ***Maximum Price***

Securities trading at a price of \$10,000 or above are ineligible for inclusion in the index. This rule is not applicable for existing constituents. Existing constituents would remain in the Index irrespective of their stock price.

### ***Security Type***

- Common Stock, ADR, GDR
- In case ADR for a security is available, it will be considered for inclusion over other security types.

## Security Selection

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The security selection process is based on research performed by Indxx and entails the following steps:

- An extensive research is undertaken with a focus on identifying the industries and business segments that are most involved in the application of disruptive technologies in the financial services and banking sectors. These disruptive technologies provide cost-efficiencies, additional customers/users, enhanced customer experience and/or other improvements over traditional business models and solutions in financial services and banking. The industries identified through this research-based approach are subject to change at every annual reconstitution.
- As of July 2016, Indxx has identified the following industries to be the most relevant to the Fintech theme:
  - **P2P and Marketplace Lending:** Companies that provide online platforms for peer-to-peer and marketplace lending that is disrupting the traditional lending sector.
  - **Mobile Payments:** Companies that provide platforms and services that focus on peer-to-peer mobile payments and POS (Point-of-sale) services.
  - **Crowd-Funding:** Companies that provide online platforms for sourcing funds from individual members.
  - **Blockchain and Alternative Currencies:** Companies that are involved in the development of blockchain technology, or that utilize blockchain technology to provide financial services. Companies that are involved in the development of other alternative currencies are also eligible for inclusion.
  - **Personal Finance Software, Automated Wealth Management and Trading:** Companies that are involved in developing personal finance software, robo-advisor solutions that leverage automation/algorithms, and/or are technology-enabled investment solution providers. This does not include traditional fund administrators that provide technology services.
  - **Enterprise Solutions:** Companies that provide scalable technology solutions focused on disrupting traditional areas of financial services such as lending, credit scoring and banking.
- Only those companies that derive a significant portion of their revenues from the above industries/segments or have stated their primary business to be in products and services focused on the above industries/segments are eligible for inclusion in the index. Companies that have demonstrated these industries/segments to be a growth focus area through internal R&D investments, joint ventures, partnerships, and/or acquisitions are eligible for inclusion in the index.
- The top 'pure-play' Fintech companies by market capitalization will form the final portfolio. The index is capped at 100 companies. If fewer than 100 companies qualify to be eligible for inclusion, all these companies would be a part of the final portfolio.
- If fewer than 20 companies qualify to be eligible for inclusion, the index committee would consider a secondary list of companies with diversified revenue streams that (1) have a distinct business unit focused on Fintech, and (2) have a core competency that is expected to also benefit from the increased adoption of Fintech for inclusion till the count reaches 20.

## Weighting

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- The Index is modified market cap-weighted at the time of reconstitution with a single security cap of 6% and a single security floor of 0.3%.
- The aggregate weight of the top eight securities is capped at 45%, and all remaining securities are capped at 4.75%.
- Security-level market capitalization is considered for calculating weights.

## Buffer Rules

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Buffer Rules are employed to reduce Portfolio Turnover. The following Buffer Rules are applicable:

### ***Market Capitalization***

An existing index constituent shall continue to remain in the index even if its Market Capitalization doesn't meet the previously defined minimum market capitalization criteria, but remains within +/- 20% of this limit.

### ***Liquidity***

An existing index constituent shall continue to remain in the index even if its Liquidity is below the previously defined Average Daily Traded Value limit, but remains within +/- 30% of this limit.

### ***Continued Representation in the Portfolio***

Additionally, an existing index constituent shall continue to remain in the index if it is part of top 120 companies by market cap, even if it isn't a part of the top 100 constituents.

## Reconstitution and Rebalancing Rules

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- The index follows an annual reconstitution and rebalancing schedule. The new portfolio becomes effective at the close of last trading day of June each year. This day is called the 'Effective Day.'
- The security selection and portfolio creation process starts on the close of the nearest Friday falling at least one month before the effective day, called the 'Selection Day.'
- The final portfolio constituents are shortlisted from a selection pool of all eligible securities selected based on the data as of the Selection Day.
- Weights are calculated at the close of the seventh trading day prior to the Effective Day. Index Shares are frozen using weights as of this day.
- The index follows a mid-term review for IPOs. Any new addition to the portfolio at the time of review will be added at its weights which will be calculated at the close of seventh trading day prior to the Effective Day and its shares will be frozen using its weights as of this day.
- Any new addition following the mid-term review will be effective on the last trading day of December where divisor will be adjusted to reflect the change in market value.

## Corporate Actions

The following corporate actions (such as stock splits, special dividends, spin-offs and rights offerings) are applied to Price Return indices on the ex-date or earlier as decided by the Index Committee.

Corporate Action	Description	Treatment	Adjustment
Company addition and deletion	In case a constituent is added, removed or replaced with another constituent in the Index.	In case of addition and deletion from an index, the divisor is adjusted to reflect the change in market value.	Divisor Adjustment
Stock Split	A stock split is a decision by the company's board of directors to increase the number of shares that are outstanding by issuing more shares to current shareholders. After a split, the stock price will be reduced since the number of shares outstanding has increased.	Stock splits will be adjusted for on the ex- date. The number of shares will increase times the adjustment factor for the split.	No divisor adjustment is required since the share count and price changes are offsetting.
Rights Issue	Rights Issue gives existing shareholders the right to purchase a proportional number of new shares at a discount to the market price on a stated future date. The rights issued to a shareholder have a value, thus compensating current shareholders for the future dilution of their existing shares' value.	Rights Issue impacts the number of shares as well as price thereby impacting the index divisor reflecting an increase in market cap. The Index committee will decide whether to participate in the rights issue or not. If the subscription price is greater than or equal to the stock closing price, Indxx would not participate in the rights issue.	Divisor Adjustment
Spin-Off	Spin off is the creation of an independent company through the sale or distribution of new shares of an existing business/division of a parent company.	The Index Committee will decide on one of the following options based on internal research.	
	Spun-Off company is not added, only the parent company remains in the Index.	Spin-Off will be adjusted for by changing the divisor to account for the change in market value (reflecting market value of the Spun-Off entity).	Divisor Adjustment
	Spun-Off company added to the Index, another company replaced.	The divisor is adjusted to account for the impact of deletion of a company from the Index.	Divisor Adjustment
	Spun-Off company added to the Index, no company removed.		No Divisor Adjustment
Delisting	Delisting refers to the practice of removing the stock of a company from a stock exchange so that investors can no longer trade shares of the stock on that exchange.	The security would be removed from the index, and the invested amount in the delisted security will be reinvested into the index.	Divisor Adjustment

Acquisition	<p>A corporate action in which a company buys most, if not all, of the target company's ownership stakes in order to assume control of the target firm. There could be three different cases:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Target Company is a part of the index, acquiring company is not;</li> <li>- Acquiring Company is a part of the index, target company is not;</li> <li>- Target and Acquiring companies are a part of the index</li> </ul> <p>The treatment below is followed for all the three scenarios.</p>	The Target company would be removed from the index and the Index Committee will decide on one of the following options based on internal research.	
	All cash takeover	No change to acquirer	Divisor Adjustment
	Partial stock takeover	Share change to acquirer	Divisor Adjustment
	All stock takeover	Share change to acquirer	Divisor Adjustment
Merger	<p>Merger is the combination of two or more companies, generally by offering the stockholders of one company securities in the acquiring company in exchange for the surrender of their stock.</p>	<p>The Target company is removed from the Index.</p> <p>The Index Committee will decide if the Surviving company should be added to the Index. If added, the divisor will be adjusted to reflect the increase in the number of shares.</p>	Divisor Adjustment
Bankruptcy	<p>Bankruptcy is a legal proceeding involving a person or business that is unable to repay outstanding debts.</p>	The security would be removed from the index, and the invested amount in the acquired security will be reinvested into the index.	Divisor Adjustment
Temporary Delisting / Prolonged Trading Suspension	<p>A temporary delisting/trading suspension occurs when a security stops trading on the stock exchange for a certain time period. This usually occurs when a publicly-traded company is going to release significant news about itself.</p>	The security would be removed from the index based on the Index Committee's decision and the invested amount in the acquired security will be reinvested into the index.	Divisor Adjustment
Special Dividends	<p>When a company pays a special dividend, the share price of the company declines by the amount of the dividend.</p>	The Divisor is adjusted to reflect a fall in the price of the company paying the special dividend.	Divisor Adjustment
Bonus Issue of Shares	<p>A bonus share is a free share of stock given to current/existing shareholders in a company, based upon the number of shares owned by them.</p>	The issue of bonus shares increases the total number of shares issued and owned, it does not increase the value of the company. The ratio of number of shares held by each shareholder remains constant.	No Adjustment



# Total Return Indices

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## Total Return Index

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In addition to all the above mentioned corporate actions, ordinary cash dividends will be applied on the ex-date for calculating TR Indices.

## Adjustment in the Index

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All dividend payments will be reinvested in the index, by adjusting the divisor in the total return index on the ex-dividend date.

# Index Policy

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## Index Committee Policy

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The Index Committee is responsible for setting policy, determining index composition, and administering the indices in accordance with the Indxx index methodology. The Index Committee reserves the right to use qualitative judgment to include, exclude, adjust, or postpone the inclusion of a stock. Continued index membership of a constituent is not necessarily subject to the guidelines provided in each of the Indxx index methodology. A stock may be considered for exclusion by the Index Committee on the basis of corporate governance, accounting policies, lack of transparency and lack of representation, despite meeting all the criteria provided in each of the Indxx index methodology.

## Announcements

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Announcements of additions and deletions of constituents, due to various corporate actions mentioned above, in the middle of the year will be decided by the Index Committee. This will be communicated to the client well ahead of time. Also important news items as well as corporate actions with respect to all the constituents of the index will be informed to the client on a weekly basis.

## Holiday Schedule

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The index is calculated when the U.S. equity markets are open. In situations where an exchange is forced to close early due to unforeseen events, the index will be calculated based on the closing prices published by the exchange, or if no closing price is available, the last regular trade reported for each stock before the exchange closed.

## Disclaimer

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