# KEY INFORMATION DOCUMENT (SHORT TERM INTEREST RATE FUTURES)

Purpose: This document provides key information about this investment product. It is not marketing material. The information is required by law to help you understand the nature, risks, costs, potential gains and losses of this product and to help you compare it with other products.

# Product: Short Term Interest Rate ("STIR") Futures - ICE Futures Europe ("IFEU") -

https://www.theice.com/futures-europe

Three Month Sterling (Short Sterling) Futures / Euribor® Futures / Euro Swiss Franc (Euroswiss) Futures **Eurodollar Futures** 

One Month Eonia Index Future / One Month SONIA Index Futures

Mortgage Backed Securities DTCC GCF Repo Index®/U.S. Treasury DTCC GCF Repo Index®

Call +44 (0)20 7429 4640 for more information or email: rates@theice.com

IFEU is a recognised investment exchange supervised by the Financial Conduct Authority.

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**Alert:** You are about to purchase a product that is not simple and may be difficult to understand.

# What is this product?

Type: Derivative. STIR Futures are considered to be derivatives under Annex I, Section C of MiFID 2014/65/EU.

A STIR Futures contract ("STIR Future") is a cash settled derivative contract on a specified term interest rate paid on a notional deposit. The price of a STIR Future is quoted as 100.00 minus the rate of interest, meaning there is an inverse relationship between the direction in which the underlying interest rate is expected to move and the value of the contract. Each STIR Future has its own last trading day ("Last Trading Day"), after which the product will expire. You can close your position on any trading day up to and including the Last Trading Day. If you (as a buyer) 'opened' a position by buying a STIR Future, you sell the same contract to 'close' your position. If you (as a seller) 'opened' a position by selling a STIR Future, you buy the same contract to 'close' your position. If on the Last Trading Day the final closing price exceeds the opening price, the buyer has made a profit and the seller has made a loss. In this case, during the holding period, the seller has paid the buyer the difference between the final closing price and the opening price multiplied by the monetary value of each STIR Future's minimum price movement or tick size ("Tick Size"). If on the Last Trading Day the final closing price is less than the opening price, the seller makes a profit and the buyer makes a loss. In this case, during the holding period, the buyer has paid the seller the difference between opening price and the final closing price multiplied by the relevant Tick Size. A STIR Future may in certain circumstances be unilaterally terminated by IFEU and may be terminated by ICE Clear Europe Ltd. ("ICEU") (see "What happens if IFEU is unable to pay out?" below) following an event of default of a Clearing Member or invoiced back. Factors that impact a STIR Future's value include, but are not limited to, the opening price and underlying STIR. A STIR Future will (unless you choose to close your position beforehand) automatically expire on the relevant expiry date.

## Intended retail investor:

This product is not designed to be marketed to a specific type of investor or to fulfil a specific investment objective or investment strategy. A retail investor should become familiar with the characteristics of this product to make an informed decision on whether or not this product fits their investment needs. If in doubt, a retail investor should contact their broker or investment adviser to obtain investment advice.

# What are the risks and what could I get in return?

# Risk indicator:



## **Summary Risk Indicator: 7**

The risk indicator assumes that a future is held until its expiration. The actual risk can vary significantly if you cash in at an early stage and you may get back less. Some futures and futures strategies have limited risk, but some can be high risk. Events, such as early closure of the position, may significantly impact the value of a future.

- The summary risk indicator is a guide to the level of risk of this product compared to other products. It shows how likely it is that the product will lose money because of movements in the markets. We have classified this product as 7 out of 7, which is the highest risk class. This rates the potential losses from future performance at a very high level.
- Be aware of currency risk. You may receive payments in a different currency, so the final return you will get depends on the exchange rate between the two currencies. This risk is not considered in the indicator shown above.
- In some circumstances you may be required to make further payments to pay for losses. The total loss you may incur may significantly exceed the amount invested.
- This product does not include any protection from future market performance so you could lose some or all of your investment.
- If ICEU (see "What happens if IFEU is unable to pay out?" below) or any intermediary is not able to pay you what is owed you could lose your entire investment.
- The risk and reward profile of a STIR Future depends on its terms, but will involve the following considerations:

**Buyers** of a STIR Future can incur unlimited losses. The loss is equal to the opening contract price minus the closing sale price. **Sellers** of a STIR Future can incur unlimited losses. The loss is equal to the closing sale price minus the opening contract price. **Buying or selling futures can be high risk and requires extensive product knowledge.** The profit or loss potential of a STIR Future on the Last Trading Day depends on the opening contract price and the relevant closing price. The price of the STIR Future depends on several factors, such as the price movement of the underlying STIR. Additionally, the potential for profit or loss of the STIR Future's position depends highly on the way the position is used, e.g. STIR Futures can be traded as a risk management tool to hedge other investments or as a stand-alone investment.

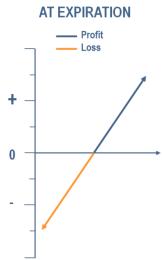
• This product can expose a retail investor to unlimited liabilities in certain circumstances and can be used for a variety of purposes e.g. for hedging/risk management or as a stand-alone instrument. This is a complex product and is only likely to be appropriate for the most experienced, sophisticated and knowledgeable types of investors.

### **Performance scenarios:**

These graphs illustrate how your investment could perform. You can compare them with the pay-off graphs of other derivatives products in different Key Information Documents.

The graphs presented give a range of possible outcomes and are not an exact indication of what you might get back. What you get will vary depending on how the underlying will develop. For each value of the underlying, the graphs show what the profit or loss of the product would be. The horizontal axis shows the various possible prices of the underlying STIR Future on the expiry date and the vertical axis shows the profit or loss.

# **Buy STIR Future:**



Transaction: Buy STIR Future.

**Investment:** None, but margin is required.

**Margin:** Initial margin (approximately 0.05-0.10% of the contract notional value) plus variation margin to mark to market prices on a daily basis.

**Market expectation**: Rising market. Buying this product holds that you think the value of the STIR Future will increase i.e. interest rates will go down.

**Profit/loss calculation:** The total profit or loss at expiration is calculated as follows:

<u>Step one</u>: Take the closing price minus the opening price at which the contract was entered into. <u>Step two</u>: When the result of Step one is positive the buyer has made a profit. If the result of Step one is negative the buyer has made a loss.

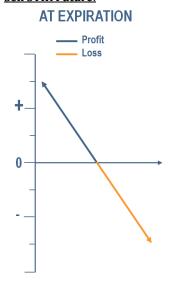
Step three: STIR Futures are priced at 100.00 minus the rate of interest. To monetise the difference calculated in Step two, you have to multiply the difference between the closing price and the opening price by the relevant STIR Future's Tick Size. For example, in the case of Short Sterling, this is £12.50 or £6.25 for the first quarterly delivery, and for Euribor and Euro Swiss, it is €25 and CHF25 respectively.

#### Profit and loss characteristics:

**Profit:** Unlimited, there is the potential for the underlying STIR to have a negative value.

**Loss:** Your maximum loss is unlimited and you may lose all of your investment and be required to make additional payments significantly exceeding the initial margin payment.

# **Sell STIR Future:**



Transaction: Sell STIR Future.

**Investment**: None, but margin is required.

**Margin:** Initial margin (approximately 0.05-0.10% of total contract notional value) plus variation margin to mark to market prices on a daily basis.

**Market expectation**: Falling market. Selling this product holds that you think the value of the STIR Future will decrease i.e. interest rates will go up.

**Profit/loss calculation:** The total profit or loss at expiration is calculated as follows:

 $\underline{\text{Step one}}\text{:}$  Take the opening price the contract was entered into minus the closing price.

<u>Step two:</u> When the result of Step one is positive the seller has made a profit. If the result of Step one is negative then the seller has made a loss.

<u>Step three:</u> STIR Futures are priced at 100.00 minus the rate of interest. To monetise the difference calculated in Step two, you have to multiply the difference between the opening price and the closing price by the relevant STIR Future's Tick Size. For example, in the case of Short Sterling, this is £12.50 or £6.25 for the first quarterly delivery, and for Euribor and Euro Swiss, it is €25 and CHF25 respectively.

# Profit and loss characteristics:

Profit: Unlimited.

**Loss:** There is the potential for the underlying STIR to have a negative value. Your maximum loss is unlimited and you may lose all of your investment and be required to make additional payments significantly exceeding the initial margin payment.

Buying or selling a STIR Future is one of the ways that you can take a 'long' or 'short' STIR Future position and depends on the retail investor's individual trading strategy.

The scenarios shown include all the costs of the product itself, but may not include all the costs that you pay to your advisor or distributor. The scenarios do not take into account your personal tax situation, which may also affect how much you get back.

## What happens if ICE Futures Europe is unable to pay out?

IFEU is not responsible for paying out under the investment. All derivatives traded on IFEU are centrally cleared by ICEU. IFEU and ICEU are not within the jurisdiction of the UK Financial Services Compensation Scheme. In the event of a default by ICEU or your intermediary your position may become subject to ICEU's default procedures in accordance with its clearing rules, which may

ultimately expose you to a risk of financial loss. It is possible that you may be included in any other compensation scheme depending on the exchange trading participant/member, clearing member, broker or other intermediary involved in a retail derivative transaction concerning this product. If you are in any doubt as to your position you should seek independent professional advice.

#### What are the costs?

## **Costs over time and Compositions of Costs:**

IFEU charges fees which are applied to Clearing Members. The full fee schedule is available on our website (https://www.theice.com/publicdocs/futures/IFEu Fees Interest Rate Products.pdf). The person selling you or advising you about this product may pass on IFEU and ICEU charges and charge you other costs. If so, this person will provide you with information about these costs, and show you the impact that all costs will have on your investment over time. Further or associated costs may be charged to retail investors by the exchange trading participant/member, brokers or other intermediaries involved in a retail derivative transaction.

# How long should I hold it and can I take money out early?

There is no recommended holding period for this product. STIR Futures can be held until expiration or positions can be closed out on any trading day up to and including the Last Trading Day. Whether or not retail investors choose to do so will depend on their investment strategy and risk profile.

- ✓ A long STIR Future position (i.e. a position opened by buying a STIR Future) can be closed by entering a sell order (e.g. by giving the relevant instructions to your broker) in the market on any trading day up to and including the Last Trading Day.
- ✓ A short STIR Future position (i.e. a position opened by selling a STIR Future) can be closed by entering a buy order (e.g. by giving the relevant instructions to your broker) in the market on any trading day up to and including the Last Trading Day.

## How can I complain?

Retail investors should address complaints to the broker or intermediary with whom the investor has a contractual relationship in relation to this product or to the IFEU Complaints Handling Officer. Complaints must be made in writing to: The Complaints Handling Officer, ICE Futures Europe, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Milton Gate, 60 Chiswell Street, London, EC1Y 4SA, or can be emailed to: ICEFuturesEurope-Complaints@theice.com. See <a href="https://www.theice.com/futures-europe/regulation">https://www.theice.com/futures-europe/regulation</a> for full details of IFEU's Complaints Handling Procedures).

## Other relevant information

## Contract specifications setting out key details of all STIR Futures traded on our markets are published on IFEU's website:

Three Month Sterling (Short Sterling) Futures / Euribor® Futures / Euro Swiss Franc (Euroswiss) Futures

 $\underline{https://www.theice.com/products/37650330/Three-Month-Sterling-Short-Sterling-Future}$ 

https://www.theice.com/products/38527986/Three-Month-Euribor-Futures

https://www.theice.com/products/37650324/Three-Month-Euro-Swiss-Franc-Euroswiss-Futures

**Eurodollar Futures** 

https://www.theice.com/products/31500928/Eurodollar-Futures

One Month Eonia Index Future

https://www.theice.com/products/37650328/One-Month-Eonia-Index-Future

One Month SONIA Index Futures

https://www.theice.com/products/66380299/One-Month-SONIA-Index-Futures

Mortgage Backed Securities DTCC GCF Repo Index®

https://www.theice.com/products/31500933/Mortgage-Backed-Securities-DTCC-GCF-Repo-Index

U.S. Treasury DTCC GCF Repo Index®

https://www.theice.com/products/31500931/US-Treasury-DTCC-GCF-Repo-Index

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