UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

Date of report (Date of earliest event reported) May 24, 2017

CME GROUP INC.

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Charter)

Delaware (State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation) 001-31553 (Commission File No.) 36-4459170 (IRS Employer Identification No.)

20 South Wacker Drive Chicago, Illinois 60606 (Address of Principal Executive Offices) (Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (312) 930-1000

N/A

(Former Name or Former Address, if Changed Since Last Report)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions (see General Instruction A.2. below):

□ Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)

□ Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)

Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))

Dere-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

Emerging growth company \Box

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act.

Item 1.01. Entry into a Material Definitive Agreement.

At the 2017 CME Group Inc. (the "Company") Annual Meeting of Shareholders held on May 24, 2017, (the "Annual Meeting") the Company submitted for shareholder approval its Incentive Plan for Named Executive Officers and its Omnibus Stock Plan primarily to meet the requirements of Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, which requires shareholder approval every five years. The amendments to the Incentive Plan for Named Executive Officers also included an extension of the term of the plan to May 23, 2022, an increase in the maximum award under the plan to \$10,000,000 and other clarifying changes.

The foregoing description is qualified in its entirety by reference to the copy of the Second Amended and Restated CME Group Inc. Incentive Plan for Named Executive Officers and the Seconded Amended and Restated Omnibus Stock Plan, which are filed as Exhibit 10.1 and Exhibit 10.2, respectively, to this Current Report on Form 8-K.

Item 5.07. Submission of Matters to a Vote of Security Holders.

At the close of business on March 29, 2017, the record date of the Annual Meeting, the Company had an aggregate of 339,795,213 shares of Class A and Class B common stock issued and outstanding. The holders of a total of 299,119,188 shares of Class A and Class B common stock were present at the Annual Meeting, either in person or by proxy, which total constituted approximately 88% of the issued and outstanding shares on the record date for the Annual Meeting. Additionally, approximately 45% of the Class B-1, 42% of the Class B-2 and 38% of the Class B-3 shares of common stock were present at the Annual Meeting, either in person or by proxy.

The results of the proposals are as follows:

1. The election of fourteen Equity Directors to serve until 2018 (elected by the Class A and Class B shareholders voting together as a single class):

Name	Votes For	Aqainst	Abstain
Terrence A. Duffy	257,386,266	9,813,555	2,798,427
Timothy S. Bitsberger	267,305,789	1,956,620	735,389
Charles P. Carey	267,355,737	1,982,986	659,525
Dennis H. Chookaszian	228,630,822	40,098,212	1,269,214
Ana Dutra	267,701,146	1,566,972	730,130
Martin J. Gepsman	258,734,995	9,880,804	1,382,449
Larry G. Gerdes	265,738,812	3,469,109	790,327
Daniel R. Glickman	256,268,442	12,284,081	1,445,725
Leo Melamed	249,832,029	18,889,366	1,266,853
Alex J. Pollock	256,471,016	12,164,916	1,362,316
John F. Sandner	262,538,960	6,063,837	1,395,451
Terry L. Savage	262,188,945	7,109,484	699,819
William R. Shepard	240,724,089	28,004,251	1,269,908
Dennis A. Suskind	264,939,661	4,252,333	806,254

There were a total of 29,120,940 broker non-votes in this proposal.

2. The ratification of the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP as the Company's independent public accounting firm for 2017 (ratified by the Class A and Class B shareholders voting together as a single class):

Votes For	Votes Against	Abstentions
296,230,333	2,559,219	329,636

3. The approval, by advisory vote, of the compensation of the Company's named executive officers (approved by the Class A and Class B shareholders voting together as a single class):

Votes For	Votes Against	Abstentions
256,144,105	13,121,034	733,109

There were a total of 29,120,940 broker non-votes in this proposal.

4. The approval, by advisory vote, of the frequency of future votes on the compensation of our named executive officers.

<u>1 Year</u>	2 Years	3 Years	Abstentions
242,729,475	583,693	26,005,741	679,339

There were a total of 29,120,940 broker non-votes in this proposal. The Board of Directors will follow its recommendation to include a non-binding advisory vote on executive compensation at each annual meeting until the next required vote on the frequency of shareholder votes on the compensation of executives.

5. The approval of the Second Amended and Restated CME Group Inc. Incentive Plan for Named Executive Officers.

Votes For	Votes Against	Abstentions
264,759,886	4,489,969	748,393

There were a total of 29,120,940 broker non-votes in this proposal.

6. The approval of the CME Group Inc. Second Amended and Restated Omnibus Stock Plan.

Votes For	Votes Against	Abstentions
261,884,140	7,210,528	903,580

There were a total of 29,120,940 broker non-votes in this proposal.

7. The election of Class B Directors:

a. The election of three Class B-1 Directors to serve until 2018 from a slate of five nominees (the nominees in bold were elected by the Class B-1 shareholders):

Name	Votes For	Votes Against	Abstentions
Jeffrey M. Bernacchi	171	30	76
Gedon Hertshten	145	27	105
William W. Hobert	131	28	118
Douglas M. Monieson	119	42	111
Howard J. Siegel	160	35	83

b. The election of two Class B-2 Directors to serve until 2018 from a slate of three nominees (the nominees in bold were elected by the Class B-2 shareholders):

<u>Name</u>	Votes For	Votes Against	Abstentions
Patrick W. Maloney	148	62	113
Ronald A. Pankau	190	24	110
David J. Wescott	249	25	55

c. The election of one Class B-3 Director to serve until 2018 from a slate of one nominee (the nominee in bold was elected by the Class B-3 shareholders):

Name	Votes For	Votes Against	Abstentions
Elizabeth A. Cook	417	9	65

8. The election of Class B Nominating Committees:

a. The election of five members of the Class B-1 Nominating Committee to serve until 2018 from a slate of ten nominees (the nominees in bold were elected by the Class B-1 shareholders):

Name	Votes For	Votes Against	Abstentions
J. Michael Crouch*	89	31	147
Thomas A. Bentley	108	28	134
Bradley S. Glass	116	21	132
Joseph H. Gressel	95	24	148
Mark S. Kobilca	62	33	173
Gary T. Lark	93	26	151
W. Winfred Moore II*	89	30	150
Michael J. Small	63	35	168
Michael G. Sundermeier	45	46	175
Robert J. Tierney, Jr.	85	24	157

* Due to the tie, Messrs. Crouch and Moore came to an agreement whereby, Mr. Moore would serve on the Class B-1 Nominating Committee.

b. The election of five members of the Class B-2 Nominating Committee to serve until 2018 from a slate of nine nominees (the nominees in bold were elected by the Class B-2 shareholders):

<u>Name</u>	Votes For	Votes Against	Abstentions
Frank Catizone	128	23	172
Richard J. Duran	146	27	150
Yra G. Harris	193	26	105
Patrick J. Lahey	104	29	191
Patrick J. Mulchrone	188	20	117
Stuart A. Unger	139	24	162
Gregory J. Veselica	152	18	154
Barry D. Ward	89	36	197
James J. Zellinger	97	27	198

c. The election of five members of the Class B-3 Nominating Committee to serve until 2018 from a slate of nine nominees (the nominees in bold were elected by the Class B-3 shareholders):

Name	Votes For	Votes Against	Abstentions
<u>Name</u> John F. Connors	152	29	279
Bryan P. Cooley	234	31	192
Joel P. Glickman	234	20	202
Spencer K. Hauptman	133	33	294
Kevin P. Heaney	227	19	217
Robert J. Kevil	85	46	316
Kimberly Marinaro	191	34	225
Thomas G. Rossi	114	40	292
Paul D. Zirpolo	132	32	280

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits

10.1 Second Amended and Restated CME Group Inc. Incentive Plan for Named Executive Officers (Amended and Restated as of May 24, 2017).

10.2 CME Group Inc. Second Amended and Restated Omnibus Stock Plan (Effective May 24, 2017).

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

CME Group Inc.

Registrant

By: /s/ Kathleen M. Cronin

Name: Kathleen M. Cronin

Title: Senior Managing Director, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary

Date: May 30, 2017

Exhibit Index

- 10.1 Second Amended and Restated CME Group Inc. Incentive Plan for Named Executive Officers (Amended and Restated as of May 24, 2017).
- 10.2 CME Group Inc. Second Amended and Restated Omnibus Stock Plan (Effective May 24, 2017).

SECOND AMENDED AND RESTATED CME GROUP INC. INCENTIVE PLAN FOR NAMED EXECUTIVE OFFICERS (Amended and Restated as of May 24, 2017)

1. *Purpose.* The purpose of the CME Group Inc. Incentive Plan for Named Executive Officers is to align the interests of Company management with those of the shareholders of the Company by encouraging management to achieve goals intended to increase shareholder value.

2. Definitions. The following terms, as used herein, shall have the following meanings:

(a) **"Award"** shall mean an incentive compensation award, granted pursuant to the Plan, which is contingent upon the attainment of Performance Factors with respect to a Performance Period.

(b) "Board" shall mean the Board of Directors of the Company.

(c) "Code" shall mean the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, or any successor.

(d) **"Committee"** shall mean the Compensation Committee of the Board or such other committee as may be appointed by the Board to administer the Plan in accordance with Section 3 of the Plan.

(e) "Common Stock" shall mean the common stock of the Company, par value \$0.01 per share.

(f) "Company" shall mean CME Group Inc., a Delaware corporation, or any successor corporation.

(g) **"Disability"** shall mean permanent disability as determined pursuant to the long-term disability plan or policy of the Company or its Subsidiaries in effect at the time of such disability and applicable to a Participant.

(h) "Effective Date" shall mean January 1, 2017.

(i) "Exchange Act" shall mean the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.

(j) **"Participant"** shall mean an employee of the Company or any Subsidiary of the Company who is, pursuant to Section 4 of the Plan, selected to participate herein.

(k) **"Performance Factors"** shall mean the criteria and objectives, determined by the Committee, which must be met during the applicable Performance Period as a condition of the Participant's receipt of payment with respect to an Award. Performance Factors may include any or all of the following or any combination thereof: annual daily volume, cash earnings, cash earnings per share, cash earnings margin, cash flow return, customer satisfaction, earnings before interest taxes depreciation and amortization, earnings before interest taxes depreciation and amortization margins, earnings per share, economic value added, expense reductions, expense targets, free cash flow, gross or operating margins, margins, market share, net earnings or income (before or after taxes), operating cash flow, operating efficiency, operating expenses, operating income, productivity ratios, return on assets, return on capital, return on equity, return on investment, revenue, share price, total shareholder return, and working capital or any increase or decrease of one or more of the foregoing over a specified period. Such Performance Factors may relate to the performance of the Company, a Subsidiary, any portion of the business, product line, or any combination thereof and may be expressed on an aggregate, per share (outstanding or fully diluted) or per unit basis. Where applicable, the Performance Factors may be expressed in terms of attaining a specified level of the particular criteria, the attainment of a percentage increase or decrease in the

particular criteria, or may be applied to the performance of the Company, a Subsidiary, a business unit, a product line, or any combination thereof, relative to a market index, a group of other companies (or their subsidiaries, business units or product lines), or a combination thereof, all as determined by the Committee. Performance Factors may include a threshold level of performance below which no payment shall be made, levels of performance below the target level but above the threshold level at which specified percentages of the Award shall be paid, a target level of performance above the target level but below the maximum level at which specified multiples of the Award shall be paid, and a maximum level of performance above which no additional payment shall be made. Performance Factors may also specify that payments for levels of performances between specified levels will be interpolated.

If the Committee desires that compensation payable pursuant to any Award subject to Performance Factors be "qualified performance-based compensation" within the meaning of Section 162(m) of the Code, the Performance Factors (i) shall be established by the Committee no later than the end of the first 90 days of the Performance Period, as applicable (or such other time prescribed by the Internal Revenue Service) and (ii) shall satisfy all other applicable requirements imposed by Treasury Regulations promulgated under Section 162(m) of the Code, including the requirement that such performance goals be stated in terms of an objective formula or standard.

(1) **"Performance Period"** shall mean the twelve-month periods commencing on January 1, 2017 and each January 1 thereafter, or such other longer or shorter periods as the Committee shall determine, consistent with the requirements of Section 162(m), if applicable.

(m) "Plan" shall mean this CME Group Inc. Incentive Plan for Named Executive Officers.

(n) **"Subsidiary"** shall mean any company, partnership, limited liability company, business or entity (other than the Company) of which at least 50% of the combined voting power of its voting securities is, or the operations and management are, directly or indirectly controlled by the Company.

3. *Administration.* The Plan shall be administered by a Committee of the Board. The Committee shall have the authority in its sole discretion, subject to and not inconsistent with the express provisions of the Plan, to administer the Plan and to exercise all the powers and authorities either specifically granted to it under the Plan or necessary or advisable in the administration of the Plan, including, without limitation, the authority to grant Awards; to determine the persons to whom and the time or times at which Awards shall be granted; to determine the terms, conditions, restrictions and Performance Factors relating to any Award; to determine whether, to what extent, and under what circumstances an Award may be settled, cancelled, forfeited, or surrendered; to make adjustments in the Performance Factors in recognition of unusual or non-recurring events affecting the Company or its Subsidiaries or the financial statements of the Company or its Subsidiaries, or in response to changes in applicable laws, regulations or accounting principles; to construe and interpret the Plan and any Award; to prescribe, amend and rescind rules and regulations relating to the Plan; to determine the terms and provisions of Awards (including provisions relating to a change in control of the Company); and to make all other determinations deemed necessary or advisable for the administration of the Plan. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the Committee shall have the sole discretion to determine whether, or to what extent, Performance Factors are achieved; provided,

however, that the Committee shall have the authority to make appropriate adjustments in Performance Factors under an Award to reflect the impact of extraordinary items not reflected in such goals. For purposes of the Plan, extraordinary items shall be defined as (1) any profit or loss attributable to acquisitions or dispositions of stock or assets, (2) any changes in accounting standards or treatments that may be required or permitted by the Financial Accounting Standards Board or adopted by the Company or its Subsidiaries after the goal is established, (3) all items of gain, loss or expense for the year related to restructuring charges for the Company or its Subsidiaries, (4) all items of gain, loss or expense for the year related to be extraordinary or unusual in nature or infrequent in occurrence or related to the disposal of a segment of a business, (5) all items of gain, loss or expense for the year related to discontinued operations that do not qualify as a segment of a business as defined by the Financial Accounting Standards Board, (6) the impact of capital expenditures, (7) the impact of share repurchases and other changes in the number of outstanding shares, and (8) such other items as may be prescribed by Section 162(m) of the Code and the Treasury Regulations thereunder as may be in effect from time to time, and any amendments, revisions or successor provisions and any changes thereto.

The Committee shall consist of two or more persons each of whom shall be an "outside director" within the meaning of Section 162(m) of the Code. All decisions, determinations and interpretations of the Committee shall be final and binding on all persons, including the Company and the Participant (or any person claiming any rights under the Plan from or through any Participant).

Subject to Section 162(m) of the Code or as otherwise required for compliance with other applicable law, the Committee may delegate all or any part of its authority under the Plan.

4. *Eligibility.* Awards may be granted to Participants in the sole discretion of the Committee. In determining the persons to whom Awards shall be granted and the Performance Factors relating to each Award, the Committee shall take into account such factors as the Committee shall deem relevant in connection with accomplishing the purposes of the Plan.

5. *Terms of Awards.* Awards granted pursuant to the Plan shall be communicated to Participants in such form as the Committee shall from time to time approve and the terms and conditions of such Awards shall be set forth therein.

(a) *In General.* On or prior to the date on which 25% of a Performance Period has elapsed (but not later than the 90th day of such period), the Committee shall specify in writing, by resolution of the Committee or other appropriate action, the Participants for such Performance Period and the Performance Factors applicable to each Award for each Participant with respect to such Performance Period. Payment in respect of Awards shall be made only if and to the extent the minimum Performance Factors with respect to such Performance Period are attained.

(b) *Special Provisions Regarding Awards.* Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained herein, in no event shall payment in respect of Awards granted hereunder exceed \$10,000,000 to any one Participant in any one year. The Committee may at its discretion decrease the amount of an Award payable upon attainment of the specified Performance Factors, but in no event may the Committee increase at its discretion the amount of an Award payable upon attainment of the specified Performance Factors.

(c) *Time and Form of Payment.* All payments in respect of Awards granted under this Plan shall be made in cash or, to the extent consented to by the Participant or determined by the Committee at the time an Award is granted, in whole or in part in

Common Stock issued under the CME Group Inc. Amended and Restated Omnibus Stock Plan (the "Omnibus Plan") and valued at its Fair Market Value (as defined in the Omnibus Plan) on the date of payment. Any such payment shall be made within two and one-half ($2 \frac{1}{2}$) months after the end of the Performance Period, but in no event shall such payments be made later than December 31 of the year after the end of the Performance Period.

6. *Term.* Subject to the approval of the Amended and Restated Plan by the holders of a majority of the Common Stock represented and voting on the proposal at the annual meeting of Company stockholders to be held in 2017 (or any adjournment thereof), the Plan shall be effective as of May 24, 2017 and shall continue in effect until the fifth anniversary of the date of such stockholder approval, unless earlier terminated as provided below.

7. General Provisions.

(a) *Compliance with Legal Requirements.* The Plan and the granting and payment of Awards, and the other obligations of the Company under the Plan shall be subject to all applicable federal and state laws, rules and regulations, and to such approvals by any regulatory or governmental agency as may be required.

(b) Nontransferability. Awards shall not be transferable by a Participant.

(c) *No Right To Continued Employment*. Nothing in the Plan or in any Award granted pursuant hereto shall confer upon any Participant the right to continue in the employ of the Company or any of its Subsidiaries or to be entitled to any remuneration or benefits not set forth in the Plan or to interfere with or limit in any way whatever rights otherwise exist of the Company or its Subsidiaries to terminate such Participant's employment or change such Participant's remuneration.

(d) *Withholding Taxes.* Where a Participant or other person is entitled to receive a payment pursuant to an Award hereunder, the Company shall have the right either to deduct from the payment, or to require the Participant or such other person to pay to the Company prior to delivery of such payment, an amount sufficient to satisfy any federal, state, local or other withholding tax requirements related thereto.

(e) *Amendment, Termination and Duration of the Plan.* The Board or the Committee may at any time and from time to time alter, amend, suspend, or terminate the Plan in whole or in part; *provided that*, no amendment that requires stockholder approval in order for the Plan to continue to comply with Code Section 162(m) shall be effective unless the same shall be approved by the requisite vote of the stockholders of the Company.

(f) *Participant Rights.* No Participant shall have any claim to be granted any Award under the Plan, and there is no obligation for uniformity of treatment for Participants.

(g) *Termination of Employment.* (i) Unless otherwise provided by the Committee, and except as set forth in subparagraph (ii) of this Section 7(g), a Participant must be actively employed by the Company or its Subsidiaries at the time Awards are generally paid with respect to a Performance Period in order to be eligible to receive payment in respect of such Award. (ii) Unless otherwise provided by the Committee, if a Participant's employment is terminated as result of death, Disability or voluntary retirement with the consent of the Company prior to the end of the Performance Period, such Participant shall receive a pro rata portion of the Award that he or she would have received with respect to the applicable Performance Period provided that the minimum Performance Factors with respect to such Performance Period are attained (or a full Award, if such

termination is after the end of the Performance Period). Such pro rata Award (or full Award, if such termination is after the end of the Performance Period) shall be payable at the time payment is made to other Participants in respect of such Performance Period. For the avoidance of doubt, Awards payable under subparagraph (ii) of this Section 7(g) are subject to the Committee's discretion as described in Section 5(b).

(h) *Unfunded Status of Awards.* The Plan is intended to constitute an "unfunded" plan for incentive and deferred compensation. With respect to any payments not yet made to a Participant pursuant to an Award, nothing contained in the Plan or any Award shall give any such Participant any rights that are greater than those of a general creditor of the Company.

(i) *Governing Law.* The Plan and all determinations made and actions taken pursuant hereto shall be governed by the laws of the State of Delaware without giving effect to the conflict of laws principles thereof.

(j) *Effective Date.* The Plan shall take effect upon its adoption by the Board; *provided, however*, that the Plan shall be subject to the requisite approval of the stockholders of the Company in order to comply with Section 162(m) of the Code. In the absence of such approval, the Plan (and any Awards made pursuant to the Plan prior to the date of such approval) shall be null and void.

(k) *Interpretation.* The Plan is designed and intended to comply, to the extent applicable, with Section 162(m) of the Code, and all provisions hereof shall be construed in a manner to so comply.

(1) *Recoupment.* It shall be a condition of payment of an Award under the Plan that any Participant who holds the position of Managing Director or above (any such person being referred to hereinafter as a "Covered Participant") agree to the applicability of this Section 7(i) to any Award paid to such Participant under the Plan as a Covered Participant. In the event that a Covered Participant receives a payment pursuant to the Plan and: (1) the payment was predicated upon achieving certain financial results that were subsequently the subject of a restatement of Company financial statements filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission; and (2) a lower payment would have been made to the Covered Participant based upon the restated financial results, upon the recommendation of the Compensation Committee, the Board may, in its discretion, require such Covered Participant to repay all or a portion of the difference between the payment received by the Covered Participant and the payment which would have been paid to the Covered Participant based on the restated financials (such difference being referred to as the "Recoupment Amount"). In order to collect the Recoupment Amount, the Board may require: (1) the Covered Participant to forfeit all or a portion of any unvested restricted stock issued in respect of Awards hereunder, in an amount not to exceed the Recoupment Amount; and/or (2) the Covered Participant to forfeit the applicable portion of the Award for the year for which a recoupment is being sought that was deferred into the Senior Management Supplemental Deferred Compensation Plan. The Company's right to require repayment or forfeiture set forth in this Section 7(i) shall apply only if the facts leading to a determination that a restatement is required are discovered within the three (3) fiscal years following the fiscal year with respect to which the Covered Participant is paid an Award hereunder. The Recoupment Amount shall be determined by the Board in its good faith discretion and without regard to any deferral of Awards hereunder. The Committee may require any Covered Participant to execute an acknowledgement of the applicability of this Section 7(i) and an agreement to comply with its provisions, in such form as the Committee may determine, as a condition to the receipt of any payment under the Plan.

CME GROUP INC. SECOND AMENDED AND RESTATED OMNIBUS STOCK PLAN (Effective May 24, 2017)

ARTICLE 1 EFFECTIVE DATE AND PURPOSE

1.1 *Effective Date.* The Plan was originally adopted as the Chicago Mercantile Exchange Omnibus Stock Plan effective as of February 7, 2000, and was amended and restated from time to time thereafter and is hereby further amended and restated as of May 24, 2017.

1.2 *Purpose of the Plan.* The Plan is intended to further the growth and profitability of the Company by increasing incentives and encouraging Share ownership on the part of Employees of the Company and its Subsidiaries. The Plan is intended to permit the grant of Awards that constitute "qualified performance-based compensation" under Section 162(m) of the Code.

ARTICLE 2 DEFINITIONS

The following words and phrases shall have the following meanings unless a different meaning is plainly required by the context:

2.1 "1934 *Act*" means the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. Reference to a specific section of the 1934 Act or regulation thereunder shall include such section or regulation, any valid regulation promulgated under such section, and any comparable provision of any future legislation or regulation amending, supplementing or superseding such section or regulation.

2.2 "Affiliate" means any corporation or any other entity (including, but not limited to, partnerships and joint ventures) controlled by the Company.

2.3 "Award" means, individually or collectively, a grant under the Plan of Non-Qualified Stock Options, Incentive Stock Options, SARs, Stock Awards, Performance Shares, Restricted Stock Units or Performance Stock Units.

2.4 Award Agreement" means the written or electronic agreement or notice setting forth the terms and conditions applicable to an Award.

2.5 "Board" means the Board of Directors of the Company.

2.6 "Bonus Stock" means Shares under a Stock Award which are not subject to a Period of Restriction.

2.7 *"Cause*" means, except as otherwise specified in a particular Award Agreement or in an employment or similar agreement in effect between the Company or an Affiliate and an Employee (which definition shall govern if in effect), (a) the willful and continued failure (other than a failure resulting from the Participant's Disability) to substantially perform the duties assigned by the Company, (b) the willful engaging in conduct which is demonstrably injurious to the Company, monetarily or otherwise, including conduct that, in the reasonable judgment of the Company, does not conform to the standard of the Company's executives or employees, (c) any act of dishonesty, commission of a felony, or (d) a significant violation of any statutory or common law duty of loyalty to the Company; provided, however, that following a Change of Control, "Cause" means, except as otherwise specified in a particular Award Agreement or in an employment or similar agreement in effect between the Company or an Affiliate and an Employee (which definition shall govern if in effect), (a) the willful and continued failure (other

than a failure resulting from the Participant's Disability) to substantially perform the duties assigned by the Company, (b) the willful engaging in conduct which is demonstrably injurious to the Company, monetarily or otherwise, including conduct that does not conform to the standard of the Company's executives or employees, (c) any act of dishonesty, commission of a felony, or (d) a significant violation of any statutory or common law duty of loyalty to the Company.

2.8 "Change of Control" means, the occurrence of any of the following events:

(a) The acquisition by any individual, entity or group (within the meaning of Section 13(d)(3) or 14(d)(2) of the 1934 Act) (a "*Person*") of beneficial ownership (within the meaning of Rule13d-3 promulgated under the 1934 Act) of 50% or more of either (1) the then outstanding Class A Shares (the "*Outstanding Class A Common Stock*") or (2) the combined voting power of the then-outstanding voting securities of the Company entitled to vote generally in the election of directors (the "*Outstanding Company Voting Securities*"); provided, however, that for purposes of this paragraph (a) the following acquisitions shall not constitute, or be deemed to cause, a Change of Control: (i) any increase in such percentage ownership of a Person to 50% or more resulting solely from any acquisition of shares directly from the Company or any acquisition of shares by the Company; provided, that any subsequent acquisitions of shares by such Person that would add, in the aggregate, 1% or more (measured as of the date of each such subsequent acquisition) to such Person's beneficial ownership of Outstanding Class A Common Stock or Outstanding Company Voting Securities shall be deemed to constitute a Change of Control, (ii) any acquisition by any employee benefit plan (or related trust) sponsored or maintained by the Company or any Affiliate; or (iii) any acquisition by any corporation pursuant to a transaction which complies with clauses (1), (2) and (3) of paragraph (c) below or (iv) any acquisition by an underwriter holding securities for an offering of such securities; or

(b) Individuals who, as of the Effective Date, constitute the Board (the **"Incumbent Board"**) cease for any reason to constitute at least a majority of the Board; provided, however, that any individual becoming a Director subsequent to the date hereof whose election, or nomination for election, was approved by a vote of at least a majority of the Directors then comprising the Incumbent Board shall be considered as though such individual were a member of the Incumbent Board, but excluding, for this purpose, any such individual whose initial assumption of office occurs as a result of an actual or threatened election contest with respect to the election or removal of Directors or other actual or threatened solicitation of proxies or consents, by or on behalf of a Person other than the Board; or

(c) Consummation of a reorganization, merger or consolidation or sale or other disposition of all or substantially all of the assets of the Company (a *"Business Combination"*), in each case, unless, following such Business Combination, (1) all or substantially all of the individuals and entities who were the beneficial owners, respectively, of the then Outstanding Class A Common Stock and Outstanding Company Voting Securities, immediately prior to such Business Combination beneficially own, directly or indirectly, more than 50% of, respectively, the then-outstanding shares of common stock and the combined voting power of the then-outstanding voting securities entitled to vote generally in the election of directors, as the case may be, of the corporation resulting from such Business Combination (including, without limitation, a corporation which as a result of such transaction owns the Company or all or substantially all of the Company's assets either directly or through one or more subsidiaries) in substantially the same proportions as their ownership, immediately prior to such Business Combination, of the Outstanding Class A Common Stock and Outstanding Company Voting Securities, as the case may be, (2) no Person (excluding any corporation resulting from such Business Combination or any employee benefit plan (or related trust) of the Company or of

such corporation resulting from such Business Combination) beneficially owns, directly or indirectly, 50% or more of, respectively, the thenoutstanding shares of common stock of the corporation resulting from such Business Combination or the combined voting power of the thenoutstanding voting securities of such corporation except to the extent that such ownership existed prior to the Business Combination and (3) individuals who were on the Incumbent Board continue to constitute at least a majority of the members of the board of directors of the corporation resulting from the Business Combination; provided, however, that any individual becoming a Director subsequent to the date hereof whose election, or nomination for election, was approved by a vote of at least a majority of the Directors then comprising the Incumbent Board shall be considered as though such individual were a member of the Incumbent Board, but excluding, for this purpose, any such individual whose initial assumption of office occurs as a result of an actual or threatened election contest with respect to the election or removal of directors or other actual or threatened solicitation of proxies or consents, by or on behalf of a Person other than the Board; or (d) Approval by the stockholders of the Company of a complete liquidation or dissolution of the Company.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, with respect to an Award that is subject to Section 409A of the Code (and to the extent necessary to comply with Section 409A of the Code) a Change of Control shall not be deemed to occur unless it qualifies as a change in ownership or effective control of the Company for purposes of Section 409A of the Code.

2.9 "Class A Shares" means shares of the Company's Class A common stock, \$.01 par value.

2.10 *"Code"* means the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended. Reference to a specific section of the Code or regulation thereunder shall include such section or regulation, any valid regulation promulgated thereunder, and any comparable provision of any future legislation or regulation amending, supplementing or superseding such section or regulation.

2.11 "Committee" means the Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors appointed (pursuant to Section 3.1) to administer the Plan.

2.12 "Company" means CME Group Inc. (formerly Chicago Mercantile Exchange Holdings Inc.), a Delaware corporation, or any successor thereto.

2.13 "Director" means any individual who is a member of the Board.

2.14 *"Disability"* means disability as determined pursuant to the long-term disability plan or policy of the Company or its Subsidiaries in effect at the time of such disability and applicable to a Participant.

2.15 *"Dividend Equivalent Right"* means the right to receive an amount as set forth in Section 10.13, which is determined by multiplying the number of Shares subject to the applicable Award by the per-Share cash dividend, or the per-Share Fair Market Value (as determined by the Committee) of any dividend in consideration other than cash, paid by the Company on Shares.

2.16 "Employee" means an employee of the Company, its subsidiaries, or an Affiliate designated by the Board or the Committee (collectively "an Employer"). "Employee" does not include an individual who is not contemporaneously classified as an Employee for purposes of an Employer's payroll system. In the event any such individual is reclassified as an Employee for any purpose, including, without limitation, any government agency or as a result of any private lawsuit, action, or administrative proceeding, such individual will, notwithstanding such reclassification, remain ineligible for participation hereunder and will not be considered an Employee for purposes of this Plan. In addition to and not in derogation of the foregoing, the exclusive means for an individual who is not contemporaneously classified as an Employee of an Employer on an Employer's payroll system to become eligible to participate in this Plan is through an amendment to this Plan which specifically renders such individual eligible for participation hereunder.

2.17 *"Exercise Price"* means the price at which a Share subject to an Option may be purchased pursuant to the exercise of the Option or the base price at which an SAR may be exercised with respect to a Share, as applicable.

2.18 "Fair Market Value" means, (i) the closing sales price per Share on such date, as reported by the Composite Transactions reporting system or if not so reported, as reported by the NASDAQ Global Select Market or (ii) in the event the Shares are not traded on such date, the closing price per Share, as so reported on the immediately preceding date on which trading occurred, or if not so reported, as reported by any national securities exchange on which the Shares are listed.

2.19 "Fiscal Year" means the fiscal year of the Company.

2.20 "Grant Date" means, with respect to an Award, the date that the Award is granted.

2.21 "Incentive Stock Option" means an Option that is designated as an Incentive Stock Option and is intended by the Committee to meet the requirements of Section 422 of the Code.

2.22 "Non-Qualified Stock Option" means an Option that is not an Incentive Stock Option.

2.23 "Option" means an option to purchase Shares which is granted by the Committee pursuant to Article 5.

2.24 "Participant" means an individual with respect to whom an Award has been granted and remains outstanding.

2.25 "Performance Goals" means such criteria and objectives as may be established by the Committee, which shall be satisfied or met (i) as a condition to the exercisability of all or a portion of an Option or SAR, (ii) as a condition to the grant of an Award, or (iii) during the applicable Performance Period or Period of Restriction, as a condition to the Participant's receipt of the Shares subject to a Restricted Stock Award, the receipt of Shares, cash or any combination thereof subject to a Performance Stock Unit Award or, in the case of a Performance Share Award, of the Shares subject to such Award and/or the payment with respect to such Award. In the case of an Award that is intended to qualify as "qualified performance-based compensation" under Section 162(m) of the Code, such Performance Goals may include any or all of the following or any combination thereof:

- (a) Annual daily volume growth or revenue growth;
- (b) Cash earnings growth per Share;
- (c) Cash earnings;
- (d) Customer satisfaction;
- (e) Earnings before or after taxes, interest, depreciation, and/or amortization;
- (f) Earnings per Share;
- (g) Economic value added or EVA® (net operating profit after tax minus the sum of capital multiplied by the cost of capital);
- (h) Expense reductions;
- (i) Expense targets;
- (j) Free cash flow, cash flow return on equity, and cash flow return on investment;
- (k) Gross or operating margins;

- (l) Margins;
- (m) Market share;
- (n) Net earnings or net income (before or after taxes);
- (o) Operating efficiency;
- (p) Operating expenses;
- (q) Productivity ratios;
- (r) Return on assets;
- (s) Return on equity;
- (t) Return on investment;
- (u) Share price (including, but not limited to, growth measures, total shareholder return and relative total shareholder return); and
- (v) Working capital targets and change in working capital;

or any increase or decrease of one or more of the foregoing over a specified period. Such Performance Goals may relate to the performance of the Company, an Affiliate, any portion of the business, product line, or any combination thereof, relative to an individual Share (e.g., on a per Share basis), a market index, a group of other companies (or their subsidiaries, business units or product lines), or a combination thereof, all as determined by the Committee. If the Committee desires that compensation payable pursuant to any Award subject to Performance Goals be "qualified performance-based compensation" within the meaning of Section 162(m) of the Code, the Performance Goals (i) shall be established by the Committee no later than the end of the first 90 days of the Performance Period or Period of Restriction, as applicable (or such other time prescribed by the Internal Revenue Service) and (ii) shall satisfy all other applicable requirements imposed by Treasury Regulations promulgated under Section 162(m) of the Code, including the requirement that such Performance Goals be stated in terms of an objective formula or standard.

2.26 "Performance Period" means the period designated by the Committee during which the Performance Goals applicable to an Award shall be measured.

2.27 *"Performance Share"* means a right, contingent upon the attainment of specified Performance Goals within a specified Performance Period, to receive one Share, which may be Restricted Stock, or in lieu of all or a portion thereof, the Fair Market Value of such Share in cash.

2.28 "*Performance Stock Unit*" means the right to receive cash or shares in the future subject to the satisfaction of performance targets, which may include Performance Goals.

2.29 "Period of Restriction" means the period during which Restricted Stock is subject to forfeiture and/or restrictions on transferability.

2.30 *"Plan"* means this CME Group Inc. Amended and Restated Omnibus Stock Plan, as set forth in this instrument and as hereafter amended from time to time.

2.31 "Restricted Stock Unit" means the right to receive cash or shares in the future subject to the satisfaction of conditions related to continued employment or service.

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2.32 "Restricted Stock" means Shares under a Stock Award which are subject to a Period of Restriction.

2.33 *"Retirement"* means a Participant's Termination of Service (other than for Cause) on or after attaining his or her "normal retirement date" as defined in the Pension Plan for Employees of Chicago Mercantile Exchange Inc. (whether or not such Participant participates in such plan).

2.34 "Rule 16b-3" means Rule 16b-3 promulgated under the 1934 Act, as amended, and any future regulation amending, supplementing or superseding such regulation.

2.35 "Share" means a share of any class, and of any series within a class, of the Company's common stock.

2.36 *"Stock Appreciation Right"* or *"SAR"* means an Award, granted alone, in reference to or in tandem with a related Option, which pursuant to Article 6 is designated by the Committee as an SAR.

2.37 "Stock Award" means an Award of Restricted Stock or Bonus Stock.

2.38 *"Ten Percent Holder"* means an Employee (together with persons whose stock ownership is attributed to the Employee pursuant to Section 424(d) of the Code) who, at the time an Option is granted, owns stock representing more than ten percent of the voting power of all classes of stock of the Company (or of any parent or subsidiary as defined in Section 424 of the Code).

2.39 *"Termination of Service"* means a "separation from service" within the meaning of Section 409A of the Code. For this purpose, a Termination of Service includes, but not by way of limitation, a termination by resignation, discharge with or without Cause, death, Disability, or Retirement, but excludes any such termination where there is a simultaneous reemployment by the Company or an Affiliate.

ARTICLE 3 ADMINISTRATION

3.1 *The Committee*. The Plan shall be administered by the Committee. The Committee shall consist of not less than two (2) Directors. The members of the Committee shall be appointed from time to time by, and serve at the pleasure of, the Board. It is intended that each member of the Committee shall qualify as (a) a "non-employee director" under Rule 16b-3, and (b) an "outside director" under Section 162(m) of the Code and (c) an "independent director" under the listing standards applicable to the Company. If it is later determined that one or more members of the Committee do not so qualify, actions taken by the Committee prior to such determination shall be valid despite such failure to qualify.

3.2 *Authority and Action of the Committee.* It shall be the duty of the Committee to administer the Plan in accordance with the Plan's provisions. The Committee shall have all powers and discretion necessary or appropriate to administer the Plan and to control its operation, including, but not limited to, the power to

(a) determine which Employees shall be eligible to receive Awards and to grant Awards,

(b) prescribe the form, amount, timing and other terms and conditions of each Award,

(c) interpret the Plan and the Award Agreements,

(d) adopt such procedures as it deems necessary or appropriate to permit participation in the Plan by eligible Employees,

(e) adopt such rules as it deems necessary or appropriate for the administration, interpretation and application of the Plan, and

(f) interpret, amend or revoke any such procedures or rules.

A majority of the Committee shall constitute a quorum. The acts of the Committee shall be either (i) acts of a majority of the members of the Committee present at any meeting at which a quorum is present or (ii) acts approved in writing by all of the members of the Committee without a meeting.

3.3 *Delegation by the Committee.* The Committee, in its sole discretion and on such terms and conditions as it may provide, may, consistent with law, delegate all or any part of its authority and powers under the Plan to one or more Directors and/or officers of the Company; provided, however, that the Committee may not delegate its authority or power with respect to (a) any officer of the Company with regard to the selection for participation in this Plan of an officer or other person subject to Section 16 of the 1934 Act or decisions concerning the timing, pricing or amount of an award to such an officer or person or (b) any Award that is intended to satisfy the requirements applicable to "qualified performance-based compensation" under section 162(m) of the Code. Provided that any such authorization shall set forth the total number of Shares and/or Awards such Director(s) and/or officer(s) may grant, and the Director(s) and/or officer(s) shall report periodically to the Committee regarding the nature and scope of the Awards granted pursuant to the authority delegated.

3.4 *Decisions Binding.* All determinations, decisions and interpretations by the Committee, the Board, and any delegate of the Committee pursuant to the provisions of the Plan shall be final, conclusive, and binding on all persons, and shall be given the maximum deference permitted by law.

ARTICLE 4 SHARES SUBJECT TO THE PLAN

4.1 *Number of Shares.* Subject to adjustment as provided in Section 4.3, 40,229,875Shares shall be available for grants of Awards under the Plan. The maximum number of Shares with respect to which Awards may be granted during any Fiscal Year to any person shall be 1,250,000, subject to adjustment as provided in Section 4.3. The maximum number of shares which may be granted under the Plan pursuant to Incentive Stock Options is 1,000,000. Shares awarded under the Plan may be either authorized but unissued Shares, authorized and issued Shares reacquired and held as treasury Shares or a combination thereof.

4.2 *Share Usage and Lapsed Awards.* To the extent that Shares subject to an outstanding Option (except to the extent Shares are issued or delivered by the Company in connection with the exercise of a tandem SAR) or other Award are not issued or delivered by reason of the expiration, cancellation, forfeiture or other termination of such Award or by reason of the delivery or withholding of Shares to pay all or a portion of the exercise price of an Award, if any, or to satisfy all or a portion of the tax withholding obligations relating to an Award, then such Shares shall again be available under this Plan.

4.3 *Adjustments in Awards and Authorized Shares.* In the event of any merger, reorganization, consolidation, recapitalization, liquidation, stock dividend, extraordinary cash dividend, split-up, Share combination, or other similar change in the corporate structure of the Company affecting the Shares, the Committee shall adjust the number, class and series of securities available under the Plan, the number, class, series and purchase price of securities subject to outstanding Awards, and the numerical limits of Section 4.1 in such manner as the Committee in its sole discretion shall determine to be appropriate to prevent the dilution or diminution of such Awards. If any such adjustment would result in a fractional security being (a) available under this Plan, such fractional security shall be disregarded, or (b) subject to an outstanding Award under this Plan, the Company shall pay the holder of such Award, in

connection with the first vesting, exercise or settlement of such Award in whole or in part occurring after such adjustment, an amount in cash determined by multiplying (i) the fraction of such security (rounded to the nearest hundredth) by (ii) the excess, if any, of (A) the Fair Market Value on the vesting, exercise or settlement date over (B) the Exercise Price, if any, of such Award, provided that such payment may be accomplished in compliance with the provisions of Section 409A of the Code.

ARTICLE 5 STOCK OPTIONS

5.1 *Grant of Options.* Subject to the provisions of the Plan, Options may be granted to such Employees at such times, and subject to such terms and conditions, as determined by the Committee in its sole discretion. An Award of Options may include Incentive Stock Options, Non-Qualified Stock Options, or a combination thereof; provided, that no Awards of Options shall be granted more than ten years after the date this amendment and restatement of the Plan is approved by the Company's stockholders.

5.2 *Award Agreement.* Each Option shall be evidenced by an Award Agreement that shall specify the Exercise Price, the expiration date of the Option, the number, class and, if applicable, series of Shares to which the Option pertains (provided that Incentive Stock Options may be granted only with respect to Class A Shares), any conditions to the exercise of all or a portion of the Option, and such other terms and conditions as the Committee, in its discretion, shall determine. The Award Agreement pertaining to an Option shall designate such Option as an Incentive Stock Option or a Non-Qualified Stock Option. Notwithstanding any such designation, to the extent that the aggregate Fair Market Value (determined as of the Grant Date) of Shares with respect to which Options designated as Incentive Stock Options are exercisable for the first time by a Participant during any calendar year (under this Plan or any other plan of the Company, or any parent or subsidiary as defined in Section 424 of the Code) exceeds the amount established by the Code, such Options shall constitute Non-Qualified Stock Options. For purposes of the preceding sentence, Incentive Stock Options shall be taken into account in the order in which they are granted.

5.3 *Exercise Price.* Subject to the provisions of this Section 5.3, the Exercise Price with respect to Shares subject to an Option shall be determined by the Committee in its sole discretion.

5.3.1. *Non-Qualified Stock Options.* In the case of a Non-Qualified Stock Option, the Exercise Price may be equal to or greater than one hundred percent (100%) of the Fair Market Value of a Share on the Grant Date, as shall be determined by the Committee in its sole discretion.

5.3.2. *Incentive Stock Options.* In the case of an Incentive Stock Option, the Exercise Price shall be not less than one hundred percent (100%) of the Fair Market Value of a Share on the Grant Date; provided, however, that the Exercise Price with respect to a Ten Percent Shareholder shall not be less than one hundred-ten percent (110%) of the Fair Market Value of a Share on the Grant Date.

5.4 Expiration of Options.

5.4.1. *Expiration Dates.* Each Option shall terminate not later than the expiration date specified in the Award Agreement pertaining to such Option; provided, however, that the expiration date shall not be later than the tenth anniversary of its Grant Date and the expiration date with respect to an Incentive Stock Option granted to a Ten Percent Holder shall not be later than the fifth anniversary of its Grant Date.



5.4.2. *Termination of Service.* Unless otherwise specified in the Award Agreement pertaining to an Option or provided by the Committee, each Option granted to a Participant shall terminate no later than the first to occur of the following events:

(a) The expiration of ninety (90) days from the date of the Participant's Termination of Service for any reason other than the Participant's death, Disability, Retirement or Termination of Service for Cause;

(b) The expiration of one (1) year from the date of the Participant's Termination of Service by reason of the Participant's Disability or Retirement (provided, that the portion of any Incentive Stock Option exercised more than three months after such Termination of Service shall be deemed a Non-Qualified Option);

(c) The date of the Participant's Termination of Service for Cause; or

(d) The expiration date specified in the Award Agreement pertaining to such Option.

5.4.3. *Death of Employee.* Unless otherwise specified in the Award Agreement pertaining to an Option, if a Participant to whom an Option has been granted dies while an Employee but prior to the expiration, cancellation, forfeiture or other termination of such Option, such Option shall become exercisable in full upon the Participant's death and shall be exercisable thereafter until the earlier of (a) the expiration of one (1) year after the date of death, or (b) the expiration date specified in the Award Agreement pertaining to such Option.

5.5 *Exercisability of Options.* Subject to Section 5.4, Options granted under the Plan shall be exercisable at such times, and shall be subject to such restrictions and conditions, as the Committee shall determine in its sole discretion. After an Option is granted, the Committee, in its sole discretion, may accelerate the exercisability of the Option.

5.6 *Method of Exercise.* Options shall be exercised by the Participant's delivery of a written notice of exercise to the Secretary of the Company (or its designee), setting forth the number of Shares with respect to which the Option is to be exercised, accompanied by full payment of the Exercise Price with respect to each such Share. The Exercise Price shall be payable to the Company in full in cash or its equivalent (including, but not limited to, by means of, a broker-assisted cashless exercise). The Committee, in its sole discretion, also may permit exercise (a) by tendering previously acquired Shares having an aggregate Fair Market Value at the time of exercise equal to the aggregate Exercise Price of the Shares with respect to which the Option is to be exercised, or (b) by any other means which the Committee, in its sole discretion, determines to both provide legal consideration for the Shares, and to be consistent with the purposes of the Plan.

As soon as practicable after receipt of a written notification of exercise and full payment for the Shares with respect to which the Option is exercised, the Company shall deliver to the Participant Shares (which may be in book entry or certificate form) for such Shares with respect to which the Option is exercised.

5.7 *Restrictions on Share Transferability.* The Committee may impose such restrictions on any Shares acquired pursuant to the exercise of an Option as it may deem advisable, including, but not limited to, restrictions related to applicable Federal securities laws, the requirements of any national securities exchange or system upon which Shares are then listed or traded, or any blue sky or state securities laws.

ARTICLE 6 STOCK APPRECIATION RIGHTS

6.1 *Grant of SARs.* Subject to the provisions of the Plan, SARs may be granted to such Employees at such times, and subject to such terms and conditions, as shall be determined by the Committee in its sole discretion; provided, that any tandem SAR related to an Incentive Stock Option shall be granted at the same time that such Incentive Stock Option is granted.

6.2 *Exercise Price and Other Terms.* The Committee, subject to the provisions of the Plan, shall have complete discretion to determine the terms and conditions of SARs granted under the Plan; provided, however, that SARs may be granted only with respect to Class A Shares. Without limiting the foregoing, the Exercise Price with respect to Shares subject to an SAR may be equal to or greater than one hundred percent (100%) of the Fair Market Value of a Share on the Grant Date, as shall be determined by the Committee in its sole discretion; provided, that the Exercise Price with respect to Shares subject to a tandem SAR shall be the same as the Exercise Price with respect to the Shares subject to the related Option.

6.3 *SAR Agreement.* Each SAR grant shall be evidenced by an Award Agreement that shall specify the Exercise Price, the term of the SAR, the conditions of exercise, and such other terms and conditions as the Committee, in its sole discretion, shall determine.

6.4 Expiration of SARs

6.4.1. *Expiration Dates.* Each SAR shall terminate not later than as of the expiration date specified in the Award Agreement pertaining to such SAR; provided, however, that the expiration date with respect to a tandem SAR shall not be later than expiration date of the related Option.

6.4.2. *Termination of Service.* Unless otherwise specified in the Award Agreement pertaining to an SAR, each SAR granted to a Participant shall terminate no later than the first to occur of the following events:

(a) The expiration of ninety (90) days from the date of the Participant's Termination of Service for any reason other than the Participant's death, Disability, Retirement or Termination of Service for Cause;

- (b) The expiration of one (1) year from the date of the Participant's Termination of Service by reason of the Participant's Disability or Retirement;
- (c) The date of the Participant's Termination of Service for Cause; or
- (d) The expiration date specified in the Award Agreement pertaining to such SAR.

6.4.3. *Death of Employee.* Unless otherwise specified in the Award Agreement pertaining to an SAR, if a Participant to whom an SAR has been granted dies while an Employee but prior to the expiration, cancellation, forfeiture or other termination of such SAR, such SAR shall become exercisable in full upon the Participant's death and shall be exercisable thereafter until the earlier of (a) the expiration of one (1) year after the date of death, or (b) the expiration date specified in the Award Agreement pertaining to such SAR.

6.5 *Payment of SAR Amount.* An SAR may be exercised (a) by the Participant's delivery of a written notice of exercise to the Secretary of the Company (or its designee) setting forth the number of whole SARs which are being exercised, (b) in the case of a tandem SAR, by surrendering to the Company any Options which are cancelled by reason of the exercise of such SAR, and (c) by executing such documents as the Company may reasonably request.

Upon exercise of an SAR, the Participant shall be entitled to receive payment from the Company in an amount determined by multiplying:

(i) The amount by which the Fair Market Value of a Share on the date of exercise exceeds the Exercise Price specified in the Award Agreement pertaining to such SAR; times

(ii) The number of Shares with respect to which the SAR is exercised.

6.6 *Payment Upon Exercise of SAR.* Unless otherwise specified in the Award Agreement pertaining to an SAR, payment to a Participant upon the exercise of the SAR may be made, as determined by the Committee in its sole discretion, either (a) in cash, (b) in Shares with a Fair Market Value equal to the amount of the payment or (c) in a combination thereof.

ARTICLE 7 STOCK AWARDS

7.1 *Grant of Stock Awards.* Subject to the provisions of the Plan, Stock Awards may be granted to such Employees at such times, and subject to such terms and conditions, as determined by the Committee in its sole discretion; provided, however, that Stock Awards may be granted only with respect to Class A Shares. The Award Agreement pertaining to a Stock Award shall specify whether it is a Restricted Stock Award or a Bonus Stock Award.

7.2 *Stock Award Agreement.* Each Stock Award shall be evidenced by an Award Agreement that shall specify the number of Shares granted, any price to be paid for the Shares, the Performance Goals (if any) and Period of Restriction applicable to a Restricted Stock Award and such other terms and conditions as the Committee, in its sole discretion, shall determine. Bonus Stock Awards are not required to be subject to any Period of Restriction.

7.3 *Transferability/Delivery of Shares.* Shares subject to an Award of Restricted Stock may not be sold, transferred, pledged, assigned, or otherwise alienated or hypothecated during a Period of Restriction. During the Period of Restriction, a Restricted Stock Award may be registered in the holder's name or a nominee name at the discretion of the Company and may bear a legend as described in Section 7.4.3. Unless the Committee determines otherwise, Shares of Restricted Stock shall be held by the Company as escrow agent during the applicable Period of Restriction, together with stock powers or other instruments of assignment (including a power of attorney), each endorsed in blank with a guarantee of signature if deemed necessary or appropriate by the Company, which would permit transfer to the Company of all or a portion of the Shares subject to the Restricted Stock Award in the event such Award is forfeited in whole or in part. Upon the grant of a Bonus Stock Award, subject to the Company's right to require payment of any taxes, the Company shall deliver to Participant the requisite number of Shares (which may be in book entry or certificate form).

7.4 Other Restrictions. The Committee, in its sole discretion, may impose such other restrictions on Shares subject to an Award of Restricted Stock as it may deem advisable or appropriate, in accordance with this Section 7.4.

7.4.1. *General Restrictions.* The Committee may set restrictions based upon the achievement of specific performance objectives (Company-wide, business unit or individual), applicable federal or state securities laws, or any other basis determined by the Committee in its discretion.

7.4.2. *Section 162(m) Performance Restrictions.* In the case of Awards of Restricted Stock which are intended to satisfy the requirements for "qualified performance-based compensation" under Section 162(m) of the Code, the Committee shall set restrictions based upon the achievement of Performance Goals.



7.4.3. *Legend on Certificates.* The Committee, in its discretion, may legend the certificates representing Restricted Stock during the Period of Restriction to give appropriate notice of such restrictions. For example, the Committee may determine that some or all certificates representing Shares of Restricted Stock shall bear the following legend:

"The sale or other transfer of the shares of stock represented by this certificate, whether voluntary, involuntary, or by operation of law, is subject to certain restrictions on transfer as set forth in the CME Group Inc. Amended and Restated Omnibus Stock Plan (the "Plan") and in an Award Agreement (as defined by the Plan). A copy of the Plan and such Award Agreement may be obtained from the Secretary of CME Group Inc."

7.5 *Removal of Restrictions.* Shares of Restricted Stock covered by a Restricted Stock Award made under the Plan shall be released from escrow as soon as practicable after the termination of the Period of Restriction (and the satisfaction or attainment of any applicable Performance Goals) and, subject to the Company's right to require payment of any taxes, the Company shall deliver to Participant the requisite number of Shares (which may be in book entry or certificate form).

7.6 *Voting Rights.* During the Period of Restriction, Participants holding Shares of Restricted Stock granted hereunder may exercise full voting rights with respect to those Shares, unless otherwise provided in the Award Agreement.

7.7 *Return of Restricted Stock to Company.* On the date set forth in the Award Agreement, the Restricted Stock for which restrictions have not lapsed shall revert to the Company and again shall become available for Awards under the Plan.

7.8 Termination of Service.

7.9.1. *Disability and Death.* Unless otherwise specified in the Award Agreement pertaining to a Restricted Stock Award granted to a Participant, upon the Participant's Termination of Service by reason of Disability or death, the Period of Restriction shall terminate as of such date, and all Performance Goals shall be deemed to have been satisfied at the target level.

7.9.2. *Other Termination of Service.* Unless otherwise specified in the Award Agreement pertaining to a Restricted Stock Award granted to a Participant, upon the Participant's Termination of Service for any reason other than Disability or death, the portion of such Award which is subject to a Period of Restriction on such date shall be forfeited by the Participant and canceled by the Company.

ARTICLE 8 PERFORMANCE SHARE AWARDS

8.1 *Performance Share Awards.* Subject to the provisions of the Plan, Performance Share Awards may be granted to such Employees at such times, and subject to such terms and conditions, as determined by the Committee in its sole discretion; provided, however, that Performance Share Awards may be granted only with respect to Class A Shares.

8.2 Terms of Performance Share Award Agreement.

8.2.1. *Number of Performance Shares and Performance Goals.* The Award Agreement pertaining to a Performance Share Award shall specify the number of Performance Shares subject to the Award and the Performance Goals and the Performance Period.

8.2.2. *Vesting and Forfeiture.* The Award Agreement pertaining to a Performance Share Award shall specify, in the Committee's discretion and subject to the terms of the Plan, for the vesting of such Award if specified Performance Goals are satisfied or met during the Performance Period, and for the forfeiture of all or a portion of such Award if specified Performance Goals are not satisfied or met during the Performance Period.

8.2.3. *Settlement of Vested Performance Share Awards.* The Award Agreement pertaining to a Performance Share Award (i) shall specify whether such Award may be settled in Shares (including Shares of Restricted Stock) or cash or a combination thereof and (ii) may specify whether the holder thereof shall be entitled to receive, on a deferred basis, Dividend Equivalent Rights. If a Performance Share Award is settled in Shares of Restricted Stock, a certificate or certificates or book entry record representing such Restricted Stock shall be issued, and the Participant shall have such rights of a stockholder of the Company as determined pursuant to Section 7.6 and 10.13. Prior to the settlement of a Performance Share Award in Shares, including Restricted Stock, the Participant shall have no rights as a stockholder of the Company with respect to the Shares subject to such Award. Settlement of a Performance Share Award shall occur within 30 days after the date the Performance Goals underlying such Award have been attained or are deemed to have been attained pursuant to Section 8.3.1. Notwithstanding any provision herein to the contrary, to the extent necessary to avoid adverse tax consequences to a Participant who is a "specified employee" under Section 409A of the Code, settlement of a Performance Share Award shall not be made until after the expiration of the six-month period commencing on the Participant's Termination of Service.

8.3 Termination of Service.

8.3.1. *Disability and Death.* Unless otherwise specified in the Award Agreement pertaining to a Performance Share Award granted to a Participant, upon the Participant's Termination of Service by reason of Disability or death, all Performance Goals shall be deemed to have been satisfied at the target level with respect to such Performance Share Award. In the case of an Award that is intended to qualify as "qualified performance-based compensation" under Section 162(m) of the Code, the preceding sentence shall apply solely with respect to a Termination of Service by reason of Disability or death.

8.3.2. *Other Termination of Service.* Unless otherwise specified in the Award Agreement pertaining to a Performance Share Award granted to a Participant, upon the Participant's Termination of Service for any reason other than Disability or death, the portion of such Award which is subject to outstanding Performance Goals on such date shall be forfeited by the Participant and canceled by the Company.

ARTICLE 9 RESTRICTED STOCK UNIT AND PERFORMANCE STOCK UNIT AWARDS

9.1 *Grant of Restricted Stock Unit and Performance Stock Unit Awards.* Subject to the provisions of the Plan, Restricted Stock Unit and Performance Stock Unit Awards may be granted to such Employees at such times, and subject to such terms and conditions, as determined by the Committee in its sole discretion; provided, however, that Performance Stock Unit Awards may be granted only with respect to Class A Shares.

9.2 Terms of Restricted Stock Unit and Performance Stock Unit Award Agreement.

9.2.1. *Number of Shares and Performance Goals.* The Award Agreement pertaining to a Restricted Stock Unit or Performance Stock Unit Award shall specify the number of Shares subject to the Award and, in the case of Performance Stock Units, the performance metrics (which may include Performance Goals) and the Performance Period.

9.2.2. *Vesting and Forfeiture.* The Award Agreement pertaining to a Restricted Stock Unit or Performance Stock Unit Award shall specify, in the Committee's discretion and subject to the terms of the Plan, for the vesting of such Award if the Participant's employment or service

continues for a specified period (in the case of a Restricted Stock Unit) or if specified Performance Goals are satisfied or met during the Performance Period (with respect to a Performance Stock Unit), and for the forfeiture of all or a portion of such Award if specified vesting criteria are not satisfied or met.

9.2.3. Settlement of Vested Restricted Stock Unit or Performance Stock Unit Award. The Award Agreement pertaining to a Restricted Stock Unit or Performance Stock Unit Award (i) shall specify whether such Award may be settled in Shares or cash or a combination thereof and (ii) may specify whether the holder thereof shall be entitled to receive, on a deferred basis, Dividend Equivalent Rights. Prior to the settlement of a Restricted Stock Unit or Performance Stock Unit Award in Shares, the Participant shall have no rights as a stockholder of the Company with respect to the Shares subject to such Award. Settlement of a Performance Stock Unit Award shall occur within 30 days after the date the Performance Goals underlying such Award have been attained. Notwithstanding any provision herein to the contrary, to the extent necessary to avoid adverse tax consequences to a Participant who is a "specified employee" under Section 409A of the Code, settlement of a Restricted Stock Unit Award shall not be made until after the expiration of the six-month period commencing on the Participant's Termination of Service.

9.3 *Termination of Service*. The treatment of Restricted Stock Unit or Performance Stock Unit Awards upon the Participant's Termination of Service shall be set forth in the applicable Award Agreement. If such treatment is not set forth in the applicable Award Agreement, upon the Participant's Termination of Service for any reason, the portion of such Award which is unvested on such date shall be forfeited by the Participant and canceled by the Company.

ARTICLE 10 MISCELLANEOUS

10.1 *No Effect on Employment or Service.* Nothing in the Plan shall interfere with or limit in any way the right of the Company to terminate any Participant's employment or service at any time, with or without cause. For purposes of the Plan, transfer of employment of a Participant between the Company and any one of its Affiliates (or between Affiliates) shall not be deemed a Termination of Service. Employment with the Company and Affiliates is on an at-will basis only.

10.2 *Participation.* No Employee shall have the right to be selected to receive an Award under this Plan, or, having been so selected, to be selected to receive a future Award.

10.3 *Indemnification.* Each person who is or shall have been a member of the Committee, or of the Board, shall be indemnified and held harmless by the Company against and from (a) any loss, cost, liability, or expense that may be imposed upon or reasonably incurred by him or her in connection with or resulting from any claim, action, suit, or proceeding to which he or she may be a party or in which he or she may be involved by reason of any good faith action taken or good faith failure to act under the Plan or any Award Agreement, and (b) from any and all amounts paid by him or her in settlement thereof, with the Company's approval, or paid by him or her in satisfaction of any judgment in any such claim, action, suit, or proceeding against him or her, provided he or she shall give the Company an opportunity, at its own expense, to handle and defend the same before he or she undertakes to handle and defend it on his or her own behalf.

The foregoing right of indemnification shall not be exclusive of any other rights of indemnification to which such persons may be entitled under the Company's Certificate of Incorporation or Bylaws, by contract, as a matter of law, or otherwise, or under any power that the Company may have to indemnify them or hold them harmless.

10.4 *Successors.* All obligations of the Company under the Plan, with respect to Awards granted hereunder, shall be binding on any successor to the Company, whether the existence of such successor is the result of a direct or indirect purchase, merger, consolidation or otherwise, of all or substantially all of the business or assets of the Company.

10.5 *Beneficiary Designations.* A Participant under the Plan may name a beneficiary or beneficiaries to whom any vested but unpaid Award shall be paid in the event of the Participant's death. For purposes of this section, a beneficiary may include a designated trust having as its primary beneficiary a family member of a Participant. Each such designation shall revoke all prior designations by the Participant and shall be effective only if given in a form and manner acceptable to the Committee. In the absence of any such designation, any vested benefits remaining unpaid at the Participant's death shall be paid to the Participant's estate and, subject to the terms of the Plan and of the applicable Award Agreement, any unexercised vested Award may be exercised by the administrator or executor of the Participant's estate.

10.6 *Nontransferability of Awards.* Unless otherwise determined by the Committee with respect to an Award other than an Incentive Stock Option, no Award granted under the Plan may be sold, transferred, pledged, assigned, or otherwise alienated or hypothecated, other than by will, by the laws of descent and distribution, or to the limited extent provided in Section 10.5. All rights with respect to an Award granted to a Participant shall be available during his or her lifetime only to the Participant and may be exercised only by the Participant or the Participant's legal representative.

10.7 *No Rights as Stockholder*. Except to the limited extent provided in Sections 7.6 and 7.7, no Participant (nor any beneficiary) shall have any of the rights or privileges of a stockholder of the Company with respect to any Shares issuable pursuant to an Award (or exercise thereof), unless and until certificates representing such Shares shall have been issued, recorded on the records of the Company or its transfer agents or registrars, and delivered to the Participant (or beneficiary). Any delivery of Shares hereunder may be in book entry or certificate form, as determined by the Committee or its delegate, in its discretion.

10.8 *Withholding Requirements.* Prior to the delivery of any Shares or cash pursuant to an Award (or exercise thereof), the Company shall have the power and the right to deduct (including, but not limited to, deduction through a broker-assisted cashless exercise) or withhold, or require a Participant to remit to the Company, an amount sufficient to satisfy federal, state, local and foreign taxes (including, but not limited to, the Participant's FICA and SDI obligations) required to be withheld with respect to such Award (or exercise thereof). Notwithstanding any contrary provision of the Plan, if a Participant fails to remit to the Company such withholding amount within the time period specified by the Committee (in its discretion), the Participant's Award may, in the Committee's discretion, be forfeited and in such case the Participant shall not receive any of the Shares subject to such Award.

10.9 *Withholding Arrangements.* The Committee, in its sole discretion and pursuant to such procedures as it may specify from time to time, may permit or require a Participant to satisfy all or part of the minimum tax withholding obligations in connection with an Award by (a) having the Company withhold otherwise deliverable Shares, or (b) delivering to the Company already-owned Shares having a Fair Market Value equal to the amount required to be withheld.

10.10 *Deferrals.* The Committee, in its sole discretion, may permit a Participant to defer receipt of the payment of cash or the delivery of Shares that would otherwise be delivered to a Participant under the Plan. Any such deferral elections shall be subject to such rules and procedures as shall be determined by the Committee in its sole discretion and shall be done in a manner expected not to result in taxation under Section 409A of the Code. Notwithstanding the

foregoing, neither the Company nor the Committee shall have any liability to any person in the event Code Section 409A applies to any Award in a manner that results in adverse tax consequences for the Participant or any of his beneficiaries or transferees.

10.11 *Change of Control.* (a)(1) Notwithstanding any provision in this Plan or any Award Agreement, in the event of a Change of Control pursuant to paragraphs (c) or (d) of Section 2.8 in connection with which the holders of Shares receive shares of common stock that are registered under Section 12 of the 1934 Act, (i) all outstanding Options and SARs shall immediately become exercisable in full, (ii) the Period of Restriction applicable to any outstanding Restricted Stock Award shall lapse, (iii) the Performance Period applicable to any outstanding Performance Share shall lapse, (iv) the Performance Goals applicable to any outstanding award shall be deemed to be satisfied at the greater of actual performance at the time of the Change of Control or the target level and (v) there shall be substituted for each Share available under this Plan, whether or not then subject to an outstanding award, the number and class of shares into which each outstanding Share shall be converted pursuant to such Change of Control. In the event of any such substitution, the purchase price per share in the case of an Option and the base price in the case of an SAR shall be appropriately adjusted by the Committee (whose determination shall be final, binding and conclusive), such adjustments to be made in the case of outstanding Options and SARs without an increase in the aggregate purchase price or base price.

(2) Notwithstanding any provision in this Plan or any Award Agreement, in the event of a Change of Control pursuant to paragraph (a) or (b) of Section 2.8, or in the event of a Change of Control pursuant to paragraph (c) or (d) of Section 2.8 in connection with which the holders of Shares receive consideration other than shares of common stock that are registered under Section 12 of the 1934 Act, each outstanding Award shall be surrendered to the Company by the holder thereof, and each such Award shall immediately be canceled by the Company, and the holder shall receive, within ten days of the occurrence of a Change of Control (or such later date as may be required for compliance with Section 409A of the Code), a cash payment from the Company in an amount equal to (i) in the case of an Option, the number of Shares then subject to such Option, multiplied by the excess, if any, of the Fair Market Value of a Share on the date of occurrence of the Change of Control, over the purchase price per Share subject to the Option, (ii) in the case of an SAR other than a tandem SAR, the number of Shares then subject to such SAR, multiplied by the excess, if any, of the fair Market Value of Shares or the Change of Control, over the base price of the SAR, (iii) in the case of a Restricted Stock Award or Performance Share on the date of occurrence of the Control, over the base price of the SAR, (iii) in the case of a Restricted Stock Award or Performance Share Market Value of a Share on the date of occurrence of the Change of Control. Notwithstanding the foregoing, in the event of a Share on the date of a Share on the date of occurrence of the Change of Control. Notwithstanding the foregoing, in the event of a Share on the date of occurrence of the Change of Control. Notwithstanding the foregoing, in the event of a Share on the date of occurrence of the Change of Control. Notwithstanding the foregoing, in the event of a Share on the date of occurrence of the Change of Control. Notwithstanding the foregoing, in the event of a Ch

In the event of a Change of Control, each tandem SAR shall be surrendered by the holder thereof and shall be canceled simultaneously with the cancellation of the related Option. The Company may, but is not required to, cooperate with any person who is subject to Section 16 of the Exchange Act to assure that any cash payment in accordance with the foregoing to such person is made in compliance with Section 16 and the rules and regulations thereunder.

10.12 *Restrictions on Shares.* Each Award made hereunder shall be subject to the requirement that if at any time the Company determines that the listing, registration or qualification of the Shares subject to such Award upon any securities exchange or under any law, or the consent or approval of any governmental body, or the taking of any other action is necessary or desirable as a condition of, or in connection with, the exercise or settlement of such Award or the delivery of Shares thereunder, such Award shall not be exercised or settled and such Shares shall not be delivered unless such listing, registration, qualification, consent, approval or other action shall have been effected or obtained, free of any conditions not acceptable to the Company. The Company may require that certificates evidencing shares delivered pursuant to any Award made hereunder bear a legend in indicating that the sale, transfer or other disposition thereof by the holder is prohibited except in compliance with the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and the rules and regulations thereunder.

10.13 *Dividend Equivalents Rights.* Any Participant selected by the Committee may be granted Dividend Equivalent Rights based on the dividends declared on Shares that are subject to any Award, to be credited as of dividend payment dates, during the period between the date the Award is granted and the date the Award is exercised, vests or expires, as determined by the Committee. Such Dividend Equivalent Rights shall be converted to cash or additional Shares by such formula and at such time and subject to such limitations as may be determined by the Committee. Notwithstanding the foregoing, if any Award for which Dividend Equivalent Rights have been granted has its vesting or grant dependent upon the achievement of one or more Performance Measures, then the Dividend Equivalent Rights shall accrue and only be paid to the extent the Award becomes vested. Under no circumstances may Dividend Equivalent Rights be granted for any Option or SAR.

10.14 *No Representations or Warranties Regarding Tax Affect.* Notwithstanding any provision of the Plan to the contrary, the Company and its Affiliates, the Board and the Committee neither represent nor warrant the tax treatment under any federal, state, local or foreign laws and regulations thereunder (individually and collectively referred to as the **"Tax Laws"**) of any Award granted or any amounts paid to any Participant under the Plan including, but not limited to, when and to what extent such Awards or amounts may be subject to tax, penalties and interest under the Tax Laws.

ARTICLE 11 AMENDMENT, TERMINATION AND DURATION

11.1 *Amendment, Suspension or Termination.* The Board, in its sole discretion, may amend, suspend or terminate the Plan, or any part thereof, at any time and for any reason, subject to any requirement of stockholder approval required by applicable law, rule or regulation, including Section 162(m) and section 422 of the Code; provided, however, that notwithstanding any other provision of the Plan or any Award Agreement, without stockholder approval, no such amendment, alternation, suspension, discontinuation or termination shall be made that, absent such stockholder approval:

- violates the rules or regulations of any securities listing exchange applicable to the Company;
- increases the number of shares authorized under the Plan as specified in Section 4.1 of the Plan (other than pursuant to adjustments made under Article 4);
- increases the number of shares subject to the limitations contained in Section 4.1 (other than pursuant to adjustments made under Article 4);

- permits the Award of Options or SARs at a price less than 100% of the Fair Market Value of a Share on the date of grant of such Option or SAR;
- permits the repricing of Options or SARs, as prohibited by Article 12 of the Plan; or
- expands the classes or categories of persons eligible to receive Awards under the Plan.

The amendment, suspension or termination of the Plan shall not, without the consent of the Participant, alter or impair any rights or obligations under any Award theretofore granted to such Participant. No Award may be granted during any period of suspension or after termination of the Plan.

11.2 *Duration of the Plan.* The Plan shall, subject to Section 11.1 (regarding the Board's right to amend or terminate the Plan), terminate on June 30, 2022, unless earlier terminated by the Board. The termination of the Plan shall not affect any Awards granted prior to the termination of the Plan.

ARTICLE 12 PROHIBITION ON REPRICING

12.1 *Prohibition on Repricing.* Except as provided in Section 4.3 of the Plan, no Option or SAR may be amended to reduce its initial exercise or grant price and no Option or SAR shall be cancelled in exchange for cash, other Awards or replaced with Options or SARs having a lower exercise or grant price, without the approval of the stockholders of the Company.

ARTICLE 13 LEGAL CONSTRUCTION

13.1 *Gender and Number.* Except where otherwise indicated by the context, any masculine term used herein also shall include the feminine; the plural shall include the singular and the singular shall include the plural.

13.2 *Severability.* In the event any provision of the Plan shall be held illegal or invalid for any reason, the illegality or invalidity shall not affect the remaining parts of the Plan, and the Plan shall be construed and enforced as if the illegal or invalid provision had not been included.

13.3 *Requirements of Law.* The granting of Awards and the issuance of Shares under the Plan shall be subject to all applicable laws, rules and regulations, and to such approvals by any governmental agencies or national securities exchanges as may be required.

13.4 *Section 409A.* The Plan is intended to comply with Section 409A of the Code and the interpretative guidance thereunder and shall at all times be interpreted and administered in accordance with such intent. To the extent that any provision of the Plan violates Section 409A, such provision shall be automatically reformed, if possible, to comply with Section 409A or stricken from the Plan. If an operational failure occurs with respect to Section 409A requirements, any affected Participant shall fully cooperate with the Company to correct the failure, to the extent possible, in accordance with any correction procedure established by the Internal Revenue Service. No provision of the Plan shall be interpreted to transfer any liability for a failure to comply with Section 409A from a Participant or any other individual to the Company.

13.5 *Governing Law.* The Plan and all Award Agreements shall be construed in accordance with and governed by the laws of the State of Delaware, but without regard to its conflict of law provisions.

13.6 *Captions.* Captions are provided herein for convenience only, and shall not serve as a basis for interpretation or construction of the Plan.