# Nasdaq Factor Dog<sup>™</sup> Index Methodology

## **Index Description**

The Nasdaq Factor Dog Index Methodology seeks to select a portfolio of securities exhibiting certain characteristics reflective of an investment factor that has underperformed its peer group in the past calendar year. The Index tracks the underlying index components and weights of one factor-specific index from the Nasdaq Factor Family of Indexes based on relative returns over a trailing twelve month period.

## **Index Calculation**

The Nasdaq Factor Dog Index is a modified market capitalization index. The value of the Index equals the aggregate value of the Index share weights, also known as the Index Shares, of each of the Index Securities multiplied by each such security's Last Sale Price<sup>1</sup>, and divided by the divisor of the Index. The divisor serves the purpose of scaling such aggregate value to a lower order of magnitude which is more desirable for reporting purposes. If trading in an Index Security is halted on its primary listing market, the most recent Last Sale Price for that security is used for all index computations until trading on such market resumes. Likewise, the most recent Last Sale Price is used if trading in a security is halted on its primary listing market before the market is open. The Index began on May 15, 2017 at a base value of 1000.00.

The formula for index value is as follows:

Aggregate Adjusted Market Value/Divisor

The formula for the divisor is as follows:

(Market Value after Adjustments/Market Value before Adjustments) X Divisor before Adjustments

Three versions of the Index are calculated:

- The price return index (NQDOG) is ordinarily calculated without regard to cash dividends on Index Securities.
- The total return index (NQDOGT) reinvests cash dividends on the ex-date.
- The net total return index (NQDOGN) reinvests cash dividends on the ex-date based on the securities incorporation withholding rate.

All Indexes reflect extraordinary cash distributions.

The Indexes are calculated and disseminated once per second from 9:30:01 to 17:16:00 Eastern Time (ET) in USD. The closing value of the Index(es) may change up until 17:15:00 ET due to corrections to the Last Sale Price of the Index Securities.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> For purposes of this document, Last Sale Price refers to the last regular way trade reported on such security's Index Market. The Index Market is the listing market for which prices are received and used by Nasdaq in the Index calculation and generally will represent the most liquid trading market of the Index Security. If a security does not trade on its Index Market on a given day or the Index Market has not opened for trading, the most recent last sale price from the Index Market (adjusted for corporate actions, if any) is used. For securities where Nasdaq is the Index Market, the Last Sale Price may be the Nasdaq Official Closing Price (NOCP) when Nasdaq is closed.

### Eligibility

Index eligibility is limited to specific security types only. The security types eligible for the Index include common stocks and REITs.

### **Eligibility Criteria**

The Nasdaq Factor Dog Index tracks the components and weights comprising one of the six e Nasdaq Factor Family of Indexes:

- Nasdaq Factor Family US Momentum NQFFUSM
- Nasdaq Factor Family US High Yield NQFFUSHY
- Nasdaq Factor Family US Growth NQFFUSG
- Nasdag Factor Family US Value NQFFUSV
- Nasdag Factor Family US Low Vol NQFFUSLV
- Nasdaq Factor Family US Quality NQFFUSQ

The six Nasdaq Factor Indexes are evaluated based on their trailing twelve month returns at the end of each calendar year. The Nasdaq Factor Indexes returns used in the evaluation are reflective of a total return pricing method that reinvests cash dividends on the ex-date. The Nasdaq Factor Dog Index fully replicates the components and weights of the Index with the lowest trailing twelve month return at the time of the evaluation. The Index continues to fully replicate the selected index until the next evaluation following the close of the last trading day of the next calendar year.

#### **Other Eligibility Criteria**

If, at reconstitution, Nasdaq becomes aware that an issuer or security will soon undergo a fundamental change that makes it ineligible, Nasdaq will remove the security from consideration. This includes entering into a definitive merger or acquisition agreement or other pending arrangement that would make it ineligible for Index inclusion, or a filing of bankruptcy or similar protection from creditors, or other events as described in Section 3 of **Corporate Actions and Events Manual – Equities**.

#### **Index Evaluation**

The Index is evaluated up to three times per year depending on the underlying Nasdaq Factor Indexes that is replicating. The Index always gets evaluated annually in December in accordance with the above Eligibility Criteria. The December evaluation uses available market data as of the end of December. Security additions and deletions are made effective at the market open on the 6<sup>th</sup> business day of January.

Additionally, the Index will replicate the evaluation schedule of the underlying Index that it is tracking. With the exception of the Nasdaq Factor Family US Quality Index, all Indexes within the Nasdaq Factor Family are evaluated semi-annually in March and September. Security additions and deletions resulting from the evaluations are made effective at the market open on the fourth business day of the following month. The Nasdaq Factor Family US Quality Index is evaluated annually in March, and this evaluation follows the same schedule as the March semi-annual evaluation process described above.

If at any time during the year other than the Evaluations, an Index Security is determined to have become ineligible for continued inclusion in the Index due to bankruptcy, delisting,

or a definitive agreement that would likely result in the security no longer being eligible for inclusion in the Index, the security is removed from the Index and is not replaced. Ordinarily, a security will be removed from the Index at its Last Sale Price. If, however, at the time of its removal the Index Security is halted from trading on its primary listing market and an official closing price cannot readily be determined, the Index Security may, at Nasdaq's discretion, be removed at a zero price. The zero price will be applied to the Index Security after the close of the market but prior to the time at which the official closing value of the Index is disseminated, which is ordinarily 17:16:00 ET.

#### **Index Maintenance**

While Index Share changes are not made outside of the rebalance, changes arising from stock dividends and stock splits are made to the Index on the evening prior to the effective date of such corporate actions. In the case of certain spin-offs or rights issuances, the price of the Index Security is adjusted and a corresponding adjustment is made to the Index Shares such that the weight of the Index Security does not change as a result of the action. Additionally, for a spin-off event, if there is a no when-issued trading available for the spin-co security, the spin-co security may be added to the index at a zero value. In this case, the spin-co security will be removed from the Index after two full days of trading.

A special cash dividend announced by the listing exchange will result in an adjustment to the Last Sale Price of an Index Security prior to market open on the ex-date for the special amount distributed. A corresponding adjustment will be made to the Index Shares of the security such that the weight of the Index Security will not change as a result of the action. A special dividend may also be referred to as extra, extraordinary, non-recurring, one-time, unusual, etc.

Ordinarily, whenever there is a change in Index Shares, a change in an Index Security or a change to the price of an Index Security due to spin-offs, rights issuances or special cash dividends as mentioned above, the divisor is adjusted to ensure that there is no discontinuity in the value of the Index which might otherwise be caused by any such change.

#### **Index Rebalancing**

The weighting methodology and Index Share calculation are contingent on the factor index that is being replicated. The Index fully replicates the components, weights and shares of the selected Nasdaq Factor Index. The changes are made effective at the market open on the 6th business day of January following the December Evaluation and at the market open on the 4th business day of April and October following the March and September evaluations.

Nasdaq may, from time to time, exercise reasonable discretion as it deems appropriate in order to ensure Index integrity.

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