# FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND SUPPLEMENTARY SCHEDULES

PURSUANT TO REGULATION 1.10 UNDER THE COMMODITY EXCHANGE ACT

December 31, 2023
AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC CONSUMPTION



#### RYAN & JURASKA LLP

Certified Public Accountants

141 West Jackson Boulevard Chicago, Illinois 60604

Tel: 312.922.0062 Fax: 312.922.0672

#### REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

To the Sole Member of Advantage Futures LLC and Subsidiary

#### **Opinion on the Financial Statement**

We have audited the accompanying consolidated statement of financial condition of Advantage Futures LLC and Subsidiary (the "Company") as of December 31, 2023 that you are filing pursuant to Regulation 1.10 under the Commodity Exchange Act, and the related notes (collectively referred to as the financial statement). In our opinion, the consolidated statement of financial condition presents fairly, in all material respects, the consolidated financial position of Advantage Futures LLC and Subsidiary as of December 31, 2023 in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

#### **Basis for Opinion**

This financial statement is the responsibility of Advantage Futures LLC and Subsidiary's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Company's financial statement based on our audit. We are a public accounting firm registered with the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) ("PCAOB") and are required to be independent with respect to Advantage Futures LLC and Subsidiary in accordance with U.S. federal securities laws and the applicable rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission, the Commodity Futures Trading Commission ("CFTC"), and the PCAOB.

We conducted our audit in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB and the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statement is free of material misstatement, whether due to error or fraud. Our audit included performing procedures to assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statement, whether due to error or fraud, and performing procedures that respond to those risks. Such procedures included examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statement. Our audit also included evaluating the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statement. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

#### **Auditor's Report on Supplemental Information**

The information contained in Schedules 1 through 7 ("the supplementary schedules") has been subjected to audit procedures performed in conjunction with the audit of the Company's financial statement. The supplementary schedules are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our audit procedures included determining whether the supplementary schedules reconcile to the financial statement or the underlying accounting and other records, as applicable, and performing procedures to test the completeness and accuracy of the information presented in the supplementary schedules. In forming our opinion on the supplementary schedules, we evaluated whether the supplementary schedules, including their form and content, are presented in conformity with Regulation 1.10 of the Commodity Exchange Act. In our opinion, the supplementary schedules are fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the financial statement as a whole.

Ryans Juraska LLP

We have served as Advantage Futures LLC and Subsidiary's auditor since 2003. Chicago, Illinois

February 26, 2024

# CFTC FORM 1-FR-FCM [0005]

OMB NO. 3038-0024

NAME OF COMPANY:		EMPLOYER	ID NO:		NFA ID NO:	
ADVANTAGE FUTURES LLC	[0010]	75-309445		[0020]	0327359	[0030]
ADDRESS OF PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINE	SS:	PERSON TO Carlos Ro		NCERNIN	G THIS REPORT:	[0040]
141 West Jackson Blvd, Suite 3900		TELEPHONE	NO: (312) 8			[0040]
Chicago, Illinois 60604	[0050]	E-MAIL ADD	RESS: crodrig	uez@adva	ntagefutures.com	[0065]
1. Report for the period beginning <u>01</u>	<b>-01-23</b> [0070]	and ending _	<b>12-31-23</b> [0	[080]		
2. Type of report [0090] [X] Certified	d [ ] Regula	r quarterly/se	emiannual	[ ] Mo	onthly 1.12 (b)	
[ ] Special	call by:			[ ] Oth	ner - Identify:	
3. Check whether [0095] [X] Initial fill	ing [ ] Amend	ed filing				
4. Name of FCM's Designated Self-Re	gulatory Organization: <u>C</u>	ME Group,	Inc.	[0100]		
5. Name(s) of consolidated subsidiarie	es and affiliated companie	es:				
	Percentage					
Name	Ownership		of Business			
Advantage Securities LLC [0110]				В	roker-Dealer	[0130]
[0140] [0170]						[0160]
[0200]						[0190]
[0230]	[024					[0250]
The futures commission merchant, or apperson whose signature appears below true, correct and complete. It is understowand that the submission of any amendmorrect and complete as previously subjects constitute Federal Criminal Violatic	represent that, to the be bood that all required item nent represents that all u mitted. It is further unde	est of their kn , statements namended it rstood that a	owledge, all and schedul ems, statem	l informat les are in ents and	tion contained t tegral parts of t l schedules rem	herein is his Form ain true,
Signed this <u>XX<sup>th</sup></u> day of <u>Fe</u>	bruary, 2024					
Manual signature	rej					
[ ] Chief Executive Officer [ ] General Partner	[ X ] Chief Financial Of [ ] Sole Proprietor	ficer	Corpor	ate Title		

Authority: Sections 4c, 4d, 4f, 4g, 5a, 8a, and 17 of the Commodity Exchange Act (7 U.S.C. §§ 6c, 6d, 6f, 6g, 7a, 12a, and 21)

## **Consolidated Statement of Financial Condition**

# December 31, 2023

Assets           Cash and cash equivalents         \$ 59,676,544           Cash segregated under federal and other regulations         372,748,485           Deposits with clearing organizations         79,356,341           Receivables from:         32,771,915           Broker-dealers and futures commission merchants         32,771,915           Customers (net of allowance for doubtful accounts of \$30,125)         309,821           Clearing organizations         22,088,095           Other         2,195,387           Exchange memberships, at cost (fair value \$746,000)         1,168,300           Furniture, equipment, and leasehold improvements, at cost (net of accumulated depreciation and amortization of \$7,548,156)         257,989           Goodwill         100,276           Other assets         \$ 573,357,841           Liabilities and Member's Equity         \$ 573,357,841           Liabilities         Payables to:           Customers         \$ 457,545,884           Noncustomers         \$ 0,690,347           Affiliate         6,547           Other         1,813,992           Accounts payable and accrued expenses         12,773,477		
Cash segregated under federal and other regulations       372,748,485         Deposits with clearing organizations       79,356,341         Receivables from:       32,771,915         Broker-dealers and futures commission merchants       32,771,915         Customers (net of allowance for doubtful accounts of \$30,125)       309,821         Clearing organizations       22,088,095         Other       2,195,387         Exchange memberships, at cost (fair value \$746,000)       1,168,300         Furniture, equipment, and leasehold improvements, at cost (net of accumulated depreciation and amortization of \$7,548,156)       257,989         Goodwill       100,276         Other assets       \$ 573,357,841         Liabilities and Member's Equity         Liabilities:       Payables to:         Customers       \$ 457,545,884         Noncustomers       50,690,347         Affiliate       6,547         Other       1,813,992         Accounts payable and accrued expenses       12,773,477	Assets	
Deposits with clearing organizations       79,356,341         Receivables from:       32,771,915         Broker-dealers and futures commission merchants       32,771,915         Customers (net of allowance for doubtful accounts of \$30,125)       309,821         Clearing organizations       22,088,095         Other       2,195,387         Exchange memberships, at cost (fair value \$746,000)       1,168,300         Furniture, equipment, and leasehold improvements, at cost (net of accumulated depreciation and amortization of \$7,548,156)       257,989         Goodwill       100,276         Other assets       2,684,688         Eliabilities and Member's Equity         Liabilities:       Payables to:         Customers       \$457,545,884         Noncustomers       50,690,347         Affiliate       6,547         Other       1,813,992         Accounts payable and accrued expenses       12,773,477	Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 59,676,544
Receivables from:       32,771,915         Broker-dealers and futures commission merchants       32,771,915         Customers (net of allowance for doubtful accounts of \$30,125)       309,821         Clearing organizations       22,088,095         Other       2,195,387         Exchange memberships, at cost (fair value \$746,000)       1,168,300         Furniture, equipment, and leasehold improvements, at cost (net of accumulated depreciation and amortization of \$7,548,156)       257,989         Goodwill       100,276         Other assets       2,684,688         Eliabilities and Member's Equity         Liabilities:       Payables to:         Customers       \$ 457,545,884         Noncustomers       50,690,347         Affiliate       6,547         Other       1,813,992         Accounts payable and accrued expenses       12,773,477	Cash segregated under federal and other regulations	372,748,485
Broker-dealers and futures commission merchants       32,771,915         Customers (net of allowance for doubtful accounts of \$30,125)       309,821         Clearing organizations       22,088,095         Other       2,195,387         Exchange memberships, at cost (fair value \$746,000)       1,168,300         Furniture, equipment, and leasehold improvements, at cost (net of accumulated depreciation and amortization of \$7,548,156)       257,989         Goodwill       100,276         Other assets       2,684,688         *       \$573,357,841         Liabilities and Member's Equity         Liabilities:       *         Payables to:       *         Customers       \$457,545,884         Noncustomers       \$0,690,347         Affiliate       6,547         Other       1,813,992         Accounts payable and accrued expenses       12,773,477	Deposits with clearing organizations	79,356,341
Customers (net of allowance for doubtful accounts of \$30,125)       309,821         Clearing organizations       22,088,095         Other       2,195,387         Exchange memberships, at cost (fair value \$746,000)       1,168,300         Furniture, equipment, and leasehold improvements, at cost (net of accumulated depreciation and amortization of \$7,548,156)       257,989         Goodwill       100,276         Other assets       2,684,688         *       573,357,841         Liabilities and Member's Equity         Liabilities:       *         Payables to:       *         Customers       \$         Noncustomers       \$         Affiliate       6,547         Other       1,813,992         Accounts payable and accrued expenses       12,773,477	Receivables from:	
Clearing organizations       22,088,095         Other       2,195,387         Exchange memberships, at cost (fair value \$746,000)       1,168,300         Furniture, equipment, and leasehold improvements, at cost (net of accumulated depreciation and amortization of \$7,548,156)       257,989         Goodwill       100,276         Other assets       2,684,688         Liabilities and Member's Equity         Liabilities:       Fayables to:         Customers       \$ 457,545,884         Noncustomers       50,690,347         Affiliate       6,547         Other       1,813,992         Accounts payable and accrued expenses       12,773,477	Broker-dealers and futures commission merchants	32,771,915
Other       2,195,387         Exchange memberships, at cost (fair value \$746,000)       1,168,300         Furniture, equipment, and leasehold improvements, at cost (net of accumulated depreciation and amortization of \$7,548,156)       257,989         Goodwill       100,276         Other assets       2,684,688         Liabilities and Member's Equity         Liabilities:         Payables to:       573,357,841         Customers       \$ 457,545,884         Noncustomers       \$ 50,690,347         Affiliate       6,547         Other       1,813,992         Accounts payable and accrued expenses       12,773,477	Customers (net of allowance for doubtful accounts of \$30,125)	•
Exchange memberships, at cost (fair value \$746,000)       1,168,300         Furniture, equipment, and leasehold improvements, at cost (net of accumulated depreciation and amortization of \$7,548,156)       257,989         Goodwill       100,276         Other assets       2,684,688         Liabilities and Member's Equity         Liabilities:         Payables to:       3         Customers       \$457,545,884         Noncustomers       \$50,690,347         Affiliate       6,547         Other       1,813,992         Accounts payable and accrued expenses       12,773,477		· · ·
Furniture, equipment, and leasehold improvements, at cost (net of accumulated depreciation and amortization of \$7,548,156)       257,989         Goodwill       100,276         Other assets       2,684,688         Liabilities and Member's Equity         Liabilities:         Payables to:         Customers       \$ 457,545,884         Noncustomers       50,690,347         Affiliate       6,547         Other       1,813,992         Accounts payable and accrued expenses       12,773,477		
depreciation and amortization of \$7,548,156)       257,989         Goodwill       100,276         Other assets       2,684,688         Liabilities and Member's Equity         Liabilities:         Payables to:         Customers       \$ 457,545,884         Noncustomers       50,690,347         Affiliate       6,547         Other       1,813,992         Accounts payable and accrued expenses       12,773,477	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	1,168,300
Goodwill         100,276           Other assets         2,684,688           *         573,357,841           Liabilities and Member's Equity           Liabilities:           Payables to:         Customers           Customers         \$ 457,545,884           Noncustomers         50,690,347           Affiliate         6,547           Other         1,813,992           Accounts payable and accrued expenses         12,773,477	·	
Other assets         2,684,688           \$ 573,357,841           Liabilities and Member's Equity           Liabilities:           Payables to:           Customers         457,545,884           Noncustomers         50,690,347           Affiliate         6,547           Other         1,813,992           Accounts payable and accrued expenses         12,773,477	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
Liabilities and Member's Equity         Liabilities:         Payables to:         Customers       \$ 457,545,884         Noncustomers       50,690,347         Affiliate       6,547         Other       1,813,992         Accounts payable and accrued expenses       12,773,477		•
Liabilities and Member's Equity  Liabilities: Payables to: Customers Noncustomers Affiliate Other Accounts payable and accrued expenses  Liabilities and Member's Equity  \$ 457,545,884  \$ 50,690,347  \$ 6,547  1,813,992  12,773,477	Other assets	 2,684,688
Liabilities:         Payables to:         Customers       \$ 457,545,884         Noncustomers       50,690,347         Affiliate       6,547         Other       1,813,992         Accounts payable and accrued expenses       12,773,477		\$ 573,357,841
Liabilities:         Payables to:         Customers       \$ 457,545,884         Noncustomers       50,690,347         Affiliate       6,547         Other       1,813,992         Accounts payable and accrued expenses       12,773,477		
Payables to:       \$ 457,545,884         Customers       \$ 50,690,347         Affiliate       6,547         Other       1,813,992         Accounts payable and accrued expenses       12,773,477	Liabilities and Member's Equity	
Customers       \$ 457,545,884         Noncustomers       50,690,347         Affiliate       6,547         Other       1,813,992         Accounts payable and accrued expenses       12,773,477	Liabilities:	
Noncustomers       50,690,347         Affiliate       6,547         Other       1,813,992         Accounts payable and accrued expenses       12,773,477	Payables to:	
Affiliate 6,547 Other 1,813,992 Accounts payable and accrued expenses 12,773,477	Customers	\$ 457,545,884
Other 1,813,992 Accounts payable and accrued expenses 12,773,477	Noncustomers	50,690,347
Accounts payable and accrued expenses 12,773,477	Affiliate	6,547
	Other	1,813,992
	Accounts payable and accrued expenses	 12,773,477
522,830,247		522,830,247
Liabilities subordinated to claims of general creditors 10,000,000	Liabilities subordinated to claims of general creditors	10,000,000
Member's equity 40,527,594	Member's equity	 40,527,594
\$ 573,357,841		\$ 573,357,841

#### **Notes to Consolidated Financial Statement**

**December 31, 2023** 

#### 1. Organization and Business

Advantage Futures LLC, ("AF"), a Delaware limited liability company, was formed on January 9, 2003. AF is a wholly owned subsidiary of Advantage Financial LLC, (the "Parent"). AF is the sole member of Advantage Securities LLC ("AS"), an Illinois limited liability company.

AF is registered as a Futures Commission Merchant ("FCM") with the Commodity Futures Trading Commission and is a member of the National Futures Association. AF is a clearing member of all principal commodity exchanges in the United States as well as certain European exchanges. AF provides execution and clearing services for professional traders, institutional clients, and individual investors. AS is registered as a broker-dealer with the Securities and Exchange Commission and is a member of Financial Industry Regulatory Authority ("FINRA").

#### 2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

#### Principles of Consolidation

The consolidated financial statements include the accounts of AF and AS, (collectively, the "Company"). All significant inter-company balances and transactions have been eliminated.

#### Revenue Recognition

The Company buys and sells futures and options contracts on behalf of its customers.

The Company recognizes revenue in accordance with FASB Account Standards Codification ("ASC") Topic 606, Revenue from Contracts with Customers. The guidance was amended to require business entities to recognize revenue to depict the transfer of promised goods or services to customers in an amount that reflects the consideration to which the entity expects to be entitled in exchange for those goods or services. Each time a customer enters a buy or sell transaction, the Company charges a commission. Commission and execution fees revenue and related clearing expenses are recorded on trade date (the date the Company fills the trade order by finding and contracting with a counterparty and confirms the trade with the customer). The Company believes that the performance obligation is satisfied on the trade date of the trade execution as there are no further performance obligations once the Company executes the transactions. Commission related expenses, including commissions or fees paid to internal and external parties, are recognized when incurred.

Interest Income is accrued as earned. Interest income is generated primarily from investments in qualified securities using customer funds deposited with the Company to satisfy margin requirements, net of interest returned to customers.

#### <u>Translation of Foreign Currencies</u>

Assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated to US dollars at year-end exchange rates, while revenue and expenses are translated to US dollars at prevailing rates during the year.

#### Securities Valuation

Securities owned are recorded in the statement of financial condition at fair value in accordance with Accounting Standards Codification Topic 820 ("ASC 820") - Fair Value Measurement and Disclosures (see Note 13).

#### **Notes to Consolidated Financial Statement**

**December 31, 2023** 

#### 2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies, continued

#### **Use of Estimates**

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles ("US GAAP") requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported in the financial statements and the accompanying notes. Management determines that the estimates utilized in preparing its financial statements are reasonable and prudent. Actual results could differ from these estimates.

#### Depreciation and Amortization

Depreciation of furniture and equipment is computed using the straight-line method for financial reporting purposes and accelerated methods for income tax purposes. Leasehold improvements are amortized over the term of the associated lease for financial reporting purposes.

#### Goodwill

Goodwill represents the excess of the purchase price over the fair value of the net assets acquired in connection with the Company's purchase of AS. The Company's policy is to review goodwill for impairment on an annual basis. Management has determined that goodwill has not been impaired for the year ending December 31, 2023.

#### **Income Taxes**

No provision has been made for federal income taxes as the taxable income or loss of the Company is included in the respective income tax return of the Parent company.

In accordance with U.S. GAAP, the Company is required to determine whether its tax positions are more likely than not to be sustained upon examination by the applicable taxing authority, based on the technical merits of the position. Generally, the Company is no longer subject to income tax examinations by major taxing authorities for the years before 2020. Based on its analysis, there were no tax positions identified by management which did not meet the "more likely than not" standard as of and for the year ended December 31, 2023.

#### Accounting for Leases

In February 2016, the FASB amended the guidance on accounting for leases. The new guidance required the lessee to recognize right-of-use ("ROU") assets and lease liabilities on the balance sheet for the rights and obligations created by all qualified leases. The recognition, measurement and presentation of the expenses and cash flows arising from a lease by a lessee remains substantially unchanged. The Company adopted the new guidance beginning on January 1, 2022 and elected to use the effective date as of the date of initial application. The new guidance also required quantitative and qualitative disclosures that provide information about the amounts related to leasing arrangements recorded in the financial statements. For further information, see Note 7 Commitments and Contingencies. The Company elected to apply the "package of practical expedients," which permits it to not reassess prior conclusions on existing leases regarding identification, lease classification and initial direct costs. In addition, the Company elected to not apply the use-of hindsight practical expedient, and the practical expedient relating to land easements is not applicable. Adoption of the standard did not have a material impact on the Company's results of operations or cash flows.

At adoption, the Company recognized lease liabilities of approximately \$1,775,984, representing the present value of the remaining minimum fixed lease payments based on the incremental borrowing rates as of October 1, 2023. Changes in lease liabilities are based on current period interest expense and cash payments. The Company also recognized ROU assets of \$1,775,984 at adoption, which represents the measurement of the lease liabilities.

#### **Notes to Consolidated Financial Statement**

**December 31, 2023** 

#### 2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies, continued

#### Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include highly liquid instruments with original maturities of three months or less at the date of acquisition.

# <u>Securities Sold Under Agreements to Repurchase and Securities Purchased Under Agreements to Resell</u>

Transactions with broker-dealers, FCMs and other financial institutions involving securities sold under agreements to repurchase and securities purchased under agreements to resell are accounted for as collateralized financing transactions and are carried at the amounts at which the underlying securities will be subsequently repurchased or resold as specified in the respective agreements. The Company monitors the market value of the underlying collateral daily as compared to the related payable and obtains additional cash or returns cash when appropriate. These transactions are carried at their contracted repurchase and resale amounts, plus accrued interest, as specified in the respective agreements. When additional cash is obtained or surrendered, the contract amounts are adjusted.

In June 2016, the FASB issued ASU2016-13, *Financial Instruments – Credit Losses (Topic 326)* ("ASU 2016-13"). The main objective of ASU 2016-3 is to provide financial statement users with more decision-useful information about an entity's expected credit losses on financial instruments and other commitments to extend credit at each reporting date. To achieve this objective, the amendments in this update replace the incurred loss impairment methodology in current GAAP with a methodology that reflects credit losses and requires consideration of a broader range of reasonable and supportable information to develop credit loss estimates. Subsequent to issuing ASU 2016-13, the FASB has issued additional standards for the purpose of clarifying certain aspects of ASU 2016-13, as well as providing codification improvements and targeted transition relief under the standard. The subsequently issued ASUs have the same effective date and transition requirements as ASU 2016-13. The adoption of this standard on January 1, 2023 did not have a material impact on the Company's financial statements.

#### 3. Deposits with Clearing Organizations

At December 31, 2023, deposits with clearing organizations consisted of the following:

Margin Deposits: U.S. Government treasury securities Cash	\$ 34,717,164 28,281,624
Guarantee Deposits:	
U.S. Government treasury securities	9,665,574
Cash	6,691,979
	\$ 79,356,341

#### **Notes to Consolidated Financial Statement**

**December 31, 2023** 

#### 4. Segregated Assets

At December 31, 2023, assets segregated or held in separate accounts under Federal regulations included in the statement of financial condition are as follows:

Segregated for customers trading on U.S. futures exchanges:

Cash segregated under federal and other regulations Deposits with clearing organizations	\$ 316,722,514 62,998,788
Receivables from clearing organizations  Receivables from broker dealers and futures commissions	21,600,683
merchants	8,468,403
	\$ 409,790,388
Held in separate accounts for foreign futures and options customers:	
Cash segregated under federal and other regulations Receivables from broker dealers and futures commissions	\$ 56,025,971
merchants	13,299,362
	\$ 69,325,333

Customers' funds, regulated under the Commodity Exchange Act, as amended (the "CEAct"), are required to be segregated from the funds of the Company and its employees. Customers' segregated funds and equities in customers' regulated trading accounts, as shown in the statement of financial condition, do not reflect the market value of options positions owned by customers and securities owned by customers and held by the Company as collateral or as margin. At December 31, 2023, the market value of net customers' options positions totaled approximately (\$3,538,400). The market value of securities and spot commodities owned by customers and held by the Company totaled approximately \$115,879,000. Included in this amount is approximately \$115,340,000 in U.S. Treasury securities and approximately \$539,000 in warehouse receipts. Interest on customer owned securities accrues to the benefit of the customers.

#### 5. Furniture, Equipment and Leasehold Improvements

At December 31, 2023, furniture, equipment, and leasehold improvements consisted of the following:

Computers, equipment, and software	\$ 5,833,758
Leasehold improvements	1,828,748
Furniture and fixtures	143,639
Accumulated depreciation and amortization	(7,548,156)
	\$ 257,989

#### **Notes to Consolidated Financial Statement**

**December 31, 2023** 

#### 6. Liabilities Subordinated to Claims of General Creditors

At December 31, 2023, liabilities subordinated to claims of general creditors totaled \$10,000,000 and consisted of the following revolver subordinated debt loan agreements:

Lender	Revolver Credit Line Amount	Advance Amount	Effective Date	Maturity Date	Interest Rate
Non-Affiliated Bank	\$5,000,000	\$5,000,000	12/29/2023	01/31/2026	Used – 1%; Unused - Prime plus 2%
Affiliated Individual	\$5,000,000	\$5,000,000	02/10/2023	02/10/2026	Used – 1%; Unused – 9%
Total	\$10,000,000	\$10,000,000	•		

The subordinated borrowings are covered by agreements approved by the Chicago Mercantile Exchange and are thus available in computing net capital under the CEAct. To the extent that such borrowings are required for the Company's continued compliance with minimum net capital requirements, they may not be repaid (see note 15).

#### 7. Commitments and Contingencies

The Company entered a non-cancellable operating lease for its corporate office. The lease has a remaining term through 2035. The Company utilized the Prime Rate as of October 1, 2023, to determine the net present value of the lease payments. A discount rate of 8.50% was used to calculate the lease liability balance for the Company's operating lease. Right of use asset at December 31, 2023 was \$1,738,948 and is reflected in other assets on the Statement of Financial Condition. Lease liability at December 31, 2023 totaling \$1,813,992 is included in accounts payable and accrued expenses on the Statement of Financial Condition.

The following table represents the maturities of lease liabilities:

Year Ended December	F	Amount
2024	\$	85,400
2025		242,174
2026		248,224
2027		254,458
2028		260,815
Thereafter		1,938,582
Total		3,029,653
Less: Inputed interest		(1,215,661)
	\$	1,813,992

In the normal course of business, the Company is subject to various regulatory inquiries that may result in claims of potential violations of exchange rules and that may possibly involve sanctions and/or fines. These matters are rigorously defended as they arise.

#### **Notes to Consolidated Financial Statement**

**December 31, 2023** 

#### 8. Employee Benefit Plan

The Company has established a salary reduction (401(k) plan for qualified employees. This is a "Safe Harbor" plan and requires the Company to contribute at least 3% of the eligible regular earnings of qualified employees to the plan.

#### 9. Financial Instruments

Accounting Standards Codification Topic 815 ("ASC 815"), Derivatives and Hedging, requires qualitative disclosures about objectives and strategies for using derivatives, quantitative disclosures about fair value amounts of gains and losses on derivative instruments, and disclosures about credit risk related contingent features in derivative agreements. The disclosure requirements of ASC 815 distinguish between derivatives, which are accounted for as "hedges" and those that do not qualify for such accounting. The Company reflects derivatives at fair value and recognizes changes in fair value through the statement of operations, and as such do not qualify for ASC 815 hedge accounting treatment. The Company does not engage in the proprietary trading of derivatives.

The Company executes customer transactions in the purchase and sale of commodity futures contracts (including options on futures contracts), substantially all of which are transacted on a margin basis subject to individual exchange regulations. Such transactions may expose the Company to significant off-balance-sheet risk in the event margin requirements are not sufficient to fully cover losses that customers may incur. In the event the customer fails to satisfy its obligations, the Company may be required to purchase or sell futures contracts at prevailing market prices in order to fulfill the customer's obligations. The Company controls this risk by monitoring margin collateral levels on a daily basis for compliance with regulatory and internal guidelines and requires additional collateral when necessary. The Company requires a customer to deposit additional margin collateral, or reduce positions, if it is determined that the customer's activities may be subject to above normal market risks.

The Company is engaged in futures clearing activities in which counterparties primarily include clearing organizations, broker-dealers, other futures commission merchants and other brokers. In the event counterparties do not fulfill their obligations, the Company may be exposed to risk. The risk of default depends on the creditworthiness of the counterparty. It is the Company's policy to review, as necessary, the credit standing of each counterparty.

#### 10. Guarantees

Accounting Standards Codification Topic 460 ("ASC 460"), Guarantees, requires the Company to disclose information about its obligations under certain guarantee arrangements. ASC 460 defines guarantees as contracts and indemnification agreements that contingently require a guarantor to make payments to the guaranteed party based on changes in an underlying (such as an interest or foreign exchange rate, security or commodity price, an index or the occurrence or nonoccurrence of a specified event) related to an asset, liability, or equity security of a guaranteed party. This guidance also defines guarantees as contracts that contingently require the guarantor to make payments to the guaranteed party based on another entity's failure to perform under an agreement, as well as indirect guarantees of the indebtedness of others.

#### **Notes to Consolidated Financial Statement**

**December 31, 2023** 

#### 10. Guarantees (continued)

The Company is a member of various clearing organizations that clear derivatives contracts. Associated with its memberships, the Company may be required to pay a proportionate share of the financial obligations of another member who may default on its obligations to the exchange or the clearinghouse. While the rules governing different exchange or clearinghouse memberships vary, in general the Company's guarantee obligations would arise only if the exchange or clearinghouse had previously exhausted its resources. The maximum potential payout under these membership agreements cannot be estimated. The Company has not recorded any contingent liability in the statement of financial condition for these agreements and believes that any potential requirement to make payments under these agreements is remote.

#### 11. Agreements and Related Party Transactions

Certain exchange memberships owned by members of the Parent, having an aggregate fair market value of approximately \$922,000, are registered for the use of the Company. Additionally, certain exchange memberships owned by customers, having an aggregate fair market value of approximately \$121,000, are registered for the use of the Company.

The Company has an expense sharing agreement with AS under which they share certain general and administrative services.

At December 31, 2023, the Company has a payable to an affiliate totaling approximately \$6,500 related to expense reimbursements.

#### 12. Minimum Capital Requirements

The Company is subject to minimum capital requirements pursuant to Regulation 1.17 under the Commodity Exchange Act, as amended. Under Regulation 1.17, the Company is required to maintain net capital equivalent of the greater of \$1,000,000 or the sum of 8% of the customer risk maintenance margin requirement plus 8% of the non-customer risk maintenance margin requirement. In addition, the Company is subject to minimum capital requirement of the CME Group, Inc. Under the more restrictive of these rules, the Company is required to maintain net capital equivalent to the greater of \$5,000,000 or 8% of the customer risk maintenance margin requirement plus 8% of the non-customer risk maintenance margin requirement.

At December 31, 2023, under Regulation 1.17, Inc., the Company's minimum capital requirement and adjusted net capital were \$12,004,267 and \$47,222,265, respectively. The minimum capital requirement under the requirements of the CME Group Inc. was \$5,000,000. The net capital rule may effectively restrict member withdrawals and the repayment of subordinated loans.

#### **Notes to Consolidated Financial Statement**

**December 31, 2023** 

#### 13. Fair Value Measurement and Disclosures

ASC 820 defines fair value, establishes a framework for measuring fair value, and establishes a fair value hierarchy which prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques. Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. A fair value measurement assumes that the transaction to sell the asset or transfer the liability occurs in the principal market for the asset or liability or, in the absence of a principal market, the most advantageous market. Valuation techniques that are consistent with the market, income, or cost approach, as specified by ASC 820, are used to measure fair value.

The fair value hierarchy prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value into three broad levels:

- Level 1 inputs are quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities the Company has the ability to access.
- Level 2 inputs are inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly.
- Level 3 are unobservable inputs for the asset or liability and rely on management's own
  assumptions that market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability. The
  unobservable inputs should be developed based on the best information available in the
  circumstances and may include the Company's own data.

At December 31, 2023, Level 1 assets consisted approximately of the following:

U.S. Government treasury securities

\$ 44,382,738

The Company held no Level 2 or Level 3 assets at December 31, 2023.

#### 14. Bank Line of Credit

The Company has a \$75,000,000 revolving line of credit to facilitate the financing of certain customer delivery transactions. Borrowings, if any, under this line of credit are collateralized by customer owned cash commodities. At December 31, 2023, the Company did not have any amounts outstanding under this credit facility.

#### 15. Subsequent Events

The Company's management has evaluated events and transactions through February 26, 2024, the date the financial statements were available to be issued, noting no material events requiring disclosure in the Company's financial statements other than the following:

On January 2, 2024, the Company prepaid liabilities subordinated to claims of general creditors totaling \$10,000,000.



# Reconciliation of Statement of Financial Condition to Net Capital Computation

December 31, 2023

Total assets per Statement of Financial Condition		\$	573,357,841
Add/Deduct: Value of net customers options positions Securities and spot commodities owned by customers Securities owned by noncustomer	\$ (3,534,141) 115,878,733 101,305,417	_	213,650,009
Deduct: Noncurrent assets (as defined) Receivables from customers, net Other assets Furniture, equipment and leasehold improvements, net Exchange memberships Other receivables Goodwill	3,555 945,703 257,989 1,168,300 135,132 100,276		(2,610,955)
Current Assets (as defined)		\$	784,396,895
Total liabilities per Statement of Financial Condition		\$	532,830,247
Add/Deduct: Value of net customer options positions Securities and spot commodities owned by customers Securities owned by noncustomers	\$ (3,534,141) 115,878,733 101,305,417	_	213,650,009
Adjusted Total Liabilities		\$	746,480,256

## Statement of the Computation of Net Capital and Minimum Capital Requirements

**December 31, 2023** 

Current assets, as defined (see reconciliation on prior page)				784,396,895
Adjusted total liabilities (see reconciliation on prior page)				746,480,256
Subordianted debt		10,000,000		
Net capital				47,916,639
Charges against net capital: Twenty percent of market value of uncovered inventories US government obligations (market value \$44,382,738) Five percent unsecured receivable from foreign brokers Adjustment to eliminate the benefits of consolidation	\$	27,323 221,914 145,137 300,000	_	694,374
Adjusted net capital (net capital less charges against net capital)				47,222,265
Net capital required using risk-based requirement:  Amount of customer risk maintenance margin \$ 140,342,288 8% of customer risk-based requirement  Amount of noncustomer risk maintenance margin 9,711,056 8% of customer risk-based requirement	\$	11,227,383 776,884 12,004,267	_	
Minimum dollar amount requirement	\$_	1,000,000	_	
Amount required				12,004,267
Excess net capital			\$	35,217,998
Computation of Early Warning Level Enter 110% of risk-based amount required			\$	13,204,694

There are no material differences between the above computation and the Company's corresponding unaudited Form 1FR-FCM filing as of December 31, 2023.

# Reconciliation of Statement of Financial Condition to Segregation Statement (U.S. Exchanges)

December 31, 2023

Customers' Segregated Funds per Statement of Financial Condition (Note 4)	\$	409,790,388
Add: U.S. Treasury securities owned by customers Other securities owned by customers Value of customers' open long futures options contracts		115,339,733 539,000 226,289,473
Deduct: Value of customers' open short futures options contracts	_	(229,827,873)
Total Amount in Segregation	\$	522,130,721

## **Segregation Requirement and Funds in Segregation**

December 31, 2023

Segregation requirement:		
Net ledger balance: Cash Securities	\$	433,012,460 115,878,733
Net unrealized loss in open futures contracts traded on a contract market Exchange traded options:		(40,712,210)
Market value of open options contracts purchased on a contract market Market value of open options contracts sold on a contract market	_	226,289,473 (229,827,873)
Net equity Accounts liquidating to a deficit and accounts with debit balances - gross		504,640,583
amount Less: amount offset by customer owned securities	_	339,722 (305,750)
		33,972
Amount required to be segregated	_	504,674,555
Funds on deposit in segregation:  Deposited in segregated funds bank accounts:		
Cash		316,722,514
Securities representing investments of customers' funds, at market Securities held for particular customers in lieu of cash margins, at market		
Margins on deposit with clearing organizations of contract markets:  Cash		28,281,624
Securities representing investments of customers' funds, at market Securities held for particular customers in lieu of cash margins, at market		34,717,164 110,363,200
Net settlement receivable from clearing organizations of contract markets  Exchange traded options:		21,600,683
Value of open long option contracts  Value of open short option contracts		226,289,473 (229,827,873)
Net equities with other futures commission merchants:		(229,021,013)
Net liquidating equity Securities representing investments of customers' funds, at market		8,468,403
Securities held for particular customers in lieu of cash margins, at market Customers' segregated funds on hand (warehouse receipts)	_	4,976,533 539,000
Total amount in segregation	_	522,130,721
Excess funds in segregation	\$_	17,456,166
Management target amount for excess funds in segregation	\$_	9,000,000
Excess funds in segregation over management target amount excess	\$_	8,456,166

There are no material differences between the above computation and the Company's corresponding unaudited Form 1FR-FCM filing as of December 31, 2023.

# Segregation Requirement and Funds in Segregation - Customers' Dealer Options December 31, 2023

The Company does not carry customers' dealer option accounts as defined by Commodity Exchange Act Regulation 32.6. Therefore, the Company is exempt from the provisions of Regulation 32.6.

## **Secured Requirement and Funds Held in Separate Accounts**

December 31, 2023

Amount required to be set aside in separate Section 30.7 accounts			
Net ledger balance			
Cash		\$	64,897,182
Net unrealized profit in open futures contracts traded on a foreign board of trade Exchange traded options			8,086
Market value of open option contracts purchased on a foreign board of trade Market value of open option contracts sold on a foreign board of trade		_	
Net equity			64,905,268
Accounts liquidating to a deficit and accounts with debit balances - gross amount (offset by customer owned securities totaling \$0)		_	224
Amount required to be set aside as the secured amount - Net liquidating equal to be set aside as the secured amount - Net liquidating equal to be set aside as the secured amount - Net liquidating equal to be set aside as the secured amount - Net liquidating equal to be set aside as the secured amount - Net liquidating equal to be set as the secured equal to be set as the	uity method	_	64,905,492
Funds on deposit in separate Section 30.7 accounts:			
Cash in banks			
Banks located in the United States \$	55,339,679		
Other banks designated by the Commission (Barclays Bank PLC)	686,291		56,025,970
(Barolays Barik i Es)	000,231	-	00,020,070
Equities with registered futures commission merchants			
(Marex North America, Phillip Capital and RBC Capital Markets)			
Cash \$	4,028,283		
Securities	_		
Unrealized gain on open futures contracts	_		
Value of long option contracts	_		
Value of short option contracts		-	4,028,283
Amounts held by clearing organizations of foreign boards of trade			
Cash \$			
Amount due to clearing organization - daily variation	_		_
Amounts held by members of foreign boards of trade (Marex Financial and Nissan Century Securities Co. Ltd.)			
Cash	9,251,682		
Securities	5,251,002 —		
Unrealized gain on open futures contracts	19,398		
Value of long option contracts	· —		
Value of short option contracts		_	9,271,080
Total amount in separate Section 30.7 accounts		_	69,325,333
Excess funds in separate Section 30.7 accounts		\$_	4,419,841
Management target amount for excess funds in separate 30.7 accounts		\$_	1,000,000
Excess funds in separate 30.7 accounts over management target excess		\$_	3,419,841

There are no material differences between the above computation and the Company's corresponding unaudited Form 1FR-FCM filling as of December 31, 2023.

See accompanying independent auditors' report.

Cleared Swaps Segregation Requirements and Funds in Cleared Swaps Customer Accounts

December 31, 2023

The Company does not carry customers' cleared swaps accounts as defined by Commodity Exchange Act Regulation 4D(F). Therefore, the Company is exempt from the provisions of Regulation 4D(F).