

## S&P Dow Jones Indices Consultation on Dividend Omission Treatment

**NEW YORK, APRIL 23, 2018:** S&P Dow Jones Indices (“S&P DJI”) is conducting a consultation with members of the investment community on potential changes to certain S&P and Dow Jones Dividend Indices.

In order to align the treatment of dividend omissions across S&P DJI’s dividend indices, S&P DJI is considering introducing a monthly review of index constituents for dividend omissions.

Under this proposal, If S&P DJI determines that an index constituent has eliminated or suspended its dividend, omitted a payment or reduced its calendar year dividend amount and will no longer qualify for the index at the subsequent reconstitution<sup>1</sup>, it would be removed from the index effective prior to the open of the first business day of the following month and not replaced until the following reconstitution. The determination of qualifying for the index at the subsequent reconstitution would be at the discretion of the Index Committee. The decision to remove an index constituent due to dividend elimination, suspension, omission, or reduction would be based on information publicly announced by the company as of five business days prior to month-end.

The indices potentially impacted by this proposal are listed below.

S&P DJI Dividend Indices Potentially Impacted	
S&P/JPX Dividend Aristocrats Index	S&P China A Share Dividend Opportunities Index
S&P 500 Dividend Aristocrats Index	S&P Emerging Markets Dividend Opportunities Index
S&P Dividend Aristocrats Brasil Index	S&P Ethical Pan Asia Select Dividend Opportunities Index
S&P Europe 350 Dividend Aristocrats Index	S&P Europe Dividend Opportunities Index
S&P Global Dividend Aristocrats Index	S&P Global Dividend Opportunities Index
S&P High Yield Dividend Aristocrats Index	S&P International Dividend Opportunities Index
S&P MidCap 400 Dividend Aristocrats Index	S&P Korea Dividend Opportunities
S&P Pan Asia Dividend Aristocrats Index	S&P/ASX Dividend Opportunities Index
S&P South Africa Dividend Aristocrats Index	S&P Brazil Dividend Opportunities Index
S&P/TSX Canadian Dividend Aristocrats Index	S&P Brazil Dividend Opportunities SmallMidCap Index
S&P/TSX High Income Energy Index	S&P/ASX Franked Dividend Index
S&P/TSX Composite Dividend Index	S&P 900 10 year Dividend Growth Index
S&P/TSX Composite High Dividend Index	S&P 500 Dividend and Free Cash Flow Yield Index
S&P/TSX Capped REIT Income Index	S&P Emerging Markets Dividend and Free Cash Flow Yield Index

### QUESTIONS

Please answer the following questions and provide S&P DJI with the reasoning behind your answers:

1. Which of the indices listed in the table above does your response cover?
2. Do you agree with the proposal to introduce a monthly review of index constituents as described above?

<sup>1</sup> The index composition reconstitution schedule is detailed in each index’s methodology available at [www.spdji.com](http://www.spdji.com).

### **3. Do you have any other comments or feedback regarding the proposed changes outlined above?**

Your participation in this consultation is important as we gather information from various market participants in order to properly evaluate your views and preferences. S&P DJI will make responses to consultations freely available upon request.<sup>2</sup> If you do not want your response to be made available, you must clearly state that in your response. Please respond to this survey by **May 22, 2018**. After this date, S&P DJI will no longer accept survey responses. Prior to the Index Committee's final review, S&P DJI will consider the issues and may request clarifications from respondents as part of that review. Alternative options to the proposed questions after the deadline require that the consultation be re-opened to the public.

To participate in this consultation, please visit the online survey available [here](#).

For further information about this consultation, please contact S&P Dow Jones Indices at [index\\_services@spglobal.com](mailto:index_services@spglobal.com).

*Please be advised that all comments from this consultation will be reviewed and considered before a final decision is made; however, S&P DJI makes no guarantees or is under any obligation to comply with any of the responses. The survey may result in no changes or outcome of any kind. If S&P DJI decides to change the index methodology, an announcement will be posted on our website.*

Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey.

For more information about S&P Dow Jones Indices, please visit [www.spdji.com](http://www.spdji.com).

## **ABOUT S&P DOW JONES INDICES**

S&P Dow Jones Indices is the largest global resource for essential index-based concepts, data and research, and home to iconic financial market indicators, such as the S&P 500<sup>®</sup> and the Dow Jones Industrial Average<sup>®</sup>. More assets are invested in products based on our indices than products based on indices from any other provider in the world. Since Charles Dow invented the first index in 1884, S&P DJI has become home to over 1,000,000 indices across the spectrum of asset classes that have helped define the way investors measure and trade the markets.

S&P Dow Jones Indices is a division of S&P Global (NYSE: SPGI), which provides essential intelligence for individuals, companies and governments to make decisions with confidence. For more information, visit [www.spdji.com](http://www.spdji.com).

### **FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

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<sup>2</sup> Individual and company names as well as contact details will be redacted.