

Commodity Futures Trading Commission

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the character of, or is commonly known to the trade as, an "option", "privilege", "indemnity", "bid", "offer", "put", "call", "advance guaranty", or "decline guaranty" involving any commodity regulated under the Act other than wheat, cotton, rice, corn, oats, barley, rye, flaxseed, grain sorghums, mill feeds, butter, eggs, onions, *Solanum tuberosum* (Irish potatoes), wool, wool tops, fats and oils (including lard, tallow, cottonseed oil, peanut oil, soybean oil and all other fats and oils), cottonseed meal, cottonseed, peanuts, soybeans, soybean meal, livestock, livestock products and frozen concentrated orange juice;

(2) *Interstate commerce* shall be construed and have the same meaning as set forth in sections 1a(13) and 2(b) of the Act;

(3) *Option customer* means any person who, directly or indirectly, purchases or otherwise acquires for value any interest in a commodity option, but shall not include a person required to register as a futures commission merchant in accordance with this part;

(4) *Purchase price* means the total actual cost paid or to be paid, directly or indirectly, by an option customer for entering into and maintaining an interest in a commodity option transaction by whatever name called; and

(5) *Striking price* means the price at which an option customer may purchase or sell the commodity or the contract of sale of a commodity for future delivery which is the subject of a commodity option transaction.

(Secs. 2(a)(1), 4c(a)-(d), 4d, 4f, 4g, 4k, 4m, 4n, 8a, 15 and 17, Commodity Exchange Act (7 U.S.C. 2, 4, 6c(a)-(d), 6f, 6g, 6k, 6m, 6n, 12a, 19 and 21; 5 U.S.C. 552 and 552b))

[47 FR 57016, Dec. 22, 1982, as amended at 52 FR 29003, Aug. 5, 1987; 59 FR 5703, Feb. 8, 1994]

§ 32.2 Prohibited transactions.

Notwithstanding the provisions of § 32.11, no person may offer to enter into, confirm the execution of, or maintain a position in, any transaction in interstate commerce involving wheat, cotton, rice, corn, oats, barley, rye, flaxseed, grain sorghums, mill feeds, butter, eggs, *solanum tuberosum* (Irish potatoes), wool, wool tops, fats and oils (including lard, tallow, cottonseed oil, peanut oil, soybean oil and all

other fats and oils), cottonseed meal, cottonseed, peanuts, soybeans, soybean meal, livestock, livestock products, and frozen concentrated orange juice if the transaction is or is held out to be of the character of, or is commonly known to the trade as an "option," "privilege," "indemnity," "bid," "offer," "put," "call," "advance guaranty," or "decline guaranty," except as provided under § 32.13 of this part.

[63 FR 18832, Apr. 16, 1998]

§ 32.3 Unlawful commodity option transactions.

(a) On and after January 17, 1977, it shall be unlawful for any person to accept any money, securities, or property (or to extend credit in lieu thereof) from an option customer as payment of the purchase price in connection with a commodity option transaction unless such person is registered as a futures commission merchant under the Act and such registration shall not have expired, been suspended (and the period of suspension has not expired) or revoked.

(b) On and after January 17, 1977, it shall be unlawful for:

(1) Any person to solicit or accept orders (other than in a clerical capacity) for the purchase or sale of any commodity option, or to supervise any person or persons so engaged, unless such person is:

(i) Registered as a futures commission merchant under the Act, or

(ii) If such person is an individual, registered under the act as an associated person of a specified person registered as a futures commission merchant under the Act;

(2) Any futures commission merchant to permit an individual to become or remain associated with such futures commission merchant as a partner, officer or employee (or in any similar status or position involving similar functions) in any capacity involving such solicitation, acceptance or supervision if such futures commission merchant knew or should have known that such individual was not registered as an associated person or that such registration has expired, been suspended (and the period of suspension has not expired) or revoked;

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(c) A person required to register as a futures commission merchant or as an associated person in accordance with this section which furnishes the services specified in that portion of section 1a of the Act defining the term "commodity trading advisor" shall not be included in the term commodity trading advisor if:

(1) At the time such services are furnished, such person is registered as a futures commission merchant, as a floor broker or as an associated person under the Act, and such registration shall not have expired, been suspended (and the period of suspension has not expired) or revoked; and

(2) The furnishing of such services is solely incidental to the conduct of such person's activities relating to commodity option transactions.

(d) A person registered as a futures commission merchant under the Act, who is required to register as such by virtue of this section, need not register as such in order to comply with this section, but shall immediately notify the Commission in writing, specifying the date such person commenced or intends to commence engaging in activities otherwise requiring registration under this section.

(e) A person registered as an associated person or as a floor broker under the Act, who is required to register as an associated person by virtue of this section, need not register as such in order to comply with this section, but the futures commission merchant employing such person shall immediately notify the Commission in writing, specifying the date such person commenced or intends to commence engaging in activities otherwise requiring registration under this section.

(7 U.S.C. 2, 6c(a), 6c(b) and 12a (Supp. V, 1975))

[41 FR 51814, Nov. 24, 1976, as amended at 42 FR 61831, Dec. 6 1977; 59 FR 5703, Feb. 8, 1994]

§ 32.4 Exemptions.

(a) Except for the provisions of §§ 32.2, 32.8 and 32.9, which shall in any event apply to all commodity option transactions, the provisions of this part shall not apply to a commodity option offered by a person which has a reasonable basis to believe that the option is offered to a producer, processor, or

commercial user of, or a merchant handling, the commodity which is the subject of the commodity option transaction, or the products or by-products thereof, and that such producer, processor, commercial user or merchant is offered or enters into the commodity option transaction solely for purposes related to its business as such.

(b) The Commission may, by order, upon written request or upon its own motion, exempt any other person, either unconditionally or on a temporary or other conditional basis, from any provisions of this part, other than §§ 32.2, 32.8 and 32.9, if it finds, in its discretion, that it would not be contrary to the public interest to grant such exemption.

§ 32.5 Disclosure.

(a) Except as provided in paragraph (b) of this section, prior to the entry into a commodity option transaction, each option customer or prospective option customer shall be furnished a summary disclosure statement by the person soliciting or accepting the order therefor. The disclosure statement shall contain the following:

(1) A brief description of the commodity option transactions being offered including:

(i) The duration of the commodity options being offered and the total quantity and quality of the commodities which may be purchased or sold upon exercise of the options being offered or which underlie the contracts of sale for future delivery which may be purchased or sold upon exercise of such commodity options;

(ii) A listing of the elements comprising the purchase price to be charged, including the premium, mark-ups on the premium, costs, fees and other charges, as well as the method by which the premium is established;

(iii) The services to be provided for the separate elements comprising the purchase price; and

(iv) The method by which the striking price is established;

(2) A description of any and all costs in addition to the purchase price which may be incurred by an option customer if the commodity option is exercised, including, but not limited to, the