

# Russell 2000 Dividend Index Ground Rules

v1.6



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## Section 1

# Introduction

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## 1. Introduction

1.1.1 These Ground Rules should be read in conjunction with the Russell US Equity Indices Construction and Methodology which can be accessed through the links below:

[Russell-US-indices.pdf](#)

### 1.2 FTSE Russell

FTSE Russell is a trading name of FTSE International Limited, Frank Russell Company, FTSE Global Debt Capital Markets Limited (and its subsidiaries FTSE Global Debt Capital Markets Inc. and FTSE Fixed Income Europe Limited), FTSE Fixed Income LLC, FTSE (Beijing) Consulting Limited, Refinitiv Benchmark Services (UK) Limited, Refinitiv Limited and Beyond Ratings.

1.3 The Russell 2000 Dividend Index does not take account of ESG factors in its index design.

1.4 The base currency of the benchmark is US Dollars (USD). Index values may also be published in other currencies.

1.5 FTSE Russell hereby notifies users of the index series that it is possible that circumstances, including external events beyond the control of FTSE Russell, may necessitate changes to, or the cessation of, the index series and therefore, any financial contracts or other financial instruments that reference the index series or investment funds which use the index series to measure their performance should be able to withstand, or otherwise address the possibility of changes to, or cessation of, the index.

1.6 Index users who choose to follow this index series or to buy products that claim to follow this index series should assess the merits of the index's rules-based methodology and take independent investment advice before investing their own or client funds. No liability whether as a result of negligence or otherwise is accepted by FTSE Russell for any losses, damages, claims and expenses suffered by any person as a result of:

- any reliance on these Ground Rules, and/or
- any inaccuracies in these Ground Rules, and/or
- any non-application or misapplication of the policies or procedures described in these Ground Rules, and/or
- any inaccuracies in the compilation of the index or any constituent data.

## Section 2

# Management responsibilities

## 2. Management responsibilities

### 2.1 FTSE International Limited (FTSE)

2.1.1 FTSE is the benchmark administrator of the index<sup>1</sup>.

2.1.2 FTSE is responsible for the daily calculation, production and operation of the index series and will:

- maintain records of the index weightings of all constituents;
- make changes to the constituents and their weightings in accordance with the Ground Rules;
- carry out the periodic index reviews of the index series and apply the changes resulting from the reviews as required by the Ground Rules;
- publish changes to the constituent weightings resulting from their ongoing maintenance and the periodic reviews;
- disseminate the indices.

### 2.2 Amendments to these Ground Rules

2.2.1 These Ground Rules shall be subject to regular review (at least once a year) by FTSE Russell to ensure that they continue to best reflect the aims of the index. Any proposals for significant amendments to these Ground Rules will be subject to consultation with FTSE Russell advisory committees and other stakeholders if appropriate. The feedback from these consultations will be considered by the FTSE Russell Index Governance Board before approval is granted.

<sup>1</sup> The term administrator is used in this document in the same sense as it is defined in [Regulation \(EU\) 2016/1011 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 8 June 2016 on indices used as benchmarks in financial instruments and financial contracts or to measure the performance of investment funds](#) (the European Benchmark Regulation) and [The Benchmarks \(Amendment and Transitional Provision\) \(EU Exit\) Regulations 2019](#) (the UK Benchmark Regulation).

## Section 3

# FTSE Russell Index policies

## 3. FTSE Russell Index policies

These Ground Rules should be read in conjunction with the following policy documents which can be accessed through the links below:

### 3.1 Queries and complaints

3.1.1 FTSE Russell's complaints procedure can be accessed through the following link:

[FTSE Russell Benchmark Determination Complaints Handling Policy.pdf](#)

### 3.2 Index policy for trading halts and market closures

3.2.1 Guidance for the treatment of index changes in the event of trading halts or market closures can be found through the following link:

[FTSE Russell Index Policy for Trading Halts and Market Closures.pdf](#)

### 3.3 Index policy in the event clients are unable to trade a market or a security

3.3.1 Details of FTSE Russell's treatment can be accessed through the following link:

[Index Policy in the Event Clients are Unable to Trade a Market or a Security.pdf](#)

### 3.4 FTSE Russell policy for benchmark methodology changes

3.4.1 Details of FTSE Russell's policy for making benchmark methodology changes can be accessed through the following link:

[FTSE Russell Policy for Benchmark Methodology Changes.pdf](#)

### 3.5 FTSE Russell Governance framework

3.5.1 To oversee its indices, FTSE Russell employs a governance framework that encompasses product, service and technology governance. The framework incorporates the London Stock Exchange Group's three lines of defence risk management framework and is designed to meet the requirements of the IOSCO Principles for Financial Benchmarks<sup>2</sup>, the European benchmark regulation<sup>3</sup> and the UK benchmark regulation<sup>4</sup>. The FTSE Russell Governance framework can be accessed through the following link:

[FTSE Russell Governance Framework.pdf](#)

<sup>2</sup> IOSCO Principles for Financial Benchmarks Final Report, FR07/13 July 2013.

<sup>3</sup> Regulation (EU) 2016/1011 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 8 June 2016 on indices used as benchmarks in financial instruments and financial contracts or to measure the performance of investment funds.

<sup>4</sup> The Benchmarks (Amendment and Transitional Provision) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019.

## Section 4

# Index methodology

## 4. Russell 2000 Dividend Index

### 4.1 Review methodology

The index will represent the cumulative value of ordinary cash dividends announced and paid by the individual constituents of the underlying Russell 2000 Index, calculated in terms of index points. No adjustment for withholding taxes will be made.

FTSE Russell will rebase the index to 0 at the start of the first trading day following the third Friday in December each year.

### 4.2 Ex-Dividend adjustment

The ex-dividend (xd) adjustment represents the value of dividends declared by constituent companies on the xd date expressed in index points. The xd adjustment year to date is the calculation on a cumulative basis for the period between and including the first trading day following the 3rd Friday in December to mid-day on the 3rd Friday in December of the following year. Xd adjustments are based on declared dividends. The xd adjustment is calculated as follows:

$$\frac{\text{Market value of dividends}}{\text{Latest index divisor}}$$

If a company declares a dividend in a currency other than US Dollar, the published USD equivalent will be used, if available prior to the xd-date. If there is no USD equivalent, the dividend will be converted to USD using the WM/Refinitiv 4PM rate the day before the stock goes xd.

### 4.3 Corporate actions adjustment

The index will follow the standard FTSE Russell corporate action adjustments as detailed in the following document:

[Corporate Actions and Events Guide](#)

For example, if a company distributing an ordinary dividend subsequently announces a retraction (i.e. dividend is no longer being paid), FTSE Russell will apply a corrective negative adjustment with T+1 notice.

Please refer to Rule 4.2 ordinary dividends, special dividends, and capital repayments in the corporate actions and events guide for additional information.

#### 4.4 Index calculation example

If Company A and B each declared a dividend payment with an xd date of day T, the following calculation would occur to derive the xd adjustment on day T:

| Company                              | Dividend (\$) | Shares (m) | Free float factor | Market value (\$m) | XD adjustment (market value/divisor) |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|------------|-------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------------|
| A                                    | 1.25          | 61,443     | 0.9               | 69,123.38          | 1.97                                 |
| B                                    | 0.63          | 22,579     | 1.0               | 14,224.77          | 0.81                                 |
| <b>Total xd adjustment for index</b> |               |            |                   |                    | <b>2.127</b>                         |

Index divisor = 39,183

The method for calculating the xd adjustment uses the divisor as at the close of business on the preceding day after implementing any capitalisation changes. Where a company has more than one line of shares included in the indices, the xd adjustment is calculated separately for each line.

## Appendix A

# Further information

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A glossary of terms used in FTSE Russell's Ground Rule documents can be found through the following link:

[Glossary.pdf](#)

For contact details, please visit the FTSE Russell website or contact FTSE Russell client services at [info@ftserussell.com](mailto:info@ftserussell.com).

Website: [www.lseg.com/en/ftse-russell/](http://www.lseg.com/en/ftse-russell/)

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