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**Index Rules and Methodology**

**The Alerian Galaxy Immersive  
Digital Worlds Index**

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# The Alerian Galaxy Immersive Digital Worlds Index

## Official Rule Book

### I. General Description

The Alerian Galaxy Immersive Digital Worlds Index, DWORLD, is an index of stocks listed on developed market recognized exchanges that are materially engaged in the development of immersive digital ecosystems. Included in the index are companies involved in the development and enablement of technologies supporting immersive digital communities and economies, as well as aid in the proliferation of internet and data connections between data centers and devices.

DWORLD comprises the following main business segments (the “Segments”):

- **Interaction**
  - Companies that develop ways to experience immersive digital communities and economies through games, entertainment, content creation, and social interaction.
- **Enablement:**
  - Companies that are developing technologies such as hardware, software, or digital payment systems that allow individuals to participate and interact within immersive digital communities and economies.
- **Connectivity**
  - Companies that contribute to the proliferation of internet distribution, data transmissions, and real-time connections between data centers and devices.

DWORLD uses an equal weighting methodology.

### II. The Index Committee

The VettaFi Index Committee (the “Committee”) has oversight responsibility for the Index. The Committee Chairman has extensive experience with and expertise in equity markets. The other members have experience with Indexes and/or financial products.

The Committee is principally responsible for overseeing the activities related to the Index methodology, reconstitutions and rebalancings.

The Committee meets quarterly, either in person or via teleconference, to discuss index issues and organize the reconstitutions and rebalancings.

The composition of the Committee may from time to time be changed to reflect changes in market conditions.

All members of the index committee and their advisors shall comply with the VettaFi’s code of conduct and ethics with respect to the disclosure and use of material non-public information.

### **III. Index Value at Inception**

The DWORLD Index had a value at inception of 1000, on its common inception date of December 18, 2020. Each Index is calculated on a Price-only, Total Return, and Net Total Return Index basis in both USD and CAD. Currency hedged versions of the CAD variants are also calculated.

### **IV. Eligibility Criteria, Selection and Weighting**

To be eligible for inclusion in The Alerian Galaxy Immersive Digital Worlds Index, a company must be listed on a developed market recognized stock exchange and engaged in one of the following sectors: a) Interaction, b) Enablement, or c) Connectivity.

Companies in all segments except those tied to digital payment systems must pass:

- 1) Business operations/products/services fit definition of one of the three main business segments and
- 2) MD&A/M&A/Public Statements for R&D towards the metaverse.

Companies engaged in the enablement of digital payment systems must pass:

- 1) >20% engagement in cryptocurrency tied payments or
- 2) MD&A/M&A/Public Statements for R&D towards the metaverse or non-fungible tokens.

Further, the stock must meet all of the following eligibility criteria

- The minimum float-adjusted market capitalization value for each stock shall be 500 million USD.
- The minimum free float factor shall be 20%.
- The minimum average daily trading value for the previous three months shall be 2 million USD.

If a company has been trading for fewer than three calendar months but at least 22 trading days, the ADTV for its entire trading history shall be used to determine eligibility.

The constituents of the Indexes' main business segments shall be chosen by selecting up to the top 25, 20, and 15 eligible companies from Interaction, Enablement, and Connectivity segments, respectively by their stocks' average ranks of full market capitalization and three-month ADTV.

If, during a reconstitution, less than 40 constituents are in the basket, then additional companies are added with a minimum float-adjusted market capitalization of 250 million USD until either 40 constituents are met or no more eligible companies remain.

Across all the Indexes, the constituents' Index Shares shall be based on prices as of the close of trading on the trade date preceding the second Friday of the rebalancing month, or the previous trade date in the event of a market holiday falling on that second Friday (the "Weight Date").

Constituents are equal weighted as of the Weight Date.

## V. Rules for Reconstitutions, Rebalancings and Index Changes

The DWORLD Index is calculated on an end-of-day (EOD) basis by VettaFi, LLC (the “EOD Calculation Agent. The EOD Calculation Agent is also responsible for Index maintenance and price dissemination. The EOD Calculation Agent is responsible for the calculation of the Indexes. The calculation, maintenance and dissemination rules are as follows:

**Index Changes.** The DWORLD Index is rebalanced quarterly effective at the open of trading on the Monday following the third Friday of the third month of each calendar quarter or the next trade date in the event of a market holiday (the “Effective Date”). Index changes take place at each rebalancing Effective Date, except in the event of certain intramonth corporate actions, such as mergers, acquisitions, and delistings. In such cases, the change is applied on the effective date of the action, unless otherwise determined by the Index Committee. Share increases and decreases are reflected on the rebalancing Effective Date. Whenever possible, changes will be announced at least two business days prior to their implementation.

**Index Reconstitutions.** The DWORLD Index is reconstituted quarterly effective at the open of trading on the Monday following the third Friday of the third month of each calendar quarter or the next trade date in the event of a market holiday (the “Effective Date”).

**Additions and Deletions.** Additions to and Deletions from the Indexes are made 1) on the reconstitution Effective Date and 2) in the event of the deletion of a constituent stock due to a corporate action.

Deletions are made at any time, in the event a constituent is liquidated, delisted, files for bankruptcy, is acquired, or merges with another security. Upon the constituent’s deletion, the weight of the removed constituent is reallocated. Additions are made only upon the Effective Date of the reconstitution.

## VI. Roles of Parties in the Quarterly Rebalancings

- i) The EOD Calculation Agent will screen the Indexes’ constituents to verify their continued eligibility as per requirements relevant to the rebalancing.
- ii) No later than the second Friday of the rebalancing month, the EOD Calculation Agent shall provide the Committee or its designee with lists of constituents and their corresponding Index Shares for the Indexes.
- iii) The Committee or its designee shall approve or reject the changes and notify the EOD Calculation Agent of its decisions no later than the Monday following the second Friday of the rebalancing month.
- iv) The EOD Calculation Agent will post all final rebalancing data and information on their FTP servers prior to the market open on the rebalancing Effective Date.

## **VII. Roles of Parties in the Quarterly Reconstitutions**

- i) The EOD Calculation Agent will screen the DWRLD universe to identify those securities that meet all necessary eligibility criteria as of the last trade date of the month preceding the reconstitution month (the “Snapshot Date”).
- ii) The EOD Calculation Agent shall provide the Committee, or its designee, with lists of constituents for DWRLD.
- iii) The Committee shall approve or reject the changes and notify the EOD Calculation Agent of its decisions no later than the Thursday preceding the second Friday of the reconstitution month.
- iv) No later than the Thursday preceding the second Friday of the reconstitution month, the Index Committee or its designee will issue a press release announcing additions and deletions to the Indexes. The press release will be posted on the Indexes’ website.
- v) The EOD Calculation Agent will post all final reconstitution data and information on their FTP servers prior to the market open on the reconstitution Effective Date.

## **VIII. Ongoing Maintenance**

- i) In addition to the scheduled quarterly reviews, the Indexes are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Changes in Index composition and related weight adjustments are necessary whenever there are extraordinary events such as liquidations, conversions, delistings, bankruptcies, mergers or takeovers involving Index components. In these cases, each event will be taken into account on its effective date. Whenever possible, the changes in an Index’s components will be announced at least two business days prior to their implementation date.
- ii) Changes of Eligible Securities. In the event that a component no longer meets the relevant eligibility requirements described in Section IV herein, it will be removed from the Index on the effective date of the next reconstitution.
- iii) Changes of Sector Classification. Stocks are eligible for inclusion in the Indexes based on their inclusion in an applicable sector. Mergers, takeovers, and spin-offs may cause a stock to lose its eligibility. In such a circumstance, the stock will be deleted from the Index on the effective date of the next rebalancing. A stock’s classification may also require an immediate change as the result of a special event such as a merger, takeover or spin-off.
- iv) Mergers. If two Index constituents merge, their component positions will be replaced by the surviving stock immediately. If an Index constituent merges with a non-component stock, it will be removed from the Index and its weight will be redistributed to all the remaining constituents on a proportional basis.

- v) **Takeovers.** If an Index component is taken over by another component stock, the former will be removed from the Index immediately upon completion of the takeover and the weight of the removed stock will be reallocated to the acquiring stock. If an Index component is taken over by a non-component stock, it will be removed from the Index and its weight will be redistributed to all the remaining constituents on a proportional basis.
- vi) **Share Offerings, Tenders and Purchases.** If a Rights Offering is in the money, the rights are exercised and the newly acquired shares are applied to the company issuing the rights. A divisor change is made to reduce the holdings of the remaining constituents in order to settle the acquisition of the rights. If the rights offering is out of the money, it expires worthless. Tender offers are not accepted, and no adjustments are made for self tenders or stock buybacks.
- vii) **Removal of Stocks Due to Delisting, Bankruptcy or Extreme Financial Distress.** If an Index constituent is delisted by its primary market, or is in bankruptcy proceedings, it will be removed from the Index.

- \* If an Index component is delisted by its primary market due to failure to meet financial or regulatory requirements, it will be removed from the Index and its weight will be reallocated to the remaining constituents in the Index.

- \* If an Index component enters bankruptcy proceedings, it will be removed from the Index and will remain ineligible for re-inclusion until it has emerged from bankruptcy. However, the Committee may, following a review of the bankrupt company and the issues involved in the filing, decide to keep the stock in the Index.

- \* The Committee may remove a stock it has determined to be in extreme financial distress from an Index if the Committee deems the removal necessary to protect the integrity of the Index and the interests of investors in products linked to the Index.

- viii) **Pricing of Stocks in Extreme Financial Distress for Index Maintenance.**

- \* When a stock is suspended from trading due to financial distress and subsequently delisted by its primary market prior to resumption of trading, the EOD Calculation Agent will use the best-available alternate pricing source to determine the value at which the stock should be removed from the Index.

- \* If the stock's primary market price is no longer available due to its suspension or delisting, a current price from another exchange, such as a regional or electronic marketplace, may be used. In the absence of those prices in the case of U.S. securities, OTC Bulletin Board, OTC Equity (non-OTCBB stocks), and Pink Sheet traded prices could be applied in that order.

- \* If neither a traded price nor a bid/asked range is available, the Committee will evaluate the status of the suspended stock. The Committee may consult with managers of portfolios linked to Indexes in which the stock is a constituent in determining the value of the stock. If the Committee concludes that the

security has become worthless or is likely to remain too illiquid to be traded, it will be removed from the Index at .01 local currency of the stock.

## IX. EOD Calculation and Adjustments

The EOD Calculation Agent will calculate closing values for both the Price and Total Return Index variants based on closing prices as reported by the relevant exchanges.

### i) Input Data Sources

\* EOD (closing) prices and corresponding exchange rates are provided by Refinitiv.

\* The number of shares is determined separately for each class of stock. This information is obtained from regulatory filings and a variety of data vendors. The data also may be sourced from the constituent companies themselves.

\* Corporate actions are sourced from public news services, regulatory filings and data vendors. The constituent companies themselves may be used as an additional source.

### ii) Index Formula. The Indexes are calculated using a Laspeyres formula. This formula is used for the calculation of the return Index and the price Index. The only difference is that the divisor $D_t$ is different for the two Index variants (Total Return Index and Price Index).

Each Index is computed as follows:

$$= \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (p_{it} * q_{it})}{(C_t \sum_{i=1}^n (p_{i0} * q_{i0}))} * Base Index Value = \frac{M_t}{B_t} * Base Index Value$$

The above mentioned formula can be simplified as:  $Index_t = \frac{M_t}{D_t}$

Where:

$$D_t = \frac{B_t}{base\ index\ value} = \text{divisor at time (t)}$$

$n$  = the number of stocks in the index

$p_{i0}$  = the closing price of stock i at the base date

$q_{i0}$  = the number of shares of stock i at the base date

$p_{it}$  = the price of stock i at time (t)

$q_{it}$  = the number of shares of stock i at time (t)

$C_t$  = the adjustment factor for the base date market capitalization

$t$  = the time the index is computed

$M_t$  = market capitalization of the index at time (t)

$B_t$  = adjusted base date market capitalization of the index at time



Dividend payments are not taken into account in the Price Index variant, whereas dividend payments are reinvested in the Index constituents of the Total Return Index on a proportional basis. The divisor adjustment protects the Index from the effects of changes in Index composition and the impact of corporate actions. See the “Adjustments for Corporate Actions” subsection below for details.

- iii) Divisor Adjustments. Corporate actions affect the share capital of component stocks and therefore trigger increases or decreases in an Index. To avoid distortion, the divisor of the Index is adjusted accordingly.
- iv) Changes in an Index’s market capitalization due to changes in the composition (additions, deletions or replacements), weighting (following quarterly reviews, corporate actions (mergers, or special cash or stock distributions of other stocks) result in a divisor change to maintain the Index’s continuity. By adjusting the divisor, the Index value retains its continuity before and after the event. For rights offerings, the EOD Calculation Agent will price the rights during the subscription period, not before or after. Alternatively, the EOD Calculation Agent may start pricing the rights after the ex-date and before the subscription period, under the condition that the rights are priced daily.

\* Formulae for Divisor Adjustment. The following formulae will be used for divisor adjustments. (Note: No divisor adjustments are necessary for stock splits, since market capitalization does not change and the share number and share price are adjusted prior to the opening of trading on the split's ex-date.)

$$D_{t+1} = D_t * \left( \frac{\sum(p_{it} * q_{it}) \mp \Delta MC_{t+1}}{\sum(p_{it} * q_{it})} \right)$$

Where:

$D_t$  = divisor at time (t)

$D_{t+1}$  = divisor at time (t+1)

$p_{it}$  = stock price of stock i at time (t)

$q_{it}$  = number of shares of stock i at time (t)

$\Delta MC_{t+1}$  = add new components’ market capitalization and adjusted market capitalization (calculated with adjusted closing prices and shares effective at time t+1 and/or minus market capitalization of stocks to be deleted (calculated with closing prices and shares at time t)

Note: If the current trading price of an issue is unavailable, the previous trading session’s closing price is used. However, if the issue is affected by any corporate action that requires an adjustment, then the adjusted price is used.

\* Adjustments for Corporate Actions. An Index divisor may decrease (▼) or increase (▲) or keep constant (■) when corporate actions occur for a component stock. Assuming shareholders receive “B” new shares and “A” shares are originally held for the following corporate actions:

▼ A) CASH DIVIDEND (applied for return Index only)

adjusted price = closing price - dividend announced by the stock

▼ B) SPECIAL CASH DIVIDEND (applied for price and return Index)  
adjusted price = closing price - dividend announced by the stock

▼ C) SPIN-OFF  
adjusted price per share = closing price per share – spinoff value

■ D) SPLIT AND REVERSE SPLIT  
adjusted price = closing price \* A / B  
new number of shares = old number of shares \* B / A

▲ E) RIGHTS OFFERING  
adjusted price = (closing price \* A + subscription price \* B) / (A + B)  
new number of shares = old number of shares \* (A + B) / A

■ F) STOCK DIVIDEND  
adjusted price = closing price \* A / (A + B)  
new number of shares = old number of shares \* (A + B) / A

▼ G) STOCK DIVIDEND OF A DIFFERENT STOCK SECURITY  
adjusted price = (closing price \* A - price of the different stock security \* B)/A

▲ H) COMBINATION STOCK DISTRIBUTION (DIVIDEND OR SPLIT) AND RIGHTS OFFERING  
Shareholders receive B new shares from the distribution and C new shares from the rights offering for every A shares held:

\* If rights are applicable after stock distribution (one action applicable to other).

adjusted price = [closing price \* A + subscription price \* C \* (1 + B / A)] / [(A + B) \* (1 + C / A)]  
new number of shares = old number of shares \* [(A + B) \* (1 + C / A)] / A

\* If stock distribution is applicable after rights (one action applicable to other).

adjusted price = [closing price \* A + subscription price \* C] / [(A + C) \* (1 + B / A)]  
new number of shares = old number of shares \* [(A + C) \* (1 + B / A)]

▲ I) STOCK DISTRIBUTION AND RIGHTS (NEITHER ACTION IS APPLICABLE TO THE OTHER)  
adjusted price = [closing price \* A + subscription price \* C] / [A + B + C]  
new number of shares = old number of shares \* [A + B + C]

v) Computational Precision. Values used in Index calculation are stored using up to 15 significant digits. Published Index levels are precise through six decimal places.

## X. Calculation of Intraday Index Values

- i) The Intraday Calculation Agent will calculate intraday Index values using price data on each reported trade it receives on each component security.
- ii) The Intraday Calculation Agent will distribute Index values to vendors at set 15-second intervals, provided the Index value has changed from the previously distributed value.
- iii) The Index calculations will start each US trading day at 9:30 ET. At that time, the Index values will begin changing as new prices or exchange rates are processed.
- iv) Index calculation will cease each US trading day at 16:00 ET (unless earlier due to an early market closure) and official summaries will be disseminated between 17:00 ET and 19:00 ET.
- v) If, during periods when an Index is calculated, one or more relevant securities exchanges are closed, the Index calculation will continue using the last closing price for those constituents that trade on the closed exchange(s).
- vi) Constituent prices denominated in foreign currencies will be converted to USD and CAD with each reported price using exchange rates sourced from Refinitiv. Official closing prices for the Index constituents will be calculated using the WM snapshot rates as of 4:00 PM London time.

## XI. Dissemination of Index Data

The EOD Calculation Agent will post the following files to its FTP server prior to 7:00PM ET each trading day:

Closing Index File (CLS.SNC) – Index constituents, closing prices, weights, share weights and related data as of the day’s close.

Adjusted Closing Index File (ADJ.SNC) – Index constituents, closing prices, weights, share weights and related data as of the next trading day’s open.

Corporate Action File (SNA) – Data related to upcoming corporate actions for the Index’s constituent stocks.

Index Values File (SNL) – Closing values for the price and total return Indexes, including divisors.

Closing values for the Indexes will be transmitted prior to 7:00PM ET for redistribution to various vendors and providers of financial data.

Index values are disseminated in US Dollars (USD) using the following tickers:

<u>Index Name</u>	<u>Index Ticker</u>
Alerian Galaxy Immersive Digital Worlds Index (USD)	DWRLD
Alerian Galaxy Immersive Digital Worlds Total Return Index (USD)	DWRLDT

Alerian Galaxy Immersive Digital Worlds Net Total Return Index (USD)	DWRLDN
Alerian Galaxy Immersive Digital Worlds Index (CAD)	DWRLDC
Alerian Galaxy Immersive Digital Worlds Total Return Index (CAD)	DWRLDCT
Alerian Galaxy Immersive Digital Worlds Net Total Return Index (CAD)	DWRLDCN
Alerian Galaxy Immersive Digital Worlds Hedged Index (CAD)	DWRLDHC
Alerian Galaxy Immersive Digital Worlds Total Return Hedged Index (CAD)	DWRLDHCT
Alerian Galaxy Immersive Digital Worlds Net Total Return Hedged Index (CAD)	DWRLDHCN

Values for the Indexes are distributed daily prior to 7:00 PM ET Monday through Friday, excluding relevant exchange holidays.

## **XII. Data Correction Policy**

To maintain a high standard of data integrity, a series of procedures have been implemented to ensure accuracy, timeliness and consistency. Input prices are monitored using a variety of computerized range-check warning systems for both ticker-plant and real-time Index systems. Fault tolerant methods are employed in the collection of market and corporate action data. Various verification and audit tasks are performed to ensure the quality of the real-time data feeds and related market data. While every effort is taken to ensure the accuracy of the information used for the Index calculation, an Index error may occur due to incorrect or missing data, including trading prices, exchange rates, shares outstanding and corporate actions, due to operational errors or other reasons.

- i) Index-Related Data and Divisor Corrections. Incorrect pricing and corporate action data for individual issues in the database will be corrected upon detection. In addition, an incorrect divisor of an Index, if discovered within five days of its occurrence, will always be fixed on the day it is discovered to prevent an error from being carried forward.
- ii) If a divisor error is discovered more than five days after occurrence, the adjustment will depend upon how significant the error is, how far back the error occurred and the feasibility of performing the adjustment.

## **XIII. Review Schedule**

### Constituent Changes

Frequency: Quarterly

Effective date: The open of trading on the Monday following the third Friday of the third month of each calendar quarter, or the next trade date in the event of a market holiday

Advance notice: At least one business week

### Quarterly Rebalance

Frequency: Quarterly

Effective date: The open of trading on the Monday following the third Friday of the third month of each calendar quarter, or the next trade date in the event of a market holiday

Advance notice: At least one business week

### News Notification\*

Frequency: As needed

Effective date: As announced

Advance notice: At least two business days whenever possible

\* Includes events such as delistings, mergers, bankruptcies and other extraordinary events.

\* Based on available news.

## Appendix A: Calculation of Currency Hedged Indices

The Hedged Index Formula sells monthly FX Forwards of each currency represented in the index against the home currency of the hedged index in proportion to the currency weights represented in the Unhedged Index as of the day before the last business day of the month. The weights of each currency are kept constant throughout the month regardless of changes and/or corporate actions of the underlying unhedged index.

$$HIL_t = HIL_{eom} * \frac{UI_t}{UI_{eom}} + HIL_{eom-1} * HI_t$$

Where:

$HIL_t$  = Hedged Index Level

$UI_t$  = Unhedged Index Level in same home currency as Hedged Index Level

$Eom$  = Previous Month End Date

$HI_t$  = Hedge Impact

$$HI_t = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n Mktcap_{i,eom-1} * CHI_{i,t}}{\sum_{i=1}^n Mktcap_{i,eom-1}}$$

Where:

$Mktcap_{i,eom-1}$  = Total Market Cap for equities denominated in currency I as of the day before the last business day of the previous month.

$CHI_{i,t}$  = Currency Hedge Impact for currency i on business day t.

$$CHI_{i,t} = \frac{S_{i,eom-1}}{F_{i,eom}} - \frac{S_{i,eom-1}}{FV_{i,t}}$$

Where:

$S_{i,eom-1}$  = Spot FX Rate for currency i against the home currency on the day before the previous month end.

$F_{i,eom}$  = 1M Forward FX Rate as of the previous month end date.

$FV_{i,t}$  = The interpolated forward rate for currency i against the home currency on day t.

$$FV_{i,t} = S_{i,t} + \frac{(F_{i,t} - S_{i,t}) * n}{T}$$

Where:

$S_{i,t}$  = Spot FX Rate for currency i against the home currency on the day t

$F_{i,t}$  = 1M Forward FX Rate for currency i against the home currency on the day t

$n$  = number of calendar days left on the FX Forward contract entered into as of the last business date of the previous month.

$T$  = number of days between the Spot settlement date and the maturity date of a 1M Forward contract on day t.