INDEX METHODOLOGY

NASDAQ EUROPE RISING DIVIDEND ACHIEVERS™ INDEX

NQDVRISDMEU™

INDEX DESCRIPTION

The Nasdaq Europe Rising Dividend Achievers Index tracks companies that have raised their dividend value over the past three and five years and have increased their earnings per share (EPS) over the past three years. Companies are also selected based on strong liquidity, high cash-to-debt ratios, low payout ratios, and ESG Risk Ratings. The Index consists of four Sub-Portfolios, each with a target of 75 securities and a minimum of 50.

SECURITY ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

The Security Eligibility Criteria specified herein are evaluated within each Sub-Portfolio to determine which securities qualify for Index inclusion. These criteria are applied based on the Reconstitution reference date specified in the Index Calendar.

Parent index

A security must be included in the Nasdaq DM Europe™ Index (NQDMEU™) as of the Reconstitution reference date. Except as noted below, the Index follows the same Security Eligibility Criteria as the Parent Index. Please refer to that methodology for further information.

Multiple securities per issuer

One security per company is permitted for each Sub-Portfolio. If a company has multiple securities, the security with the highest three-month average daily value traded (ADVT) is generally considered for possible inclusion in the Index.

The Index may include multiple securities from the same company.

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Industries and sectors

A security must not be classified as a Mortgage Real Estate Investment Trust or Real Estate Investment Trust at the Sector level according to the Industry Classification Benchmark (ICB). ICB is a product of FTSE International Limited that is licensed for this use.

Market capitalization

A security must be among the top 1000 NQDMEU components by full market capitalization, after removing ineligible industries and sectors.

Liquidity

A security must have a three-month average daily value traded (ADVT) of at least $5 million (USD).

ESG eligibility

A security's issuer must not be positively identified by Sustainalytics as exhibiting any of the following characteristics:

- A Controversy Rating higher than four (4).
- An ESG Risk Rating for 'Resource Use' above "Medium."
- An Event Rating higher than three (3) for the Events listed in Appendix A.
- Involvement in specific business activities, as defined in Appendix B.

Sustainalytics' ESG Risk Ratings issue – Resource Use – focuses on how efficiently a company uses its raw material inputs (excluding energy and petroleum-based products) in production and how it manages related risks.

If data from Sustainalytics is unavailable for a given security's issuer, the issuer remains eligible for Index inclusion.

Other eligibility criteria

A security must have paid a dividend in the trailing twelve-month period greater than the dividend paid in the trailing twelve-month period three and five years prior. A special dividend is included as part of the dividend, but return of capital is excluded.

A security must have a positive earnings per share (EPS) in the trailing twelve-month period greater than the earnings per share (EPS) in the trailing twelve-month period three years prior.

A security must have a cash to debt ratio greater than 50%.

A security must have a trailing twelve-month period payout ratio less than 65%. In this calculation, both special cash dividends and returns of capital are counted as part of the dividend.

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If a company has a combined weight of 2% or more from the Sub-Portfolios not undergoing an Index Reconstitution (referred to as the "Sub-Portfolio Weight Cap" or SPWC), the company will be ineligible for inclusion in the reconstituting Sub-Portfolio.

If, at reconstitution, Nasdaq becomes aware that an issuer or security will soon undergo a fundamental change that makes it ineligible, Nasdaq will remove the security from consideration. This includes entering into a definitive merger or acquisition agreement or other pending arrangement that would make it ineligible for Index inclusion, or a filing of bankruptcy or similar protection from creditors, or other events as described in Section 3 of **Corporate Actions and Events Manual – Equities**.

CONSTITUENT SELECTION

Constituent selection process

The Constituent Selection Process described herein is applied annually to each Sub-Portfolio during its designated Index Reconstitution quarter, based on the Reconstitution reference date specified in the Index Calendar.

During each Index Reconstitution, all securities meeting the applicable *Security Eligibility Criteria* are considered for inclusion in the Index. Index Securities are selected based on the following ordered criteria:

- Eligible securities receive 3 ranks:
    - By five-year dollar dividend change, in descending order;
    - By current dividend yield, in descending order; and
    - By payout ratio, in ascending order.
- The three ranks are combined into a single overall rank using the following weights: 33% for the Five-Year Dividend Change Rank, 34% for the Current Dividend Yield Rank, and 33% for the Payout Ratio Rank.
- Up to 75 securities with the lowest (most favorable) combined ranks are selected.
- In the event of a tie, the security with the higher dividend yield is given priority.
- If an ICB Industry is represented by more than 30% of the selected securities, the industry's least favorably-ranked component is removed from the selection of up to 75 securities and is replaced with the next-ranked eligible security not from that industry. If a country of domicile is represented by more than 33% of the selected securities, the country's least favorably-ranked component is removed from the selection of up to 75 securities and is replaced with the next-ranked eligible security not from that country.
- The Sub-Portfolios are combined into one aggregate portfolio to form the Index.

Contingent selection process

If the final universe contains fewer than 50 securities, the 65% payout ratio criterion is relaxed, and constituent section process is restarted. An iterative process is applied to the eligible universe based on the following steps:

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- Securities meeting all other original *Security Eligibility Criteria* are sorted based on their payout ratio in ascending order.
- All securities with payout ratio less than 65% are considered for inclusion.
- The security with the next lowest payout ratio equal to or greater than 65% is also considered for inclusion.
- All securities in the selection universe are re-ranked based on the selection process detailed in the original Constituent Selection Process. The steps above are repeated until 50 securities are selected for inclusion in the final index.

If the final universe has fewer than 75 securities and some are excluded due to the 30% ICB Industry or 33% country exposure constraints, certain industries or countries may have allocations above these thresholds.

CONSTITUENT WEIGHTING

Constituent weighting scheme

The Index is an equal-weighted index.

Constituent weighting process

The Constituent Weighting Process described herein is applied annually to each Sub-Portfolio and the Index during their designated Index Rebalance quarters, based on the Rebalance reference date specified in the Index Calendar.

During each Index Rebalance, only the Sub-Portfolio undergoing an Index Reconstitution employs an equal weighting scheme, where all Index Securities within that Sub-Portfolio have equal Index Market Value.

Additionally, during the Index Rebalance in March, the Index is rebalanced so that each of the four Sub-Portfolios is equally weighted among each other, each representing 25% of the total Index weight.

If an Index Security is present in multiple Sub-Portfolios, its combined weight across these Sub-Portfolios is used in the Index.

For additional information about index weighting, see **Nasdaq Index Weight Calculations**.

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INDEX CALENDAR

Reconstitution & Rebalancing schedule

Reconstitution Frequency	**Sub-Portfolio:**
	• **Annually:** Each Sub-Portfolio is reconstituted annually according to the following Sub-Portfolio Schedule:
	  ○ Sub-Portfolio A: March
	  ○ Sub-Portfolio B: June
	  ○ Sub-Portfolio C: September
	  ○ Sub-Portfolio D: December
	Index:
	• **Quarterly:** The Index is reconstituted quarterly, affecting only the Sub-Portfolio scheduled for Index Reconstitution according to the Sub-Portfolio Schedule

Rebalance Frequency	**Sub-Portfolio:** • **Annually:** Each Sub-Portfolio is rebalanced annually in conjunction with its respective Index Reconstitution based on the Sub-Portfolio Schedule **Index:** • **Annually:** The Index is rebalanced annually in conjunction with the Index Rebalance of Sub-Portfolio A • **Quarterly:** The Index is rebalanced quarterly, affecting only the Sub-Portfolio scheduled for Index Rebalance according to the Sub-Portfolio Schedule
Reconstitution Reference Dates	• Last trading day of February, May, August and November, respectively
Reconstitution Announcement Dates	• After the close on the sixth trading day prior to the Reconstitution effective date
Reconstitution Effective Dates	• At market open on the first trading day after the third Friday in March, June, September and December, respectively
Rebalance Reference Dates	• Last trading day of February, May, August and November, respectively, used to determine the Last Sale Price (“LSP”)
Rebalance Announcement Dates	• After the close on the sixth trading day prior to the Rebalance effective date
Rebalance Effective Dates	• At market open on the first trading day after the third Friday in March, June, September and December, respectively

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Holiday schedule

The Indexes are calculated Monday through Friday, except on days when the Nasdaq exchange is closed.

Index calculation and dissemination schedule

Index Values are made available on each trading day via the Nasdaq Global Index Watch (GIW) website at https://indexes.nasdaqomx.com/. Where applicable, Index values are available throughout the trading day.

INDEX MAINTENANCE

Deletion policy

Daily

If, at any time other than an Index Reconstitution, Nasdaq becomes aware that an Index Security has become ineligible for continued inclusion, it is removed from the Index as soon as practicable. This includes events such filing bankruptcy or similar protection from creditors, delisting or other arrangements including mergers and acquisitions. Refer to the **Corporate Actions and Events Manual – Equities** for further information.

Monthly

An Index Security that suspends its dividend payments will be removed at market open on the next trading day after the third Friday of the following month.

Quarterly

Each quarter, in conjunction with the Index Reconstitution, the market capitalization, liquidity and ESG criteria, as outlined in the *Security Eligibility Criteria*, are also evaluated for Index Securities from each Sub-Portfolio not undergoing an Index Reconstitution. These criteria are applied based on the Reconstitution reference date specified in the Index Calendar. If an Index Security fails to meet any of the criteria at these times, it will be removed from the Index on the Reconstitution effective date.

Replacement policy

Index Securities are not replaced between Index Reconstitutions.

Corporate actions

In the interim periods between scheduled index reconstitution events, individual Index securities may be the subject to a variety of corporate actions and events that require maintenance and adjustments to the Index. Specific treatment of each type of corporate action or event is described in **Nasdaq Corporate Actions and Events Manual – Equities**, which is incorporated herein by reference.

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In certain cases, corporate actions and events are handled according to the weighting scheme or other index construction techniques employed. Wherever alternate methods are described, the Index will follow the "Non-Market Cap Corporate Action Method."

Index share adjustments

Other than as a direct result of corporate actions, the index does not normally experience share adjustments between scheduled index rebalance and reconstitution events.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Announcements

Nasdaq announces Index-related information via the Nasdaq Global Index Watch (GIW) website at http://indexes.nasdaqomx.com.

For more information on the general Index Announcement procedures, please refer to the **Nasdaq Index Methodology Guide**.

Unexpected market closures

For information on Unexpected Market Closures, please refer to the **Nasdaq Index Methodology Guide**.

Calculation types

For information on the Index calculation types as well as the mathematical approach used to calculate the Index(es), please refer to the **Calculation Manual – Equities and Commodities**.

Recalculation and restatement policy

For information on the Recalculation and Restatement Policy, please refer to the **Nasdaq Index Recalculation Policy**.

Data sources

For information on data sources and the classification of dividends and associated tax rates, please refer to the **Nasdaq Index Methodology Guide**.

Contact information

For any questions regarding an Index, please contact the Nasdaq Index Client Services team at indexservices@nasdaq.com.

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Index dissemination

Index values and weightings information are available through Nasdaq Global Index Watch (GIW) website at https://indexes.nasdaqomx.com/ as well as the Nasdaq Global Index FlexFile Delivery Service (GIFFD) and Global Index Dissemination Services (GIDS). Similar to the GIDS offerings, Genium Consolidated Feed (GCF) provides real-time Index values and weightings for the Nordic Indexes.

For more detailed information regarding Index Dissemination, see the **Nasdaq Index Methodology Guide**.

Website

For further information, please refer to Nasdaq GIW website at https://indexes.nasdaqomx.com/.

FTP and dissemination service

Index values and weightings are available via FTP on the Nasdaq Global Indexes FlexFile Delivery Service (GIFFD). Index values are available via Nasdaq's Global Index Dissemination Services (GIDS).

GOVERNANCE

All Nasdaq Indexes are managed by the governance committee structure and have transparent governance, oversight, and accountability procedures for the Index determination process. For further details on the Index Methodology and Governance overlay, refer to the **Nasdaq Index Methodology Guide.**

GLOSSARY OF TERMS AS USED IN THIS DOCUMENT

For the glossary of key terms, please refer to the **Nasdaq Index Methodology Guide.**

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APPENDIX A: EVENT RATINGS ELIGIBILITY

At each reconstitution, a security's issuer with an Event Rating higher than three (3) for the following Events, as determined by Sustainalytics, is excluded from the eligible universe:

- Access to Basic Services
- Accounting and Taxation
- Bribery and Corruption
- Bribery and Corruption Supply Chain
- Employees – Human Rights
- Employees – Human Rights Supply Chain
- Land Use and Biodiversity
- Land use and Biodiversity Supply Chain
- Occupational Health and Safety
- Occupational Health and Safety Supply Chain
- Society – Human Rights
- Society – Human Rights Supply Chain

Event Ratings range from 1 to 5, with higher ratings indicating more severe impact on the environment and society, and the greater the business risk for the company.

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APPENDIX B: PROHIBITED AREAS OF BUSINESS INVOLVEMENT

At each reconstitution, a security's issuer engaged in the following business activities, as determined by Sustainalytics, is deemed ineligible for Index inclusion if it does not meet the specified criteria in the table below.

Category of Involvement	Description	Acceptable Involvement Range	Acceptable Ownership Range
Adult Entertainment: Distribution	The company is involved in the distribution of adult entertainment materials.	<5% of revenues	n/a
Adult Entertainment: Production	The company is involved in the production of adult entertainment and/or owns/operates adult entertainment establishments.	<5% of revenues	n/a
Controversial Weapons: Non tailor-made or non essential	The company provides components/services for the core weapon system, which are either not considered tailor-made or not essential to the lethal user of the weapon.	No involvement	n/a
Controversial Weapons: Significant ownership (non tailor-made or non essential)	The company provides, through corporate ownership, components/services for the core weapon system, which are either not considered tailor-made or not essential to the lethal use of the weapon.	n/a	<10%
Controversial Weapons: Significant ownership (Tailor-made and essential)	The company is involved, through corporate ownership, in the core weapon system, or components/services of the core weapon system that are considered tailor-made and essential for the lethal use of the weapon.	n/a	<10%
Controversial Weapons: Tailor-made and essential	The company is involved in the core weapon system, or components/services of the core weapon system that are considered tailor-made and essential for the lethal use of the weapon.	No involvement	n/a
Oil Sands: Extraction	The company extracts oil sands.	<5% of revenues	n/a

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DISCLAIMER

Nasdaq may, from time to time, exercise reasonable discretion as it deems appropriate in order to ensure Index integrity, including but not limited to, quantitative inclusion criteria. Nasdaq may also, due to special circumstances, if deemed essential, apply discretionary adjustments to ensure and maintain the high quality of the index construction and calculation. Nasdaq does not guarantee that any Index accurately reflects future market performance.

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