



# **Introduction to CLS**

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www.cls-group.com

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# CLS seeks to be the leading provider of risk mitigation and operational services to the global foreign exchange market





# **About CLS**



#### About CLS

- Created as a result of regulatory concern regarding the potential for FX settlement risk to be a major source of systemic risk
- Provides settlement services for FX spot, FX forwards, and FX swaps in 17 currencies:
  - Directly to 62 settlement members; and
  - Indirectly to their 18,000 clients
- Settles approximately USD5 trillion of gross FX payment instructions daily
- Unique oversight framework: regulated by the Federal Reserve; Oversight Committee of 22 central banks
- Designated as a Systemically Important Financial Market Utility (Financial Stability Oversight Council)
- Recognized as being a contributing factor to the US Department of the Treasury's determination that FX swaps and FX forwards would be exempt from the central clearing and trading requirements of Dodd-Frank



#### **Our services**



- Our core settlement service settles payment instructions for FX spot, FX forwards, and FX swaps
- USD/CAD same-day settlement allows members to execute and settle same-day trades within an additional settlement session
- Trade compression service through CLS Aggregation Services which reduces the operational risk and costs associated with high-frequency trading
- In/out swap service reduces the payment obligations to CLS and mitigates liquidity pressures
- Settlement of certain CDS transactions on behalf of DTCC



#### The numbers

- Average daily volumes submitted: circa 1.2 million instructions
  - Settlement service input: 800,000
  - Aggregation input: 400,000
- Average daily values settled: USD5.1 trillion
  - Multilateral netting reduces the funding required to settle this amount to less than USD50 billion a day
- Record daily volume and settled value:
  - Volume: 2,258,192 sides (20 Jan 2015)
  - Value: USD10.67 trillion (17 Dec 2014 quarterly IMM settlement date)

- Participation
  - o 76 shareholders
  - 62 settlement members
- 26 settlement members provide settlement services to approximately 18,000 third parties
  - Third party business accounts for approximately 22% of the total value settled

Source: CLS, October 2014

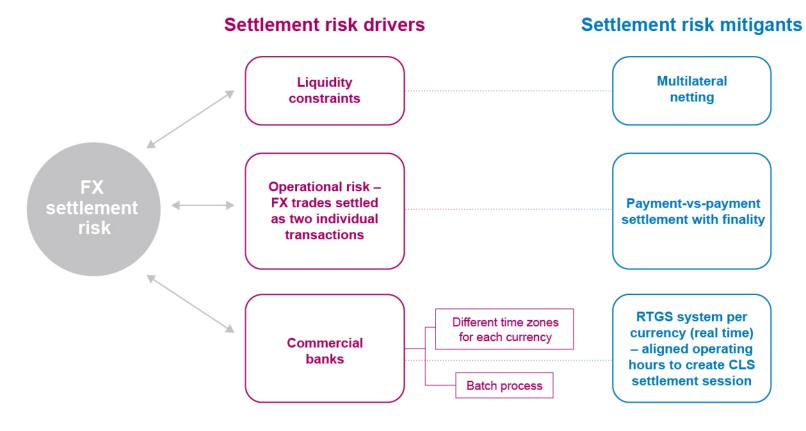


#### **Evolution of CLS**

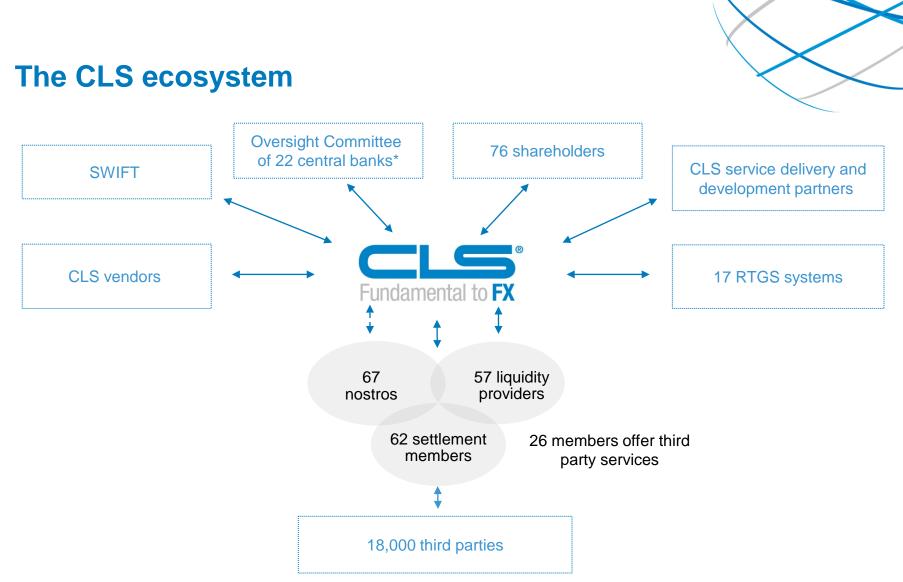
**Pre-CLS (2002)** 











\*CLS is subject to regulation and supervision by the Federal Reserve as well as cooperative oversight by the CLS Oversight Committee (OC) which includes the 17 central banks of CLS-settled currencies as well as five other Eurosystem banks.





#### **Risk mitigation challenges**

- Manage credit risk
- Mitigate gross FX settlement risk across:
  - Own funds
  - Institutional mandates
- Manage operational risk and efficiencies
  - Reduce fails in FX to ensure securities settlement
  - Cash management across the full working day and after-hours
  - Multiple global custodians



# The CLS solution

#### **Operational risk and efficiencies**

- FX industry best practice
- SWIFT standards for messaging
- Matching and settlement
  - Trade date settlement instruction matching on average within 20 minutes
  - Real-time reporting trade status to global custodian
  - Lower risk of securities settlement failure due to higher confidence in paymentversus-payment funding
  - High level STP from trade execution through to matching and settlement
- Lower processing costs
  - Reduced cash management resource overheads
  - Significantly reduced investigations and interest claims
  - Reduction in message repairs





# How CLS works



#### How CLS works

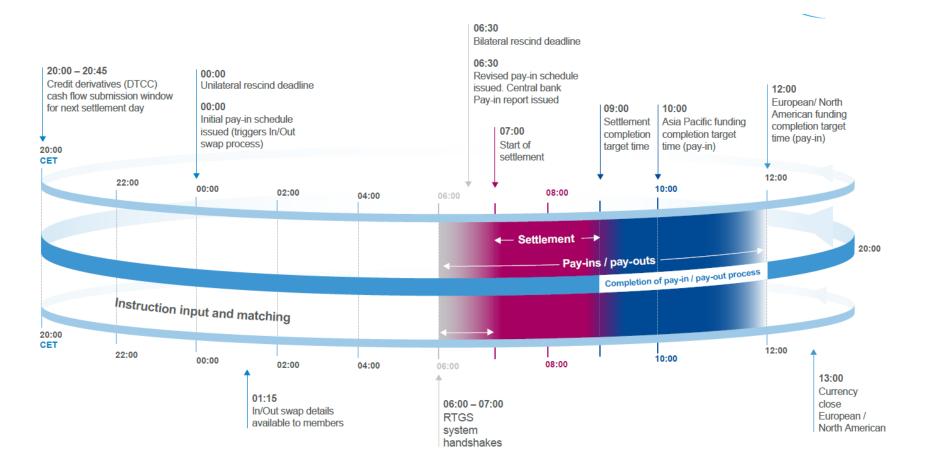


- CLS maintains accounts with all 17 central banks of the currencies settled, with access to the relevant real time gross settlement (RTGS) systems
- Settlement members each have a multicurrency account with CLS
- Funding and pay-out of multilateral net positions is conducted using a daily, defined schedule
- Settlement members pay and receive funds through CLS's central bank account in each currency via their own accounts or nostro bank accounts
- On each settlement date, CLS simultaneously settles each pair of matched instructions, subject to satisfying three risk management tests
- The settlement of the payment instructions and the associated payments are final and irrevocable. Finality is one of the most important elements of the CLS system
- Settlement members offer CLS access to their own customers (CLS third parties)

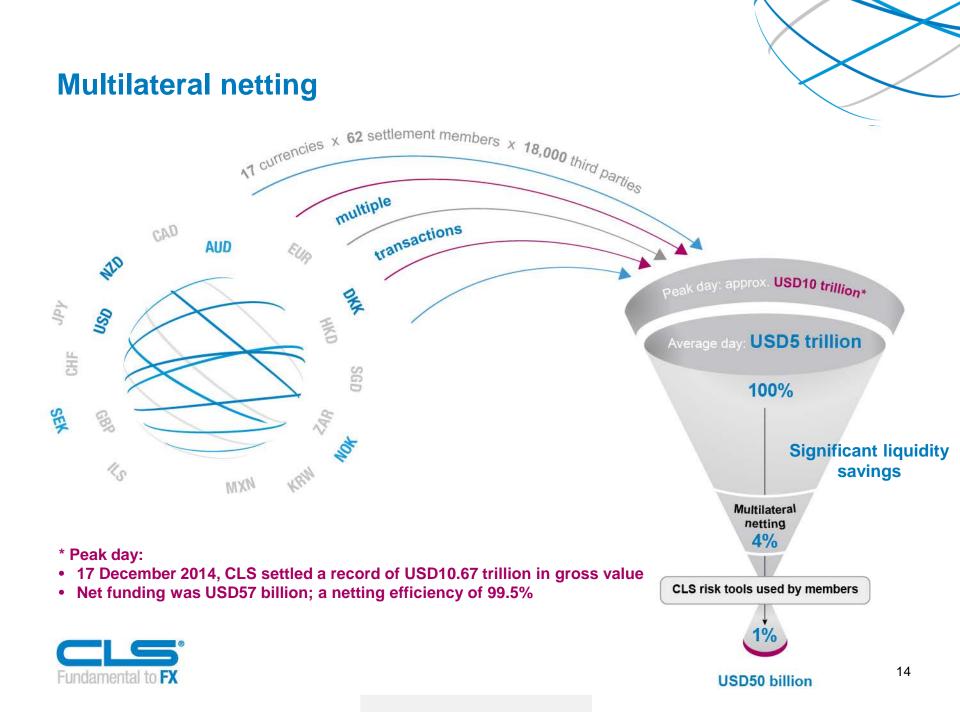




## **Operational timeline – core settlement service** (CET)







### **Third parties in CLS**

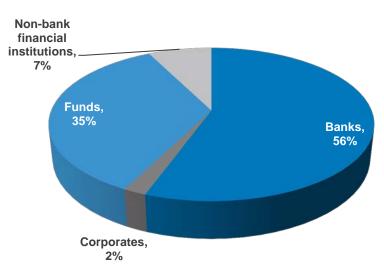


- CLS provides settlement services to its members and their customers:
  - Directly to members
  - Indirectly to third parties members providing third party access to their customers
- Third parties include banks, nonbank financial institutions, multinational corporates and funds
- Third parties have no contractual relationship with CLS
  - Members handle all payment instructions and funding on behalf of their third party customers
- Available to the investment management community including:
  - Investment managers
  - Hedge funds
  - Pension funds
  - Sovereign wealth funds



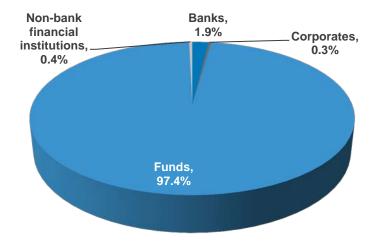
#### Third party activity

• Third party activity accounts for approximately 22% of the total value and 16% of the total volume settled in CLS



#### Third parties by value

#### Third parties by number of participants



Source: CLS (third party BICs) and funds settled through CLS in 2014 (Jan - Dec 2014)

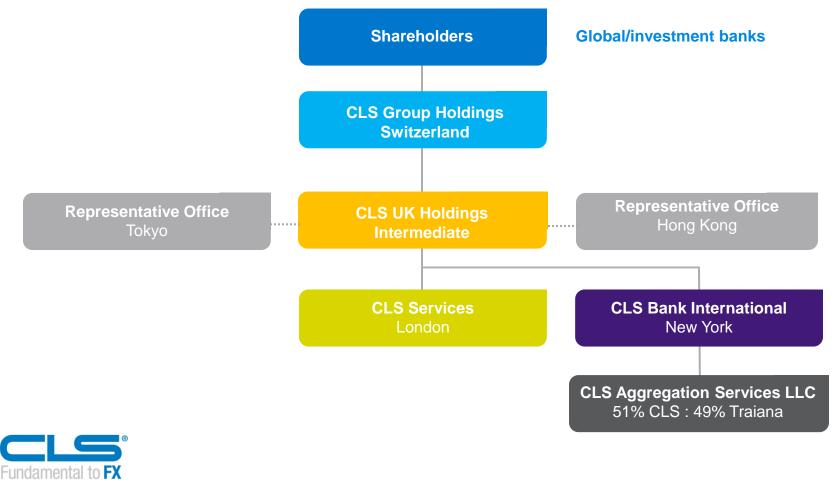


# About CLS's corporate governance



#### **CLS Group corporate structure**

• Each of the CLS Group legal entities is subject to the provisions contained in its constitutional documents, as well as applicable laws and governance codes



#### **CLS corporate governance**

#### • CLS Group ownership

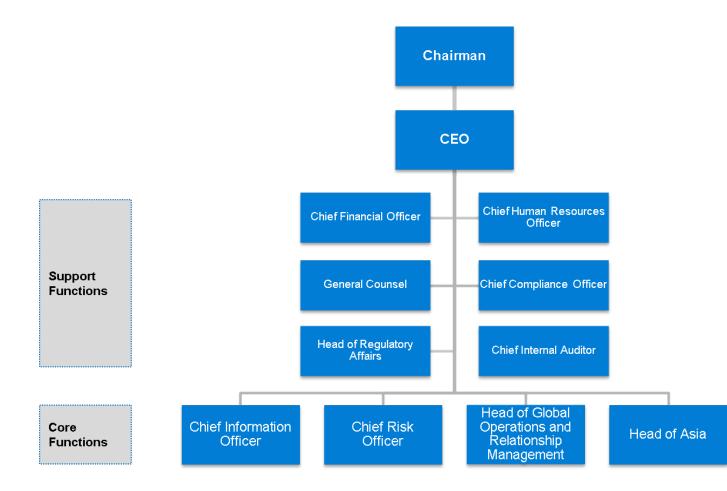
- 76 shareholders with global distribution
  - Voting rights limited to 100 votes per shareholder / affiliated shareholder group

#### • CLS Group and CLS Bank Boards – 22 directors

- Sixteen Shareholder Representative Directors
- Five Outside (Independent) Directors, one of whom is Chairman of the Board
- One Executive Director who is the CEO
- Duties of the Board of Directors are described in the CLS Group Articles of Association, its Organizational Regulations and applicable laws and governance codes
  - Supervision, oversight and strategy
  - Governance and compliance
  - Fiduciary duty to CLS Group



#### **CLS Group executive management**

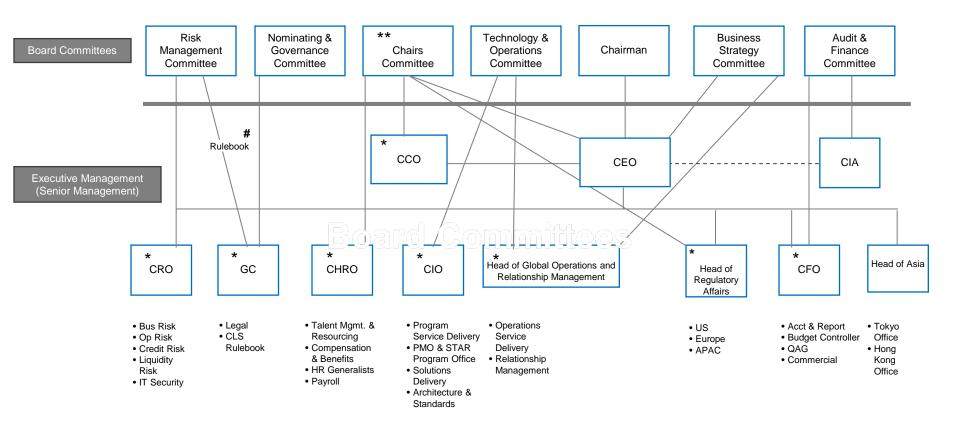








# Interaction between board committees and management



- \* Member of the Executive Management Team
- \*\* Chairs Committee is also the Compliance Committee
- # Oversight Rulebook is reconsidered





#### **Regulatory oversight and stakeholder input**

#### Regulatory oversight

- CLS's oversight framework: regulated by the Federal Reserve; Oversight Committee of 22 central banks
- In addition, CLS, as a systemically important financial market infrastructure, is subject to the oversight and provisions by other market regulators, such as BIS and CPMI-IOSCO.

#### Inclusion of stakeholders

- CLS regularly engages with its shareholders
- CLS regularly engages with its settlement members and liquidity providers, including, but not limited to, consultation processes for proposed changes to the CLS Bank Rule Book
- CLS regularly engages with central banks (including exploration of additional currencies)
- CLS participates in the public consultation process by providing comments on proposals published by regulatory entities in various jurisdictions











### **Expanding currency footprint**

- 17 currencies settled in CLS
- Objective to expand
  - Core mission of CLS mitigation of settlement and systemic risks
  - Extend reach to include more emerging market currencies
- Working to add Hungarian forint in November 2015
- Governance structure:
  - Board of Directors
    - > Strategy Committee
    - > Provide overall direction and guidance
    - > Approval by Risk Committee and full Board
  - Member working group
  - Regulatory oversight and approval





#### **Same Day Settlement**

- CLS's initial product set at go-live included FX spot, forwards, and swaps
- Post crisis: objective to add trades that settle the same day
  - Reduce settlement risks in the system
- Technology and operational challenges
- Live in September 2013 for USD/CAD ("Americas Session")
- Seek to add MXN in 2016
- Exploring Atlantic Session for SDS in European time zone
- Governance structure:
  - Board of Directors
    - > Strategy and Risk Management Committees of the full Board
    - > Provide overall direction and guidance
  - Member working group
  - Regulatory oversight and approval



#### **Cross currency interest rate swaps**

- Cross currency interest rate swaps ("CCS") not included in initial product set when CLS went live
- Add more products to expand the number and type of transactions that settle with payment-versus-payment
- Working to go live with settlement of initial and final principal exchanges of a cross currency interest rate swap
  - Will not settle intermediate cash flows during life of the swap
- Governance structure:
  - Board of Directors
    - > Strategy Committee of the full Board
    - > Provide overall direction and guidance
  - Working group with initial group of banks
  - Regulatory oversight and approval



## **FX compression**

- Compression of trades (also called "tear-ups") has been used in derivative markets for years
  - Interest rate swaps and credit default swaps
  - Reduce the outstanding number of trades while keeping the economic value unchanged
  - Reduce gross exposures and reduce capital requirements
- Working with another firm to offer compression services
  - CLS to provide trade info/data other firm to run process of compression
  - Aiming to go live in second half of 2015
- Governance structure:
  - Board of Directors
    - > Strategy Committee of the full Board
    - > Provide overall direction and guidance
  - Working group with initial group of banks
  - Regulatory oversight and approval



### **CCP** services

- Background:
  - Industry seeking to find a clearing solution for FX options
  - Threshold challenge has been to solve settlement risk in a scenario where a major counterparty fails
  - CCPs and banks have worked with CLS and industry groups to find a solution
- Exploring various options including:
  - Under one scenario, CLS to provide a separate CCP session that would leverage CLS accounts at central banks to settle obligations of clearing members and CCP
  - CCP would maintain responsibility for default management
- Working with CCPs to gauge demand for such a service
- Goal: mitigate settlement risk and foster financial stability
- Governance:
  - Board of Directors
    - > Strategy Committee
  - Industry groups, Clearing Members
  - Regulators and central banks





### **Other initiatives**

- Enhanced liquidity framework
  - Make CLS and ecosystem more resilient
  - Risk Committee
- Technology upgrade
  - Enhance technical resiliency
    - > Including cyber security
  - Assure safe and efficient settlement every day
  - Technology and Operations Committee
- Sustainable financial model
  - Capital raise in 2013
  - Establish principles for how the company will be managed
  - Audit and Finance Committee
- Full Board of Directors engaged in all aspects







**Overall governance:** 

**CLS** vision

## strategy

# initiatives

### implementation

