

# ICE Asia Tech 30 Index (ICEAT30)

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# **Version History:**

**Version 1.0 (Effective March 19, 2021)**The methodology document covers the newly launched ICE Asia Tech 30 Index (ICEAT30).

# 1. Index Description

The ICE Asia Tech 30 Index is a rules-based equity benchmark designed to track the performance of the 30 largest technology and technology-related companies listed on selected Asia-Pacific exchanges. Index compositions and corporate actions, including rebalancing information, can be accessed from the ICE Index Platform at <a href="indices.theice.com">indices.theice.com</a>.

## 1.1 Summary information

Full Name	ICE Asia Tech 30 Index	
	Price Return (USD): ICEAT30	
Index Tickers	Gross Total Return (USD): ICEAT30T Net Total Return (USD): ICEAT30N	
Eligible Stocks	Common stocks, ADRs or GDRs of companies that are listed on selected Asia-Pacific exchanges	
Number of Constituents	Fixed at 30 constituents	
Weighting	Modified float-adjusted, market capitalization weighted	
	The Index is reconstituted quarterly after the close of the second	
Index Reconstitutions	Friday in March, June, September and December each year ("Reconstitution Date").	
Calculation Frequency	Price Return, Gross Total Return and Net Total Return: Every 1 second between 19:45 (T-1) & 19:00 (T) ET (Eastern Time)	
Base Date	March 19, 2010	
Base Level	1500.00	
Historic Data Available		
Since	March 19, 2010	
Bloomberg Code	ICEAT30 <index> / ICEAT30T <index> / ICEAT30N <index></index></index></index>	
Reuters Code	.ICEAT30 / .ICEAT30T / .ICEAT30N	
Launch Date	March 19, 2021	
Website	<u>indices.theice.com</u>	

#### 2. Governance

#### **Index Sponsor & Administrator**

ICE Data Indices, LLC ("IDI") is the Index Sponsor and the Index Administrator of the ICE Asia Tech 30 Index (the "Index").

IDI is responsible for the day-to-day management of the Index in accordance with its rules, including retaining primary responsibility for all aspects of the Index determination process, including implementing appropriate governance and oversight, as required under the International Organization of Securities Commission's Principles for Financial Benchmarks (the IOSCO Principles). The IDI Governance Committee is responsible for helping to ensure IDI's overall compliance with the IOSCO Principles, by performing the Oversight Function which includes overseeing the development, design, issuance and operation of the Indices, as well as reviewing the control framework. IDI is also responsible for decisions regarding the interpretation of these rules and the IDI Governance Committee is responsible for reviewing all rule book modifications with respect to the Index to ensure that they are made objectively, without bias, and in accordance with applicable law and regulation and IDI's policies and procedures. Consequently, all IDI and IDI Governance Committee discussions and decisions are confidential until released to the public.

#### Periodic review of Index rules

The Index is constructed based on a defined set of rules which spell out all pertinent details of how it is compiled. The Index rules specify the criteria for selecting constituent securities. The rules also establish the methodologies for weighting, valuing and rebalancing the constituents. Rules and methodologies are reviewed periodically, in accordance with IDI's policies and procedures, to ensure the Index continues to meet its objective. IDI shall announce changes in rules and methodologies, along with their implementation dates, in accordance with its policies and procedures. IDI consults with stakeholders on proposed material changes that affect the Index prior to making such changes, in accordance with IDI's consultation policy: <a href="https://www.theice.com/market-data/indices/regulation">https://www.theice.com/market-data/indices/regulation</a>.

#### Rule book changes

The IDI Governance Committee reviews all rule book modifications and Index changes to ensure that they are made objectively, without bias and in accordance with applicable law and regulation and IDI's policies and procedures. These rules may be supplemented, amended in whole or in part, revised or withdrawn at any time in accordance with applicable law and regulation, IDI applicable policies and procedures and results of special consultations or emergency actions. Supplements, amendments, revisions and withdrawals may also lead to changes in the way the Index is compiled or calculated or affect the Index in another way.

#### Cases not covered in rules

In cases which are not expressly covered in these rules, operational adjustments are made, as needed, to ensure the Index meets its intended objectives. Operational adjustments may also take place if, in the opinion of the Index Administrator, it is desirable to do so to maintain a fair and orderly market in derivatives on this Index and/or this is in the best interests of the investors in products based on the Index and/or the proper functioning of the markets. Any

such modifications described under this section or exercise of Expert Judgment will also be governed by any applicable policies, procedures and Guidelines in place by IDI at such time.

#### Limitations of the Index

All indices produced by IDI (the "Indices") may be subject to potential limitations, such as a decline in the pool of available eligible securities, changes in the economy, changes in regulation or accounting rules, consolidation in certain sectors or industries, or other factors. Other limitations may include the ability of the Benchmark to operate in illiquid or fragmented markets.

By design, this Index is focused on representing the Asian technology sector and is therefore concentrated in a single sector and region. Should the underlying markets transform due to consolidation or other reasons, the composition of the Index will adjust and change accordingly.

IDI seeks to manage and mitigate these limitations through the Index design, review and oversight process.

#### 3. Publication

#### 3.1 Publication of Index values.

#### **Opening**

The first Index level is calculated and published at 19:45 ET (Eastern Time). The calculation of that level utilizes the most updated prices available at that moment from the official primary exchange. In the case of constituents that have a non-traded, halted or suspended status, or have not opened for the current day, the previous day's reference prices (typically primary exchange official closes) or estimated prices (for IPOs, buyouts and swap offers) are used.

#### **Dissemination frequency**

The Index levels are published every 1 second to the ICE Consolidated Feed. The calculated Index levels incorporate the latest traded price of each constituent from within the regular trading session of their respective market. Intraday calculations of the Index solely incorporate trades executed on the security's primary exchange. The Indices are calculated on those days specified as Index Business Days. Index Business Days are days on which at least one of the current constituents' primary listing exchange is open for a full or partial day of trading.

#### **Closing level**

The closing Index levels are the last levels disseminated on the trading day and use the official close prices from the primary listing market for each constituent. For constituents that have non-traded, halted or suspended status, or have not opened for the current day, the previous day's reference prices (typically primary exchange official closes) or estimated prices (for IPOs, buyouts and swap offers) are used instead. The currency rates used in the calculation of the closing Index levels are the current day's London 4:00 PM WM/Refinitiv Spot FX rates, or if not available, the prior day's relevant London 4:00 PM WM/Refinitiv Spot FX rates. In the case of exceptional market conditions, the Index Administrator reserves the right to utilize other prices in the calculation of the official closing Index levels, as indicated below in Section 3.2.

#### **Data sources**

The ICE Consolidated Feed, which is obtained from ICE Data Services, is the primary market data source for equity real-time and closing prices. Currency rates used in the intraday calculation of the Index are sourced from ICE Data Derivatives. Currency rates used in the closing calculation of the Index are sourced from the WM/Refinitiv spot FX benchmarks provided by Refinitiv. Sector classifications are based on the ICE Uniform Sector Classification schema. Security free float data is sourced from Refinitiv and FactSet. Additional sources of data include market data vendors, company announcements, exchange announcements and other official sources.

#### 3.2 Exceptional market conditions and corrections

The Index Administrator retains the right to delay the publication of the opening level of the Index or suspend the publication of the level of the Index if it believes that circumstances prevent the proper calculation of the Index.

If Index constituent intraday prices are cancelled or revised, the Index will not be recalculated unless the Index Administrator decides otherwise.

Reasonable efforts are made to ensure the correctness and validity of data used in real-time Index calculations. Where errors have occurred in the determination or calculation of an Index closing value, the decision to make a restatement will be assessed on a case by case basis. Such decision will take account of the significance, impact, age and scale of the error.

There is the possibility of an exchange or market-wide event resulting in the normal closing auction, or official closing prices, not being available. In those situations, the Index Administrator will take guidance from the respective exchange(s) and determine an appropriate course of action on an event-by-event basis. Exchange or market-wide events include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Volatility Halts
  - LULD (Limit Up / Limit Down)
  - Market Wide Circuit Breaker
- o Technological Problems / Failures
- Natural Disaster or Other BCP-Related Event

#### 3.3 Changes to the Index

#### **Announcement policy**

Changes to the Index methodology are announced on the ICE Index Platform at indices.theice.com.

As a general rule, the announcement periods relating to the addition and removal of constituents that are mentioned below will be applied. However, emergency actions, including urgently required corporate action treatments, often resulting from late notices from the relevant company or exchange, may require the Index Administrator to deviate from the standard timing.

#### **Reconstitution constituent changes**

The addition or removal of constituents typically occurs during the quarterly Reconstitutions and are announced after the close of trading on the first Friday of the Reconstitution month. For example, for a Reconstitution effective for June 21, 2021, the announcement, including the corresponding new Index shares, would occur after the close on June 4, 2021. The new Index composition can be accessed on the ICE Index Platform at <a href="indices.theice.com">indices.theice.com</a>. Constituents may also be added to or removed from the Index as a result of corporate actions as described below.

#### **Corporate actions**

In case of a corporate action that affects one or more constituents, the Index Administrator will publish an announcement explaining its treatment in the Index shortly after the firm details have become available and have been confirmed. When possible, the addition or removal of a constituent is announced at least six trading days before the effective date of the change. However, depending on the availability of public information, less advance notice may be given. In the case of mergers and acquisitions, every effort is made to remove the company at some reasonable time ahead of the suspension in trading in the acquired company. There are certain situations and corporate actions that require the removal of a company that has already ceased trading. In those cases, the company is removed from the Index at its last traded price, or, at the discretion of the Index Administrator, at a derived price that most accurately represents its post-suspension value. Once a corporate action has been actioned in the Index, the Index Administrator confirms the changes and final terms such as Index divisor in a separate announcement.

#### 4. Calculation

#### 4.1 Calculation of the Index

The Index is calculated on a price return, gross total return and net total return basis denominated in U.S. dollars (USD). The current Index level is calculated by dividing the current modified Index market capitalization by the Index divisor. The divisor was set on the Index Base Date (i.e. the backtest start date) to yield an Index level of 1500.00. The divisor is updated as a result of corporate actions and composition changes.

A full description of the formulae used to calculate Index values can be found in the "NYSE Indices - Guide to Index Mathematics" at <a href="indices.theice.com">indices.theice.com</a>.

#### 5. Index Reconstitutions

#### 5.1 General aim of Reconstitutions and frequency

#### General aim of the periodical Reconstitution

The general aim of the quarterly Reconstitutions of the Index is to ensure that the selection and weightings of the constituents continue to reflect, as closely as possible, the Index's objective. The Index Administrator reserves the right to, at any time, change the number of stocks comprising the Index by adding or deleting one or more stocks, or replacing one or more stocks contained in the Index with one or more substitute stocks of its choice, if in the Index Administrator's discretion such addition, deletion or substitution is necessary or appropriate to maintain the quality and/or character of the Index. Such Index constituent changes or decisions are reviewed by the IDI Governance Committee to ensure that they are made objectively, without bias and in accordance with applicable law and regulation and IDI's policies and procedures.

#### **Frequency**

Changes to the Index composition and constituent weights may occur during a scheduled Reconstitution and as a result of the removal of an Index constituent. The Index is reconstituted quarterly after the close of the third Friday in March, June, September and December each year ("Reconstitution Date"). The company-specific data and other information used to reconstitute the Index is as of the close of the last Index Business Day of the second month prior to the Reconstitution month ("Reference Date"), with exception of the data used to select the top 30 constituents from the universe to be a part of the Index and determine the new Index shares, which is as of the first Friday of the Reconstitution month ("Selection Date"). For example, for the March 2021 Reconstitution, the Reconstitution Date is March 19, 2021, the Reference Date is January 29, 2021 and the Selection Date is March 5, 2021.

#### 5.2 Index universe and selection principle

#### **Constituent Selection and Weighting Schema**

The following rules, along with any additional criteria announced as a result of special consultations or situations<sup>1</sup> are used for the initial constituent selection and ongoing Reconstitutions<sup>2</sup>.

1. Starting universe: Common stocks, ADRs, or GDRs of companies that have a primary listing on the following Asia-Pacific exchanges:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Special announcements can be found under the Rule Announcements tab of the Publications section of the ICE Index Platform at indices.theice.com.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> All dollar amounts are U.S. dollars unless otherwise indicated. Currency conversions take place at the London 4:00 PM WM/Refinitiv Spot FX rate as of the Reference Date.

Exchange	Country
Australian Securities Exchange	Australia
Stock Exchange of Hong Kong	Hong Kong
Indonesia Stock Exchange	Indonesia
Tokyo Stock Exchange	Japan
Bursa Malaysia	Malaysia
Korea Exchange	Republic of Korea (South Korea)
Singapore Exchange	Singapore
Taiwan Stock Exchange	Taiwan
Taipei Exchange	Taiwan

- 2. Securities must have a minimum full company market capitalization of \$5 billion or greater (including all listed and unlisted share classes), and a three-month Average Daily Trading Value (ADTV) of \$10 million or greater on the Reference Date. For securities with less than three months of trading history, the available trading period is analyzed for this step. If multiple share classes qualify for a given company, then only the most liquid share class based on the three-month ADTV is selected.
- 3. Securities must have a minimum free float level of 5% and must be actively trading as of the Reference Date.
- 4. Securities are selected for potential inclusion in the Index if they are classified in the ICE Uniform Sector Classification schema under one of the following Sectors or Sub-Industries:
  - a. Technology Sector
  - b. Consumer Electronics Sub-Industry (Consumer Discretionary Sector)
  - c. Online & Direct Retail Sub-Industry (Consumer Discretionary Sector)
  - d. Social Media, Search & Online Marketing Sub-Industry (Media & Communications Sector)
  - e. Video Games Sub-Industry (Media & Communications Sector)
- 5. The securities selected in Step 4 are ranked by their full company market capitalization in descending order as of the Selection Date. The (30) highest ranked securities are included in the Index.
- 6. If a corporate action leads to the removal of a security in between the quarterly Reconstitutions, then the next highest ranked security from the Selection Date of the last Reconstitution is added to the Index at its current security-level float market capitalization weight. There are no capping rules applied at the time of addition. Replacements in the Index are announced after the close of trading on

the sixth Index Business Day prior to effectiveness. If a replacement is required in between the Selection Date and Reconstitution Date, then the highest ranked security from the upcoming Reconstitution that is not currently a part of the Index is added instead.

#### 5.3 Weighting methodology and periodical update of weighting

At quarterly Index Reconstitutions, constituent weights are determined by dividing their individual security-level float-adjusted market capitalization by the total float-adjusted market capitalization of all constituents as of the Selection Date. These weights are then capped as follows:

- 1. The index is divided into two groups: a small cap group comprised of constituents with weights less than 5% and a large cap group comprised of constituents with weights greater than or equal to 5%.
- 2.  $N_L$  is equal to the number of large cap constituents.  $N_S$  is equal to the number of small cap constituents.
- 3. Throughout the capping process, large cap constituents are maintained subject to a minimum 5% weight and small cap constituents are maintained subject to a cap of 4.75%.
- 4. First, all large cap constituents are capped at 25%, with excess weights redistributed to all other constituents on a pro-rata basis subject to a 25% cap for large cap constituents and a 4.75% cap for small cap constituents.
- 5. Second, the cumulative weight of all large cap constituents is capped at the maximum of either:
  - a. 50%
  - b. 5% \* NL
  - C.  $\frac{1.05}{1.05 + \frac{N_S}{N_I}}$

This ensures that that average weight of large cap constituents is at least 5% greater than the average weight of small cap constituents.

- 6. The redistribution of the excess cumulative weight of large cap constituents is allocated pro-rata across the small cap constituents.
- 7. If all of the constraints cannot be met, then the large and small cap constituent weighting caps and minimums are relaxed by allocating excess weight pro-rata across the whole Index.

The newly adjusted portfolio becomes the basis for the Index's value effective on the first trading day following the quarterly adjustments. The divisor is adjusted to ensure continuity of the Index's value.

The Index composition may be adjusted between the Selection Date and Reconstitution Date to account for corporate actions that occur in that period.

#### **5.4 Special considerations for Index backtest**

Corporate actions were adjusted for in the Index backtest; however, the exact treatment in the backtest and live Index may differ due to differences in timing and knowledge of those actions.

### **6. Corporate Actions**

#### 6.1 General

Apart from normal Reconstitution changes, the Index composition may be adjusted at other times in order to maintain the continuity of the Index level and the Index composition in accordance with its objective. Adjustments take place in reaction to events that occur with constituents in order to mitigate or eliminate the effect of that event on the Index performance.

A full description of standard corporate action events and their handling can be found in the "NYSE Indices - Corporate Action Handling Guide" at <a href="indices.theice.com">indices.theice.com</a>.

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Historical returns and weights before the launch date of an Index are based upon backtested data. For the period prior to the launch date of an Index, simulated performance data has been provided as an illustration of how the Index would have performed during the relevant period had the Index been calculated by IDI using the current Index methodology. Such simulated performance data has inherent limitations, as the simulated data is produced by the retroactive application of the methodology. Simulated performance data is based on criteria applied retroactively with the benefit of hindsight and knowledge of factors that may have positively affected its performance and may reflect a bias toward strategies that have performed well in the past.

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IDI has established policies and procedures designed to identify and address conflicts of interest.

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