

# EBS Presentation to ECB – FXCG

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## Agenda

- EBS guiding principles
- Perspectives on High Frequency Trading
- Recent changes at EBS and their effect
- Challenges for the FX market going into 2013
- Strategic plans for EBS
- Volume Trends EBS



#### **EBS** Guiding principles

- EBS welcomes all professional market participants and values all market makers (buy-side and sell-side) who contribute to genuine liquidity
- Focused on rewarding genuine liquidity and providing a level playing field for all market participants
- Taking all necessary steps to ensure a level playing field where ultra high speed does not deliver an advantage
- Committed to working with diligence and integrity to maintain a principled FX market
- Leading through innovation, providing the market with products, tools and consulting services to optimise FX performance
- Working collaboratively with the market to ensure we are a trusted partner



#### High Frequency Trading in FX

- FX was late to the high frequency game compared to other markets
  - The phenomena is less than 10 years old in FX
- Significant, benign, non correlated flow has left the public FX markets over the past five years
  - Single dealer platforms, relationship-based multi dealer providers, voice brokerage
  - Some of the transition is natural, though definitely accelerated and augmented by participant frustration with ultra high-frequency
- The FX public markets are deep and robust
- The regulatory framework of the FX market allows for swift change, and the market is trending towards such meaningful change



#### **EBS System Changes**

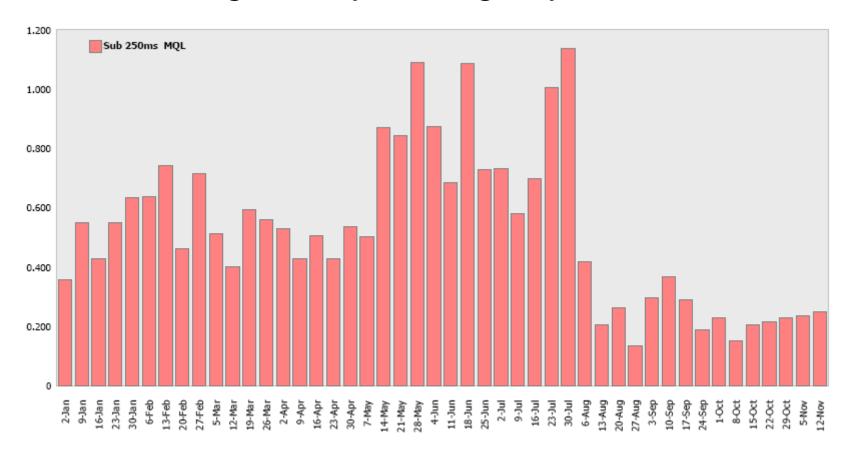
- EBS worked very closely, for months, with many leading banks and non-banks with great support and across the board
  - Requirements from all participant types were exceptionally similar
  - o The entire EBS community had the opportunity to review and comment
- New Dealing Rules
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> EBS Live not available, new policies on fill ratios, daily targets, removal of financial penalties
- System changes
  - Data distribution randomization, remote hit by price
- Price granularity
  - Moved away from decimalization to half and full pips
- Surveillance
  - Creation of a cross functional surveillance team
  - Identification and elimination of key areas of disruption (self matching, large order spoofing)



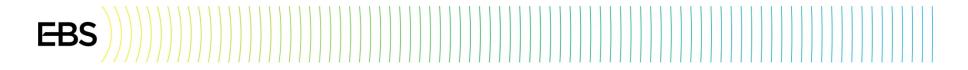
#### Results

- Material improvements across all measurements:
  - Depth of book
  - Quality of liquidity
  - Mix of counterparties
  - Market share
  - Client satisfaction
- This is a remarkable experiment, not familiar elsewhere (to us) in public markets
- EBS is working with the market on the introduction of further material changes in 2013

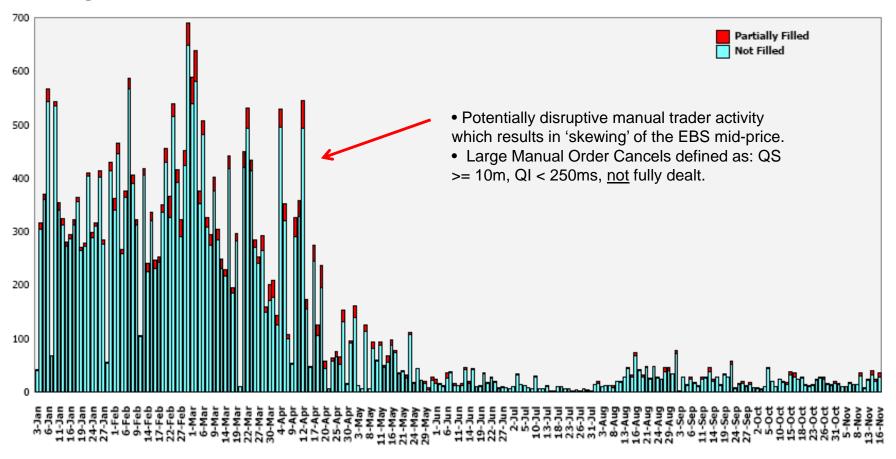
#### Self Matching – Daily Average by Week in 2012



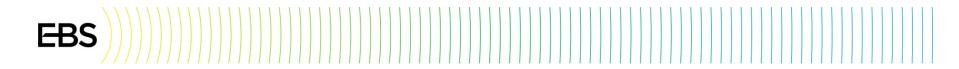
Through a combination of policy and technical solutions we have eliminated disruptive dealing activity resulting in liquidity removal in < MQL period.



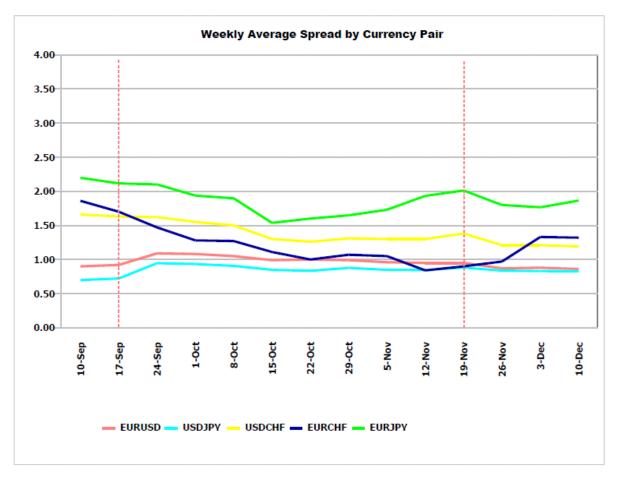
#### Large Manual Order Cancels (< 250ms) in Majors



Real-time monitoring of filters for order attributes such as size, frequency and proximity to top of book, highlight potentially disruptive strategies irrespective of segment or access method.



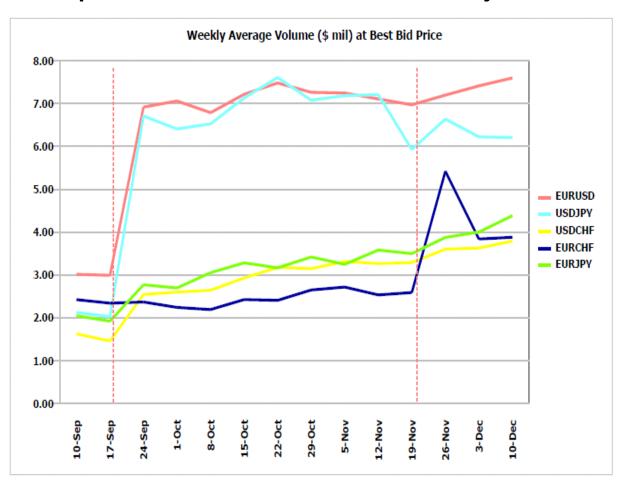
# Top of Book Spreads – Majors



	EURUSD	USDJPY	USDCHF	EURCHF	EURJPY
Pre 1/2 Pips	0.91	0.71	1.65	1.23	2.16
Week 1	1.09	0.95	1.62		2.10
Week 2	1.08	0.93	1.55		1.94
Week 3	1.05	0.91	1.50		1.90
Week 4	0.99	0.85	1.30		1.54
Week 5	1.00	0.83	1.26		1.60
Week 6	0.99	0.88	1.31		1.65
Week 7	0.96	0.85	1.30		1.73
Week 8	0.95	0.85	1.30		1.93
Week 9	0.95	0.88	1.38		2.01
Week 10	0.87	0.84	1.21	0.97	1.80
Week 11	0.88	0.83	1.21	1.33	1.76
Week 12	0.86	0.83	1.19	1.32	1.86
Wk 1-12 Avg	0.97	0.87	1.34	1.21	1.82



## Top of Book Amounts – Majors



	EURUSD	USDJPY	USDCHF	EURCHF	EURJPY
Pre 1/2 Pips	3.00	2.07	1.54	2.44	1.98
Week 1	6.92	6.71	2.54		2.77
Week 2	7.06	6.41	2.60		2.70
Week 3	6.79	6.53	2.64		3.05
Week 4	7.22	7.13	2.93		3.28
Week 5	7.48	7.61	3.18		3.17
Week 6	7.27	7.08	3.15		3.42
Week 7	7.25	7.19	3.31		3.25
Week 8	7.11	7.21	3.27		3.58
Week 9	6.97	5.93	3.29		3.50
Week 10	7.20	6.64	3.60	5.42	3.88
Week 11	7.42	6.23	3.63	3.84	4.00
Week 12	7.60	6.21	3.79	3.88	4.38
Wk 1-12 Avg	7.19	6.74	3.16	4.38	3.41



#### Improvement in Order Book Quality - Majors

% of Quote Interrupts (QI) < 500ms – the % of quotes which are interrupted within 500ms of entering the book is reduced by 24%. We have seen an increase in average quote lifetime and the % of quotes which live in the book for > 1 second before being cancelled.

**Hit Fill Ratios** – as a result of more stable and increased inventory at each price point we have seen a **24% improvement** in IOC success rates, most significantly across the Manual and Bank Ai segments.

**Top of Book QI < 500ms** – a quote which establishes a new best price point at top of book and is immediately cancelled (i.e. < 500ms) without having been dealt is considered to be among the most disruptive of activities. These occurrences have been **reduced by 23%** across all major pairs and by 79% in EURCHF alone.



#### Improvement in IOC Order Execution

EBS's market share in USDJPY in Tokyo increased month on month in Q4 2012 post half-pip changes:

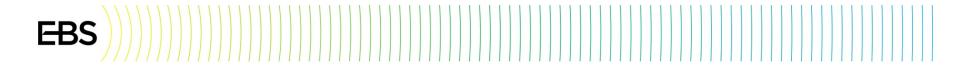
Oct - 80.1% Nov - 84.3% Dec - 88.5%

Customer feedback indicates that a significant % of USDJPY volumes previously transacted through voice brokers has recently shifted back to EBS.



#### FX Market Challenges in 2013

- Volatility
  - Risk Off
  - Low volatility increases internalization
- Structural cost base too high in the industry
  - Infrastructure and venue costs prohibitive
- Regulation
  - Compliance
  - How much of the flow will stop being traded?



#### EBS Key Focus Areas

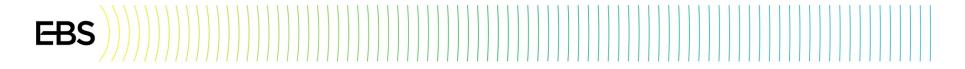
Further improvements within the EBS Market

#### EBS Direct

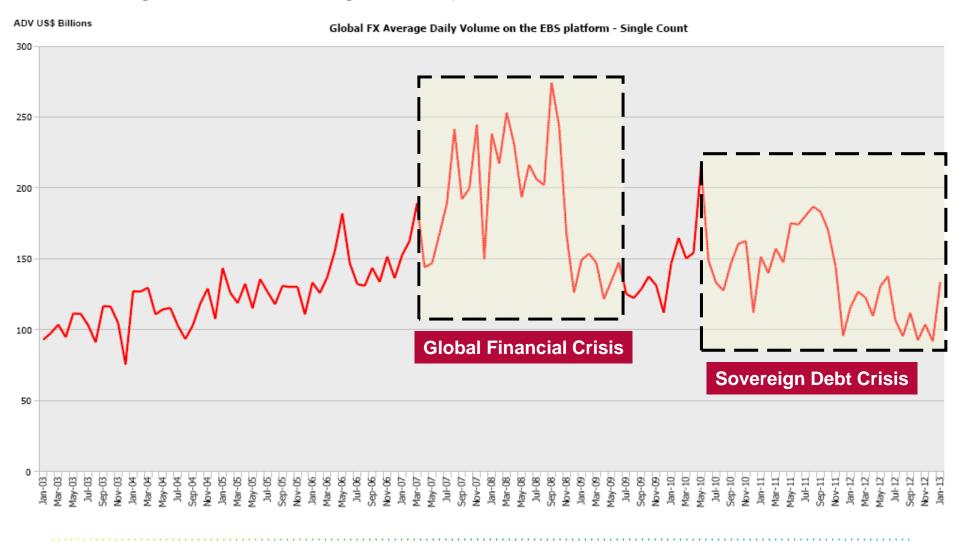
- Low cost, highly scalable relationship-based trading
- Delivered through the existing EBS connections
- 20+ Liquidity Providers, Hundreds of Liquidity Consumers
- o Initial LC's are banks, further rollout to all types of institutional clients

#### NDFs

- The first CLOB for NDF
- o Continue accelerated growth (400%+) from last year
- Prepare for SEF compliance
- Other

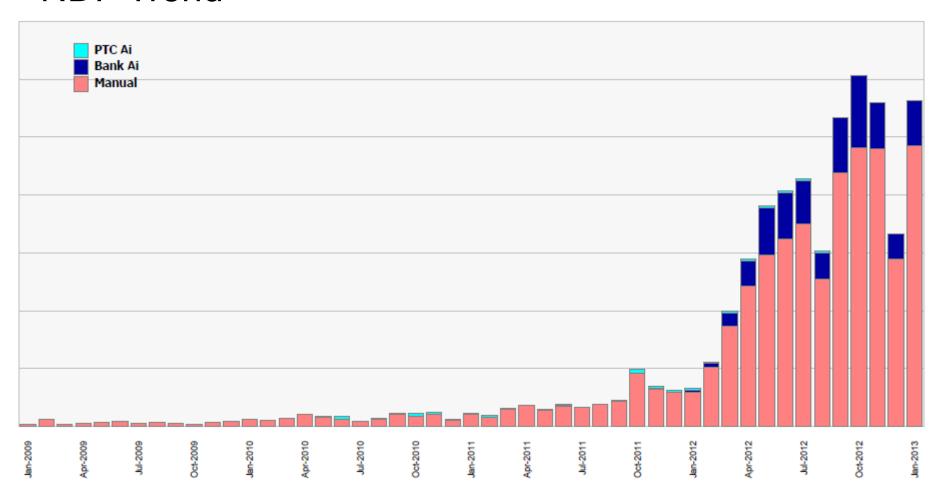


## EBS global average daily volumes in context





#### **NDF Trend**





#### **USD/RUB Trend**

