OTC Transparency (ATS and Non-ATS)

API Specifications
File Download

September 29, 2016

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Introduction

As announced in Regulatory Notice 14-07, on January 17, 2014, the SEC approved a proposed rule change to (i) adopt FINRA Rule 4552 to require each ATS to report to FINRA weekly equity volume information and number of securities transactions within the ATS (ATS reporting requirement); and (ii) amend FINRA Rules 6160, 6170, 6480 and 6720 to require each ATS to acquire and use a single, unique MPID when reporting information to FINRA (MPID requirement). As part of these requirements, FINRA makes the reported volume and trade count information for equity securities publicly available on its website as described below.

FINRA publishes on its website the reported information in each equity security for each ATS for each week. FINRA publishes the aggregate reported information regarding NMS stocks in Tier 1 of the NMS Plan to Address Extraordinary Market Volatility on a two-week delayed basis. FINRA publishes the information on all other NMS stocks and OTC Equity Securities subject to FINRA trade reporting requirements on a four-week delayed basis.

As announced in Regulatory Notice 2015-48 the SEC approved a proposed rule change to amend Rules 6110 and 6610 to expand the transparency initiative by publishing Non-ATS OTC equity volume.

FINRA publishes on its website the reported information in each equity security for each Non-ATS that meets the volume threshold[1] or as an aggregated "De minimis Firms" calculation for each week or month. FINRA publishes the aggregate reported information regarding NMS stocks in Tier 1 of the NMS Plan to Address Extraordinary Market Volatility on a two-week delayed basis. FINRA publishes the information on all other NMS stocks and OTC Equity Securities subject to FINRA trade reporting requirements on a four-week delayed basis. FINRA publishes monthly OTC Non-ATS data on a one month delay publishing on the first Monday (or next business day) of the following month. Beginning on April 25, 2016 weekly reports will be published and monthly reports will begin on June 6, 2016.

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[1] Trading Information for firms with "de minimis" OTC equity volume outside of an ATS, i.e., on average fewer than 200 transactions per day across all securities during the applicable Trading Information period, is aggregated and published on a non-attributed basis. In addition, Trading Information is further aggregated for member firms that have executed on average fewer than 200 transactions per day in a given security during the applicable Trading Information period. For the weekly non-ATS data, the de minimis threshold is calculated separately for Tier 1 NMS stocks, other NMS stocks and OTC Equity Securities, and for the monthly non-ATS data, the de minimis threshold is calculated separately for NMS stocks (not broken down by tier) and OTC Equity Securities.

Information regarding specific questions about OTC Transparency reporting and publication can be found in the OTC Transparency section of the FINRA Website available at: http://www.finra.org/OTC-Transparency.

As announced in Regulatory Notice 2016-14 the SEC approved a proposed rule change to amend Rule 6110 to expand the transparency initiative by publishing ATS Block equity volume in NMS stocks. FINRA will expand the ATS Transparency initiative by publishing ATS Block Data. The ATS Block Data is aggregated ATS trade data in NMS stocks that meets certain share based and dollar based thresholds and is reported by member firms to the FINRA equity trade reporting facilities (i.e., the Alternative Display Facility and the FINRA Trade Reporting Facilities). The data will be aggregated across all NMS stocks on a monthly basis and will be able to be filtered by ATS. ATS Block data will be available on a one month delay, publishing on the first Monday (or next business day) of the following month. Beginning on Monday, October 3, 2016, the monthly reports will be published.

Automation of Download

ATS Transparency File Download

The ATS Transparency file download process may be automated by firms using the following instructions.

Machine-download Instructions:
1. Go to the machine download page at:
   https://otctransparency.finra.org/TradingDetailFileArchive/TradingDetailFilesDownloadGrid
2. Select "I Agree"
3. Once on the download page, parse through the "tblTrading" HTML table.

Note: Parsing through the ATS data tables may be a different process depending on the application or methodology used. The code developed to parse the table will be determined by each individual firm and will not be dictated or directed by FINRA.

OTC (Non-ATS) Transparency File Download

The OTC (Non-ATS) Transparency file download process may be automated by firms using the following instructions.

Machine-download Instructions:
1. Go to the machine download page at:
   https://otctransparency.finra.org/OTCTradingDetailFileArchive/OTCTradingDetailFilesDownloadGrid
2. Select "I Agree"
3. Once on the download page, parse through the "tblTrading" HTML table.

Note: Parsing through the Non-ATS data tables may be a different process depending on the application or methodology used. The code developed to parse the table will be determined by each individual firm and will not be dictated or directed by FINRA.

ATS Blocks File Download

The ATS Blocks file download process may be automated by firms using the following instructions.

Machine-download Instructions:
1. Go to the machine download page at:
   https://otctransparency.finra.org/ATSBlocksDetailFileArchive/ATSBlocksDetailFilesDownloadGrid
2. Select "I Agree"
3. Once on the download page, parse through the "tblTrading" HTML table.

Note: Parsing through the ATS data tables may be a different process depending on the application or methodology used. The code developed to parse the table will be determined by each individual firm and will not be dictated or directed by FINRA.

File Availability

Files will be available to users via download. Weekly files and updates to previously published files will be published and available for download no earlier than 6:00 AM E.T. on business days.

Users may attempt to access the files on non-business days; however, due to server maintenance which occurs on weekends and other non-business days it is possible that the user will not have immediate success in accessing the data during these days.

File Definition

Field Name	Description	Comments	Maximum Length
Report_Type	Identifies the report to which the data applies	Valid Values: *NMS Tier 1* - Securities included in the S&P 500, Russell 1000 and selected exchange-traded products. *NMS Tier 2* - All other NMS stocks *OTCE* - All Over-the-Counter equity securities	
Symbol	Assigned by the NASDAQ listing market and ACT Symbol for Other Exchange Listed (NMS stocks), or by FINRA (OTCE securities) Suffix is separated from root symbol with a special character	Refer to Appendix A for symbol information and resources	14
Issue_Description	Company name associated with the Symbol		100
ATS_Description	Company name of the ATS		100
ATS_MPID	Four character ATS identifier		
Shares	Aggregate weekly total number of shares reported by each ATS for the Symbol		10
Shares_Last_Updated	Most recent date on which total shares is updated based on data received from each ATS	Format DD-MMM-YY	
Trades	Aggregate weekly total number of trades reported by each ATS for the Symbol		7
Trades_Last_Updated	Most recent date on which total trades is updated based on data received from each ATS	Format DD-MMM-YY	

OTC (Non-ATS) Transparency File Download

File Definition

Field Name	Description	Comments	Maximum Length
Report_Type	Identifies the report to which the data applies	Weekly Report Valid Values: *NMS Tier 1* - Securities included in the S&P 500, Russell 1000 and selected exchange-traded products. *NMS Tier 2* - All other NMS stocks *OTCE* - All Over-the-Counter equity securities Monthly Report Valid Values: *NMS Securities* - All NMS stocks *OTCE* - All Over-the-Counter equity securities	
Symbol	Assigned by the NASDAQ listing market and ACT Symbol for Other Exchange Listed (NMS stocks), or by FINRA (OTCE securities) Suffix is separated from root symbol with a special character	Refer to Appendix A for symbol information and resources	14
Issue_Description	Company name associated with the Symbol		100
OTC_Non_ATS_Description	Company name of the Non-ATS or De Minimis Firm		100
Shares	Aggregate weekly total number of shares reported by each Non-ATS or De Minimis Firm for the Symbol		10
Shares_Last_Updated	Most recent date on which total shares is updated based on data received from each Non-ATS or De Minimis Firm	Format DD-MMM-YY	
Trades	Aggregate weekly total number of trades reported by each Non-ATS or De Minimis Firm for the Symbol		7
Trades_Last_Updated	Most recent date on which total	Format DD-MMM-YY	

Field Name	Description	Comments	Maximum Length
	trades is updated based on data received from each Non-ATS or De Minimis Firm		

ATS Blocks File Download

File Definition

Field Name	Description	Comments	Maximum Length
ATS_MPID	ATS MPID		
Firm_Name	ATS Company name		
Report_Type	Identifies the block report criteria to which the data applies	Valid Values: 10K+ Shares $200K+ 10K+ - AND - $200K+ 2K to <10K $100K to <$200K 2K to <10K AND $100K to <$200K	
Trade_Start_Date	First business day of the report period		
ATS_Activity_Total_Trades	Total of all ATS trades (block and non-block) by ATS MPID.		
ATS_Activity_Total_Shares	Total of all ATS shares traded (block and non-block) by ATS MPID.		
ATS_Activity_Avg_Trade_Size	Based on the total of all ATS trades and shares traded (block and non-block) by ATS MPID.		
ATS_Activity_Avg_Trade_Size_Rank	Rank of ATS Average Trade Size per ATS as compared to all other ATS MPIDs Average Trade Sizes.		
ATS_Market_Share_Trades	Percentage of ATS Total Trades of the Grand Total of all ATS Trades by ATS MPID.	Format X.XX	
ATS_Market_Share_Shares	Percentage of ATS Total	Format X.XX	

Field Name	Description	Comments	Maximum Length
	Shares Traded of the Grand Total of all ATS Shares Traded by ATS MPID.		
ATS_Rank_Trades	Rank of ATS Trades Market Share per ATS MPID as compared to all other ATS MPIDs Market Share Trades (block and non-block).		
ATS_Rank_Shares	Rank of ATS Shares traded Market Share per ATS MPID as compared to all other ATS MPIDs Market Share of Shares Traded (block and non-block).		
ATS_Block_Activity_Trades	Total of all ATS Trades that meet Block Trade report criteria by ATS MPID.		
ATS_Block_Activity_Shares	Total of ATS Shares traded that meet Block Trade report criteria by ATS MPID.		
ATS_Block_Activity_Average_Trade_Size	Based on the total of ATS Block trades and shares traded by ATS MPID.		
ATS_Block_Activity_Average_Trade_Size_Rank	Rank of ATS Average Block Trade Size per ATS MPID as compared to all other ATS MPIDs Average Block Trade Sizes.		
ATS_Block_Market_Share_Trades	Percentage of ATS Block Trades of the Grand Total of all ATS Block Trades by ATS MPID.	Format X.XX	
ATS_Block_Market_Share_Shares	Percentage of ATS Block Shares Traded of the Grand Total of all ATS Block Shares Traded by ATS MPID.	Format X.XX	
ATS_Block_Rank_Trades	Rank of ATS Block Trade Market Share per ATS MPID as compared to all other ATS MPIDs Block Trades.		
ATS_Block_Rank_Shares	Rank of ATS Block Market Share per ATS MPID as compared to all other ATS MPIDs Market Share of Shares Traded.		
ATS_Block_Business_Share_Trades	Percentage of ATS Block	Format X.XX	

Field Name	Description	Comments	Maximum Length
	Trades of their ATS Total Trades by ATS MPID.		
ATS_Block_Business_Share_Shares	Percentage of ATS Block Shares Traded of their ATS Total Shares Traded by ATS MPID.	Format X.XX	
ATS_Block_Business_Share_Rank_Trades	Rank of ATS Block Trade Business Share per ATS MPID as compared to all other ATS MPIDs Block Trades Business Share.		
ATS_Block_Business_Share_Rank_Shares	Rank of ATS Block Shares Traded Market Share per ATS MPID as compared to all other ATS MPIDs Block Shares Traded Business Share.		
MPID_Last_Updated	Most recent date on which total trades and/or total shares is updated based on data received from the specific ATS' trade data.	Format DD-MMM-YYYY	

Sample Report

ATS Transparency File Download

Report_Type|Symbol|Issue_Description|ATS_Description|ATS_MPID|Shares|Shares_Last_Updated|Trades|Trades_Last_Updated|NMS Tier 1|A||Agilent Technologies |ATS1 description|ABCD|214643900|24-MAR-14|577000|24-MAR-14|NMS Tier 1|A||Agilent Technologies |ATS2 description|EFGH|196321004|24-MAR-14|477638|24-MAR-14|NMS Tier 1|A||Agilent Technologies|ATS1 description|ABCD|9012802|24-MAR-14|18025|24-MAR-14|NMS Tier 1|AA||Alcoa Inc|ATS5 description|WXYZ|543453|24-MAR-14|83721|24-MAR-14|

OTC (Non-ATS) Transparency File Download

Report_Type|Symbol|Issue_Description|OTC_Non_ATS_Description|Shares|Shares_Last_Updated|Trades|Trades_Last_Updated|NMS Tier 1|A||Agilent Technologies |NonATS1 description| 214643900|24-MAR-14|577000|24-MAR-14|NMS Tier 1|A||Agilent Technologies |De Minimis Firms| 196321004|24-MAR-14|477638|24-MAR-14|NMS Tier 1|A||Agilent Technologies|NonATS1 description| 9012802|24-MAR-14|18025|24-MAR-14|NMS Tier 1|AA||Alcoa Inc|NonATS5 description| 543453|24-MAR-14|83721|24-MAR-14|

ATS Blocks File Download

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ATS_MPID|Firm_Name|Report_Type|Trade_Start_Date|ATS_Activity_Total_Trades|ATS_Activity_Total_Shares|ATS_Activity_Average_Trade_Size|
ATS_Activity_Average_Trade_Size_Rank|ATS_Market_Share_Trades|ATS_Market_Share_Shares|ATS_Rank_Trades|ATS_Rank_Shares|ATS_Block_Activity_Trades|
ATS_Block_Activity_Shares|ATS_Block_Activity_Average_Trade_Size|ATS_Block_Activity_Average_Trade_Size_Rank|ATS_Block_Market_Share_Trades|
ATS_Block_Market_Share_Shares|ATS_Block_Rank_Trades|ATS_Block_Rank_Shares|ATS_Block_Business_Share_Trades|ATS_Block_Business_Share_Shares|
ATS_Block_Business_Share_Rank_Trades|ATS_Block_Business_Share_Rank_Shares|MPID_Last_Updated
ATS1|ATS Name|10K|01-AUG-16|863|11,049,140|2,390|7|0.70|0.25|30|31|298|9,738,600|26,068|5|1.43|0.43|20|25|38.53|75.95|9|17|30-SEP-16
ATS2|ATS Name|10K|01-AUG-16|367|485,000|128,333|7|0.06|0.00|39|32|3|81,300|20,443|6|0.00|0.00|34|33|100.00|100.00|1|1|30-SEP-16
ATS3|ATS Name|10K|01-AUG-16|95,880|69,134,786|795|11|1.09|4.49|19|12|14,009|41,549,300|20,007|4|28.55|29.98|1|1|1.56|59.40|10|10|30-SEP-16
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Appendix A: Security Symbol Supplement and Resource Guide

This section serves as a supplemental resource for security and symbol information provided by FINRA.

Reports are published using the NASDAQ assigned listing symbol for UTP securities and the NASDAQ ACT symbol for Other Exchange Listed securities (NMS stocks). Other Exchange Listed security symbols may contain a special character such as "." or "$" to separate the root symbol from the suffix. OTCBB and Other-OTC securities may or may not be OATS reportable. The following provide direct links to webpages for security information.

NMS Stocks
NASDAQ Listed Securities
Other Exchange Listed Securities
        Suffix Conversion Chart

All Other Securities
FINRA publishes a security symbol which contains security information for all OTCBB issues and other-OTCE securities. A link to the webpage is below;
Symbol Directory

Appendix B: Revision History

Version	Date	Changes
0.1	7/1/16	Initial draft
0.2	9/29/16	Updated with ATS Block file details.