

CME/NYMEX Uranium Futures (UX) Contract

CME/NYMEX Partners with UxC to Offer Uranium Futures Contracts

On April 16, 2007, UxC and CME/NYMEX issued a [joint press release](#) announcing the introduction of on and off-exchange traded uranium futures products on the CME Globex® and CME ClearPort® electronic platforms on May 6 for the May 7, 2007 trade date. The initial product was the NYMEX UxC Uranium U₃O₈ Futures Contract (UX).



CME Group announced **November 13, 2018**, that NYMEX will increase the spot month position limits for the UxC Uranium U₃O₈ Futures contract going forward. Currently, the UX contract is capped at a monthly position limit of 1,000 contracts (250,000 pounds U₃O₈). However, beginning on December 3, 2018, the market will increase the position limit cap to 2,000 contracts (500,000 pounds U₃O₈) to provide market participants with the ability to take larger monthly positions in the future. The formal announcement can be found at: <https://www.cmegroup.com/content/dam/cmegroup/notices/market-regulation/2018/11/MSN11-13-18.pdf>

For a detailed example of how to use the CME Group/NYMEX futures market to hedge uranium futures, please see: https://www.uxc.com/p/data/nymex/Uranium_Hedging_Deck.pdf

CME UX Contract Links:

Quotes: <https://www.cmegroup.com/trading/metals/other/uranium.html>

Settlement: https://www.cmegroup.com/trading/metals/other/uranium_quotes_settlements_futures.html

Volume: https://www.cmegroup.com/trading/metals/other/uranium_quotes_volume_voi.html

Specification: https://www.cmegroup.com/trading/metals/other/uranium_contract_specifications.html

Margins: https://www.cmegroup.com/trading/metals/other/uranium_performance_bonds.html

Calendar: https://www.cmegroup.com/trading/metals/other/uranium_product_calendar_futures.html

A PDF version of their introductory guide can be found at: https://www.cmegroup.com/files/intro_fut_opt.pdf

Additional information can be found at: <https://www.cmegroup.com/tools-information/hedge-funds/index.html>

Uranium Contract (UX) Overview

The New York Mercantile Exchange has partnered with UxC, LLC (UxC) to provide financially settled on- and off-exchange traded uranium futures contracts. The two organizations are working together to serve the needs of utilities, consumers, uranium mining and other nuclear fuel companies, governments, banking, and financial institutions by creating a pricing benchmark for the rapidly expanding nuclear fuel industry.

The NYMEX uranium futures contract will provide the industry with a transparent pricing mechanism. The contract's final settlement price is based on the UxC index, which for the past 20 years, has provided U₃O₈, or "yellowcake" pricing. This term came from early production methods of the compound that yielded a bright yellow product resembling cake batter. U₃O₈ is the most actively traded uranium-related commodity, and the UxC pricing index has been utilized by all major nuclear fuel market participants as well as the United States government and private business organizations.

Recent events affecting supply development and the need for additional clean energy sources, such as nuclear power, have created the desire for a more transparent forward price curve as well as increased risk management tools in a volatile uranium marketplace.

The uranium futures contract is available for trading on CME Globex and clearing on CME ClearPort. The size of each contract is 250 lbs. and prices are quoted in U.S. dollars and cents. The final settlement price is the spot-month end price published by UxC.

Uranium Contract (UX) Specifications

Trading Unit

250 pounds of U₃O₈

Price Quotation

U.S. dollars and cents per pound

Minimum Price Fluctuation

\$0.05

Trading Hours

The contracts are available for trading on the CME Globex and CME ClearPort electronic trading systems from 6:00 PM Sundays through 5:15 PM Fridays, Eastern Time, with a 45-minute break each day between 5:15 PM and 6:00 PM.

Trading Months

60 consecutive months

Last Day of Trading

Trading terminates at the close of business on the last Monday of the contract month. If the last Monday in the contract month is not a business day, trading shall terminate on the last business day prior to the Monday that is not a business day.

Settlement

Financial, based on the spot month-end U₃O₈ price published by UxC, LLC.

Margin Requirements

Margins are required for open futures positions.

Trading Symbol

UX

CME/NYMEX originally provided several additional documents explaining the new contracts. The first is a [Frequently Asked Question \(FAQ\)](#) sheet addressing common questions, a copy of the [contract specifications](#), and Chapter 970 of the NYMEX Rulebook on [UxC Uranium U3O8 Futures](#).

CME/NYMEX Press Releases

- Apr 16, 2007: [NYMEX Partners with UxC to Offer Uranium Futures Contracts](#)
- Sep 25, 2007: [NYMEX to Change Margins for Uranium Futures Contract](#)
- Apr 17, 2008: [NYMEX Uranium Calendar Spreads on CME Globex](#)
- Nov 13, 2018: [Amendment to Increase the Position Limit for UxC Uranium U3O8 Futures Contract](#)

UxC has provided further discussion about the futures contracts and the uranium market in the [April 16, 2007](#), [May 7, 2007](#), [May 5, 2008](#), [Aug 1, 2016](#), and [Jul 24, 2017](#), cover stories in the [Ux Weekly](#).