Bloomberg New Constructs Ratings VA-1 Index Methodology

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Introduction

The Bloomberg New Constructs Ratings VA-1 Index is constructed to track the performance of companies in Bloomberg US 1000 Index that have Very Attractive rating using data from New Constructs.

For more information on New Constructs, please refer to the following link: New Constructs.

Section 1: Overview

Name	Bloomberg New Constructs Ratings VA-1 Index
Base date	2014-04-21
Inception Date	2024-06-17
Rebalance	Quarterly
Publication	Weekdays
Currency	USD
	BNCVAIP (Price Return)
Tickers	BNCVAIT (Total Return)
	BNCVAIN (Net Return)

Section 2: Index Eligibility Process

Parent Universe

To be selected for the Bloomberg New Constructs Ratings VA-1 Index, a security must be a member of the Bloomberg US 1000 Index (B1000). Please refer to the Bloomberg US Domestic Indices methodology through the link below for additional details.

Bloomberg US Domestic Indices Methodology

Market Capitalization Eligibility

A security must have a minimum free float market capitalization of \$500 million.

Liquidity Eligibility

A security must have a minimum 90-day average daily value traded of \$5 million.

Multiple Classes of Securities

One security per issuer is permitted. If an issuer has multiple securities, then the security currently in the Index will take precedence if it has met all other criteria for eligibility. Otherwise, the security with the highest 90-day average daily value traded is eligible for inclusion in the Index.

Section 3: Index Construction Process

Index Selection Process

All securities that satisfy the Index Eligibility Process in Section 2 are eligible for inclusion in the Index.

New Constructs Rating Screening

Securities with overall ratings as 1 (Very Attractive) are selected for inclusion in the Index. For more information on the ratings system from New Constructs, please refer to Appendix B: Glossary or the link below.

New Constructs Rating System

Index Selection Process Exception Rules

If there are less than 20 issuers in the Index after all the rules in the Index construction process section have been applied, then the securities with overall ratings as 2 are sorted by Issuer Free Float Market Capitalization until there are 20 issuers included in the Index.

Index Weighting

The Index is equal weighted. The weights, W_i , are assigned as follows.

 $W_i = \frac{1}{M}$

Where:

 W_i Weight of security i

M Number of Index members

Index Rebalance and Reconstitution

The Index is reconstituted and rebalanced quarterly in January, April, July, and October.

Selection Date

The Index Eligibility Process and Index Construction Process are applied using data as of the last business day in March, June, September, and December.

Index Share Determination Date

Float Shares are determined using Shares Outstanding and Free Float as of the last business day in March, June, September, and December.

Index Announcement Date

An Index reconstitution and rebalance announcement date shall be the 2nd Friday in January, April, July, and October.

Index Effective Date

The Index reconstitutions and rebalances go effective after the close of trading on the 3rd Friday in January, April, July, and October.

		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Selection Date	Last Day			Х			Х			Х			Х
Share Determination Date	Last Day			Х			Χ			Х			Х
Announcement Date	2 nd Friday	Х			Х			Χ			Х		
Effective Date	3 rd Friday	Х			Х			Χ			Х		

Section 4: Index Maintenance

Index Calculation

Refer to the <u>Bloomberg US Domestic Indices Methodology</u> for index calculation details.

Deletion Policy

Index securities are not deleted outside Index Rebalance and Reconstitution window except in the case of a delisting.

Addition Policy

Index securities are not added outside of the Index reconstitution.

Replacement Policy

Index securities are not replaced outside of the Index reconstitution.

Corporate Actions

Refer to Bloomberg US Domestic Indices Non-Market Cap Corporate Action Methodology for the treatment of corporate actions.

Section 5: Risks and Limitations

Risks

The following is a summary of certain risks associated with the Index but is not meant to be an exhaustive list of all risks associated with the Index. Although the Index is designed to be representative of the markets it is measuring, it may not be representative of every use case. There is also inherent, though transparent, judgment in its construction, as outlined in this Methodology. The Index is designed for general applicability and not to address the individual circumstances and needs of users. BISL does not advise about the usefulness of the Index to a particular circumstance; users are therefore encouraged to seek their own counsel for such matters. This Methodology is subject to change, which may impact its usefulness to users. Although efforts will be made to alert users of any change, every individual user may not be aware of them. Such changes may also significantly impact the usefulness of the Index. BISL may also decide to cease publication of this Index. BISL maintains internal policies regarding user transitions, but no guarantee is given that an adequate alternative is available generally or for a particular use case. Markets for stocks, as with all markets, can be volatile. As the Index is designed to measure this market, it could be materially impacted by market movements, thus significantly affecting the use or usefulness of the Index for some or all users. Also, certain equity markets are less liquid than others – even the most liquid markets may suffer periods of illiquidity. Illiquidity can have an impact on the quality or amount of data available to BISL for calculation and may cause the Index to produce unpredictable results.

In the event that New Constructs ceases to provide the relevant data or if the relationship was to be otherwise terminated, BISL will escalate to the Product, Risk and Operations Committee to review available remedial actions.

Limitations of the index

Though the Index is designed to be representative of the markets it measures or otherwise aligns with its stated objective, it may not be representative in every case or achieve its stated objective in all instances. It is designed and calculated strictly to follow the rules of this Methodology, and any Index level or other output is limited in its usefulness to such design and calculation.

Markets can be volatile, including those market interests that the Index measures or upon which the Index is dependent to achieve its stated objective. For example, illiquidity can have an impact on the quality or amount of data available to the administrator for calculation and may cause the Index to produce unpredictable or unanticipated results.

In addition, market trends and changes to market structure may render the objective of the Index unachievable or to become impractical to replicate by investors.

In particular, the Index measures global equity markets. As with all equity investing, the Index is exposed to market risk. The value of equities fluctuate with the changes in economic forecasts, interest rate policies established by central banks and perceived geopolitical risk. The Index does not take into account the cost of replication and as a result a tracking portfolio's returns will underperform the Index with all else equal. As the Index is designed to measure those markets, it could be materially impacted by market movements, thus significantly impacting the use or usefulness of the fixings for some or all users.

In addition, certain sub-indices may be designed to measure smaller subsets of the Index such as specific styles, size, and sector. Some of these sub-indices have very few qualifying constituents and may have none for a period of time. During such period, the sub-index will continue to be published at its last value, effectively reporting a 0% return, until new constituents qualify. If no constituents are expected to qualify (due to changes in market structure and other factors), the sub-index may be discontinued. In such an event, this discontinuation will be announced to index users.

Section 6: Benchmark Oversight and Governance

Benchmark Governance Structure

Please refer to the BISL Benchmark Procedures Handbook available <u>here</u>.

Index and data reviews

Please refer to the BISL Benchmark Procedures Handbook available here.

Expert judgement

Please refer to the BISL Benchmark Procedures Handbook available here.

Conflicts of interest

Please refer to the BISL Benchmark Procedures Handbook available <u>here</u>.

Restatement policy

Please refer to the BISL Benchmark Procedures Handbook available here.

Cessation policy

Please refer to the BISL Benchmark Procedures Handbook available here.

Appendix A: ESG Disclosure

Item 1. Name of the benchmark administrator.	Bloomberg Index Services Limited ("BISL")				
Item 2. Type of benchmark or family of benchmarks.	Equity				
Choose the relevant underlying asset from the list provided in Annex II to Commission Delegated Regulation (EU)2020/1816.	_quity				
Item 3. Name of the benchmark or family of benchmarks.	Bloomberg New Constructs Ratings VA-1 Index				
Item 4 . Does the benchmark methodology for the benchmark or family of benchmarks take into account ESG factors?	No				
Item 5 . Where the response to Item 4 is positive, please list below, for each family of benchminto account in the benchmark methodology, taking into account the ESG factors listed in Ar 2020/1816.					
Please explain how those ESG factors are used for the selection, weighting or exclusion of ur	nderlying assets.				
The ESG factors shall be disclosed at an aggregated weighted average value at the level of t	he family of benchmarks.				
(a) List of environmental factors considered:	Not applicable				
(b) List of social factors considered:	Not applicable				
(c) List of governance factors considered	Not applicable				
account in the benchmark methodology, taking into account the ESG factors listed in Annex 2020/1816, depending on the relevant underlying asset concerned. Please explain how those ESG factors are used for the selection, weighting or exclusion of ur The ESG factors shall not be disclosed for each constituent of the benchmark, but shall be di average value of the benchmark. Alternatively, all of this information may be provided in the form of a hyperlink to a website of included in this explanation. The information on the website shall be easily available and accessful ensure that information published on their website remains available for five years.	nderlying assets. sclosed at an aggregated weighted of the benchmark administrator				
(a) List of environmental factors considered:	As above				
(b) List of social factors considered:	As above				
(c) List of governance factors considered:	As above				
Item 7. Data and standards used					
(a) Data input.	Not Applicable				
(i)Describe whether the data are reported, modelled or sourced internally or externally.	TVOC7 (ppiledble				
(ii)Where the data are reported, modelled or sourced externally, please name the third party					
(ii)Where the data are reported, modelled or sourced externally, please name the third party data provider.(b) Verification and quality of data.	Not Applicable				
 (ii)Where the data are reported, modelled or sourced externally, please name the third party data provider. (b) Verification and quality of data. Describe how data are verified and how the quality of those data is ensured. (c) Reference standards 	Not Applicable N/A				
 (ii)Where the data are reported, modelled or sourced externally, please name the third party data provider. (b) Verification and quality of data. Describe how data are verified and how the quality of those data is ensured. 					

Appendix B: Glossary

Glossary contains terms which are specific to this index. For all other capitalized terms please refer to definitions in the <u>Bloomberg</u> <u>US Domestic Indices Methodology</u>.

Rating System	New Constructs rating system is driven by fundamental data and financial models. One of five
	ratings are assigned to every stock under coverage: Very Attractive (best rating), Attractive,
	Neutral, Unattractive, and Very Unattractive (worst rating). Ratings are based on the most five most
	important criteria for assessing the risk versus reward and are divided into two categories: Quality
	of Earnings and Valuation. Quality of Earnings is comprised of Economic vs. Reported EPS and
	ROIC. Valuation is comprised of FCF Yield, Price to EBV, and Market-Implied GAP. For more
	information, please refer to the following link: New Constructs Rating System.

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