

**CHAPTER 45—PAYMENT SYSTEM RISK
REDUCTION**

**SUBCHAPTER I—BILATERAL AND CLEARING
ORGANIZATION NETTING**

- Sec.
4401. Findings and purpose.
4402. Definitions.
4403. Bilateral netting.
 (a) General rule.
 (b) Limitation on obligation to make payment.
 (c) Limitation on right to receive payment.
 (d) Payment of net entitlement of failed financial institution.
 (e) Effectiveness notwithstanding status as financial institution.
4404. Clearing organization netting.
 (a) General netting rule.
 (b) Limitation of obligation to make payment.
 (c) Limitation on right to receive payment.
 (d) Entitlement of failed members.
 (e) Obligations of failed members.
 (f) Limitation on claims for entitlement.
 (g) Effectiveness notwithstanding status as member.
4405. Preemption.
4406. Relationship to other payments systems.
4407. National emergencies.

**SUBCHAPTER II—MULTILATERAL CLEARING
ORGANIZATIONS**

4421. Definitions.
4422. Multilateral clearing organizations.
 (a) In general.
 (b) Clearing organizations.

**SUBCHAPTER I—BILATERAL AND
CLEARING ORGANIZATION NETTING**

§ 4401. Findings and purpose

The Congress finds that—

- (1) many financial institutions engage daily in thousands of transactions with other financial institutions directly and through clearing organizations;
- (2) the efficient processing of such transactions is essential to a smoothly functioning economy;
- (3) such transactions can be processed most efficiently if, consistent with applicable contractual terms, obligations among financial institutions are netted;
- (4) such netting procedures would reduce the systemic risk within the banking system and financial markets; and
- (5) the effectiveness of such netting procedures can be assured only if they are recognized as valid and legally binding in the event of the closing of a financial institution participating in the netting procedures.

(Pub. L. 102-242, title IV, § 401, Dec. 19, 1991, 105 Stat. 2371.)

SEPARABILITY

If any provision of Pub. L. 102-242 or any application of any provision thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of Pub. L. 102-242 and the application of any remaining provision of such Act to any other person or circumstance not to be affected by such holding, see section 481 of Pub. L. 102-242, set out as a note under section 1811 of this title.

§ 4402. Definitions

For purposes of this subchapter—

(1) Broker or dealer

The term “broker or dealer” means—

(A) any company that is registered or licensed under Federal or State law to engage in the business of brokering, underwriting, or dealing in securities in the United States; and

(B) to the extent consistent with this title,¹ as determined by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, any company that is an affiliate of a company described in subparagraph (A) and that is engaged in the business of entering into netting contracts.

(2) Clearing organization

The term “clearing organization” means a clearinghouse, clearing association, clearing corporation, or similar organization—

(A) that provides clearing, netting, or settlement services for its members and—

(i) in which all members other than the clearing organization itself are financial institutions or other clearing organizations; or

(ii) which is registered as a clearing agency under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 [15 U.S.C. 78a et seq.]; or

(B) that is registered as a derivatives clearing organization under section 7a-1 of title 7.

(3) Covered clearing obligation

The term “covered clearing obligation” means an obligation of a member of a clearing organization to make payment to another member of a clearing organization, subject to a netting contract.

(4) Covered contractual payment entitlement

The term “covered contractual payment entitlement” means—

(A) an entitlement of a financial institution to receive a payment, subject to a netting contract from another financial institution; and

(B) an entitlement of a member of a clearing organization to receive payment, subject to a netting contract, from another member of a clearing organization of a covered clearing obligation.

(5) Covered contractual payment obligation

The term “covered contractual payment obligation” means—

(A) an obligation of a financial institution to make payment, subject to a netting contract to another financial institution; and

(B) a covered clearing obligation.

(6) Depository institution

The term “depository institution” means—

(A) a depository institution as defined in section 19(b)(1)(A) of the Federal Reserve Act [12 U.S.C. 461(b)(1)(A)] (other than clause (vii));

(B) a branch or agency as defined in section 1(b) of the International Banking Act of 1978 [12 U.S.C. 3101];

¹ See References in Text note below.

(C) a corporation chartered under section 25(a)¹ of the Federal Reserve Act [12 U.S.C. 611 et seq.]; or

(D) a corporation having an agreement or undertaking with the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System under section 25 of the Federal Reserve Act [12 U.S.C. 601 et seq.].

(7) Failed financial institution

The term “failed financial institution” means a financial institution that—

(A) fails to satisfy a covered contractual payment obligation when due;

(B) has commenced or had commenced against it insolvency, liquidation, reorganization, receivership (including the appointment of a receiver), conservatorship, or similar proceedings; or

(C) has generally ceased to meet its obligations when due.

(8) Failed member

The term “failed member” means any member that—

(A) fails to satisfy a covered clearing obligation when due,

(B) has commenced or had commenced against it insolvency, liquidation, reorganization, receivership (including the appointment of a receiver), conservatorship, or similar proceedings; or

(C) has generally ceased to meet its obligations when due.

(9) Financial institution

The term “financial institution” means a broker or dealer, a depository institution, a futures commission merchant, or any other institution as determined by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

(10) Futures commission merchant

The term “futures commission merchant” means a company that is registered or licensed under Federal law to engage in the business of selling futures and options in commodities.

(11) Member

The term “member” means a member of or participant in a clearing organization, and includes the clearing organization.

(12) Net entitlement

The term “net entitlement” means the amount by which the covered contractual payment entitlements of a financial institution or member exceed the covered contractual payment obligations of the institution or member after netting under a netting contract.

(13) Net obligation

The term “net obligation” means the amount by which the covered contractual payment obligations of a financial institution or member exceed the covered contractual payment entitlements of the institution or member after netting under a netting contract.

(14) Netting contract

(A) In general

The term “netting contract”—

(i) means a contract or agreement between 2 or more financial institutions or members, that—

(I) is governed by the laws of the United States, any State, or any political subdivision of any State, and

(II) provides for netting present or future payment obligations or payment entitlements (including liquidation or close-out values relating to the obligations or entitlements) among the parties to the agreement; and

(ii) includes the rules of a clearing organization.

(B) Invalid contracts not included

The term “netting contract” does not include any contract or agreement that is invalid under or precluded by Federal law.

(Pub. L. 102-242, title IV, § 402, Dec. 19, 1991, 105 Stat. 2372; Pub. L. 102-550, title XVI, § 1606(a), Oct. 28, 1992, 106 Stat. 4087; Pub. L. 106-554, § 1(a)(5) [title I, §§ 112(a)(2), 123(b)], Dec. 21, 2000, 114 Stat. 2763, 2763A-391, 2763A-411.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

This title, referred to in par. (1)(B), means title IV of Pub. L. 102-242, Dec. 19, 1991, 105 Stat. 2371. For complete classification of title IV to the Code, see Tables.

The Securities Exchange Act of 1934, referred to in par. (2)(A)(ii), is act June 6, 1934, ch. 404, 48 Stat. 881, as amended, which is classified principally to chapter 2B (§ 78a et seq.) of Title 15, Commerce and Trade. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see section 78a of Title 15 and Tables.

Section 25(a) of the Federal Reserve Act, referred to in par. (6), which is classified to subchapter II (§ 611 et seq.) of chapter 6 of this title, was renumbered section 25A of that act by Pub. L. 102-242, title I, § 142(e)(2), Dec. 19, 1991, 105 Stat. 2281. Section 25 of the Federal Reserve Act is classified to subchapter I (§ 601 et seq.) of chapter 6 of this title.

AMENDMENTS

2000—Pub. L. 106-554, § 1(a)(5) [title I, § 112(a)(2)], substituted “this subchapter” for “this chapter” in introductory provisions.

Par. (2)(B). Pub. L. 106-554, § 1(a)(5) [title I, § 123(b)], added subpar. (B) and struck out former subpar. (B) which read as follows: “that performs clearing functions for a contract market designated pursuant to the Commodity Exchange Act.”

1992—Par. (14)(B). Pub. L. 102-550 substituted “Federal law” for “Federal commodities law”.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1992 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 102-550 effective as if included in the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation Improvement Act of 1991, Pub. L. 102-242, as of Dec. 19, 1991, see section 1609(a) of Pub. L. 102-550, set out as a note under section 191 of this title.

§ 4403. Bilateral netting

(a) General rule

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the covered contractual payment obligations and the covered contractual payment entitlements between any 2 financial institutions shall be netted in accordance with, and subject to the conditions of, the terms of any applicable netting contract.

(b) Limitation on obligation to make payment

The only obligation, if any, of a financial institution to make payment with respect to cov-

ered contractual payment obligations to another financial institution shall be equal to its net obligation to such other financial institution, and no such obligation shall exist if there is no net obligation.

(c) Limitation on right to receive payment

The only right, if any, of a financial institution to receive payments with respect to covered contractual payment entitlements from another financial institution shall be equal to its net entitlement with respect to such other financial institution, and no such right shall exist if there is no net entitlement.

(d) Payment of net entitlement of failed financial institution

The net entitlement of any failed financial institution, if any, shall be paid to the failed financial institution in accordance with, and subject to the conditions of, the applicable netting contract.

(e) Effectiveness notwithstanding status as financial institution

This section shall be given effect notwithstanding that a financial institution is a failed financial institution.

(Pub. L. 102-242, title IV, § 403, Dec. 19, 1991, 105 Stat. 2374.)

SECTION REFERRED TO IN OTHER SECTIONS

This section is referred to in section 4405 of this title.

§ 4404. Clearing organization netting

(a) General netting rule

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the covered contractual payment obligations and covered contractual payment entitlements of a member of a clearing organization to and from all other members of a clearing organization shall be netted in accordance with and subject to the conditions of any applicable netting contract.

(b) Limitation of obligation to make payment

The only obligation, if any, of a member of a clearing organization to make payment with respect to covered contractual payment obligations arising under a single netting contract to any other member of a clearing organization shall be equal to its net obligation arising under that netting contract, and no such obligation shall exist if there is no net obligation.

(c) Limitation on right to receive payment

The only right, if any, of a member of a clearing organization to receive payment with respect to a covered contractual payment entitlement arising under a single netting contract from other members of a clearing organization shall be equal to its net entitlement arising under that netting contract, and no such right shall exist if there is no net entitlement.

(d) Entitlement of failed members

The net entitlement, if any, of any failed member of a clearing organization shall be paid to the failed member in accordance with, and subject to the conditions of, the applicable netting contract.

(e) Obligations of failed members

The net obligation, if any, of any failed member of a clearing organization shall be deter-

mined in accordance with, and subject to the conditions of, the applicable netting contract.

(f) Limitation on claims for entitlement

A failed member of a clearing organization shall have no recognizable claim against any member of a clearing organization for any amount based on such covered contractual payment entitlements other than its net entitlement.

(g) Effectiveness notwithstanding status as member

This section shall be given effect notwithstanding that a member is a failed member.

(Pub. L. 102-242, title IV, § 404, Dec. 19, 1991, 105 Stat. 2374.)

SECTION REFERRED TO IN OTHER SECTIONS

This section is referred to in section 4405 of this title.

§ 4405. Preemption

No stay, injunction, avoidance, moratorium, or similar proceeding or order, whether issued or granted by a court, administrative agency, or otherwise, shall limit or delay application of otherwise enforceable netting contracts in accordance with sections 4403 and 4404 of this title.

(Pub. L. 102-242, title IV, § 405, Dec. 19, 1991, 105 Stat. 2375.)

§ 4406. Relationship to other payments systems

This chapter shall have no effect by implication or otherwise on the validity or legal enforceability of a netting arrangement of any payment system which is not subject to this chapter.

(Pub. L. 102-242, title IV, § 406, Dec. 19, 1991, 105 Stat. 2375.)

§ 4407. National emergencies

The provisions of this chapter may not be construed to limit the authority of the President under the Trading With the Enemy Act (50 U.S.C. App. 1 et seq.) or the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.).

(Pub. L. 102-242, title IV, § 407, Dec. 19, 1991, 105 Stat. 2375.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Trading With the Enemy Act, referred to in text, is act Oct. 6, 1917, ch. 106, 40 Stat. 411, as amended, which is classified to sections 1 to 6, 7 to 39 and 41 to 44 of Title 50, Appendix, War and National Defense. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Tables.

The International Emergency Economic Powers Act, referred to in text, is Pub. L. 95-223, title II, Dec. 28, 1977, 91 Stat. 1626, which is classified generally to chapter 35 (§1701 et seq.) of Title 50, War and National Defense. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 1701 of Title 50 and Tables.

SUBCHAPTER II—MULTILATERAL
CLEARING ORGANIZATIONS

§ 4421. Definitions

For purposes of this subchapter, the following definitions shall apply:

(1) Multilateral clearing organization

The term “multilateral clearing organization” means a system utilized by more than two participants in which the bilateral credit exposures of participants arising from the transactions cleared are effectively eliminated and replaced by a system of guarantees, insurance, or mutualized risk of loss.

(2) Over-the-counter derivative instrument

The term “over-the-counter derivative instrument” includes—

(A) any agreement, contract, or transaction, including the terms and conditions incorporated by reference in any such agreement, contract, or transaction, which is an interest rate swap, option, or forward agreement, including a rate floor, rate cap, rate collar, cross-currency rate swap, basis swap, and forward rate agreement; a same day-tomorrow, tomorrow-next, forward, or other foreign exchange or precious metals agreement; a currency swap, option, or forward agreement; an equity index or equity swap, option, or forward agreement; a debt index or debt swap, option, or forward agreement; a credit spread or credit swap, option, or forward agreement; a commodity index or commodity swap, option, or forward agreement; and a weather swap, weather derivative, or weather option;

(B) any agreement, contract or transaction similar to any other agreement, contract, or transaction referred to in this clause¹ that is presently, or in the future becomes, regularly entered into by parties that participate in swap transactions (including terms and conditions incorporated by reference in the agreement) and that is a forward, swap, or option on one or more occurrences of any event, rates, currencies, commodities, equity securities or other equity instruments, debt securities or other debt instruments, economic or other indices or measures of economic or other risk or value;

(C) any agreement, contract, or transaction excluded from the Commodity Exchange Act [7 U.S.C. 1 et seq.] under section 2(c), 2(d), 2(f), or 2(g) of such Act [7 U.S.C. 2(c), (d), (f), (g)], or exempted under section 2(h) or 4(c) of such Act [7 U.S.C. 2(h), 6(c)]; and

(D) any option to enter into any, or any combination of, agreements, contracts or transactions referred to in this subparagraph.¹

(3) Other definitions

The terms “insured State nonmember bank”, “State member bank”, and “affiliate” have the same meanings as in section 1813 of this title.

(Pub. L. 102-242, title IV, §408, as added Pub. L. 106-554, §1(a)(5) [title I, §112(a)(3)], Dec. 21, 2000, 114 Stat. 2763, 2763A-391.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Commodity Exchange Act, referred to in par. (2)(C), is act Sept. 21, 1922, ch. 369, 42 Stat. 998, as

¹ So in original. Probably should be “this paragraph”.

amended, which is classified generally to chapter 1 (§1 et seq.) of Title 7, Agriculture. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see section 1 of Title 7 and Tables.

§ 4422. Multilateral clearing organizations**(a) In general**

Except with respect to clearing organizations described in subsection (b) of this section, no person may operate a multilateral clearing organization for over-the-counter derivative instruments, or otherwise engage in activities that constitute such a multilateral clearing organization unless the person is a national bank, a State member bank, an insured State nonmember bank, an affiliate of a national bank, a State member bank, or an insured State nonmember bank, or a corporation chartered under section 25A of the Federal Reserve Act [12 U.S.C. 611 et seq.].

(b) Clearing organizations

Subsection (a) of this section shall not apply to any clearing organization that—

(1) is registered as a clearing agency under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 [15 U.S.C. 78a et seq.];

(2) is registered as a derivatives clearing organization under the Commodity Exchange Act [7 U.S.C. 1 et seq.]; or

(3) is supervised by a foreign financial regulator that the Comptroller of the Currency, the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, the Securities and Exchange Commission, or the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, as applicable, has determined satisfies appropriate standards.

(Pub. L. 102-242, title IV, §409, as added Pub. L. 106-554, §1(a)(5) [title I, §112(a)(3)], Dec. 21, 2000, 114 Stat. 2763, 2763A-392.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Section 25A of the Federal Reserve Act, referred to in subsec. (a), popularly known as the Edge Act, is classified to subchapter II (§611 et seq.) of chapter 6 of this title. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 611 of this title and Tables.

The Securities Exchange Act of 1934, referred to in subsec. (b)(1), is act June 6, 1934, ch. 404, 48 Stat. 881, as amended, which is classified principally to chapter 2B (§78a et seq.) of Title 15, Commerce and Trade. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see section 78a of Title 15 and Tables.

The Commodity Exchange Act, referred to in subsec. (b)(2), is act Sept. 21, 1922, ch. 369, 42 Stat. 998, as amended, which is classified generally to chapter 1 (§1 et seq.) of Title 7, Agriculture. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see section 1 of Title 7 and Tables.

SECTION REFERRED TO IN OTHER SECTIONS

This section is referred to in section 339a of this title; title 11 sections 101, 103, 109, 781.

CHAPTER 46—GOVERNMENT SPONSORED ENTERPRISES

Sec. 4501.	Congressional findings.
4502.	Definitions.
4503.	Protection of taxpayers against liability.