# Evaluation of execution quality for equity instruments

Portfolio management selects brokers and counterparties independently in compliance with all regulatory requirements and the Best Execution Policy while taking account of applicable laws, regulations and the Code of Conduct of the BVI (association for investment fund management companies and investment funds).

Most importantly, the broker/counterparty selection process ensures that the respective broker can guarantee the following criteria/services:

1. The ability of the respective broker to execute orders in the best possible way, taking into account the following criteria:
   1. Price and costs of the respective order execution
   2. Access to and provision of liquidity
   3. Speed and reliability of order execution
   4. Reliable transaction processing and settlement including technical requirements necessary for efficient processing
2. Comprehensive brokerage services with consistent quality
3. Financial reliability

For trading, these checked brokers are linked up via FIX. By merging equity trades, e.g. for index rebalancings or adjustments, the conditions achieved for the mandates were more favorable than a standard commission. There are no specific agreements regarding payments received/paid, discounts and rebates.

During the review period, the continuous broker control did not reveal any abnormalities. No changes were made in the broker selection. Our top brokers/platforms cover the entire business in equities.

Only the "Professional Clients" customer class is relevant for assessing the quality of execution. When analysing the quality of execution, only our own data is currently used.

Universal has no close links with individual brokers and there are no conflicts of interest with any brokers.

(Updated on: 26-Mar-2024)