



## **UTP Operating Committee Selects Nasdaq as Processor**

New York, NY – November 5, 2014 – The UTP Operating Committee announced today that Nasdaq has been selected as the UTP Processor. A new subsidiary within Nasdaq will be formed to manage all of Nasdaq UTP responsibilities and will register as an exclusive Securities Information Processor (SIP) with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.

The UTP SIP Processor is responsible for the collection, consolidation and dissemination of quotation information and transaction reports in eligible securities from the UTP participant exchanges. In September, Nasdaq was also selected as the UTP SIP Administrator.

The UTP Operating Committee engaged Jordan & Jordan to manage and oversee the RFP process. The RFP process for the UTP Processor began in March 2014 with 23 firms initially expressing interest to pursue the UTP Processor role. Upon review of the RFP, 11 firms submitted the Intent to Bid documentation.

The UTP Operating Committee short-listed four firms as the finalists for the RFP bid: CenturyLink, MIAX Technologies, Nasdaq and Thesys Technologies.

After careful review of each bid proposal and extensive analysis of the finalists, the UTP Operating Committee selected Nasdaq as the best choice to handle this role going forward. Nasdaq has committed to:

- Migrate the current SIP system to INET technology, the infrastructure used today for Nasdaq exchanges.
- Implement a hot/hot primary and backup system which will significantly improve the ability for the UTP SIP to recover from system problems with a SLA committing to high availability (99.98%).
- Engage in an ongoing process to reduce latency to 50 microseconds in the initial introduction of INET in early 2016 and expect to achieve 25 microseconds after one year of introducing INET, with a latency SLA in-place. This will improve the overall responsiveness of the system for both participants and recipients.
- Continue to commit key IT personnel with expertise and experience in managing the critical data infrastructure.

Tom Knorring, Chair of the UTP Operating Committee, stated, “We had strong competition during the RFP process, which resulted in our ability to contract for both improved technology and a more attractive commercial solution. We feel that the UTP SIP is now well-positioned for future success.”

Since November 2013, six of 12 enhancements proposed by Nasdaq to the Committee have been completed, including:

- Resiliency Improvements (software improvements made to maintain high availability)
- Improved Latency (by approximately 58%)
- Front End Processor OS Upgrade (upgraded Windows Server operating system)
- Load Balancer

- Disaster Recovery Enhancements (enhanced DR facilities to equal primary data center)
- Halt Dissemination (improved interface for listing market to submit halts via their quotes or trade interface)

The remaining enhancements will be included in the platform migration to INET technology.

“A world-class caliber SIP benefits all market participants, and importantly, equity investors,” said Adena Friedman, President, Nasdaq. “We look forward to working in partnership with the Committee and are pleased that our technology continues to be viewed as an important part of managing this critical component of market infrastructure.”

#### **Contact**

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#### **About UTP Plan**

UTP is the securities information processor for consolidated market information generated by the trading of Nasdaq-listed securities in the United States. Consolidated last sale reports and quotations are the core of the information that the UTP SIP disseminates. The UTP SIP Operator is the “exclusive processor” as defined in the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Through Market Data Vendors, the UTP SIP disseminates this data on behalf of all US-registered securities exchanges and FINRA, including: BATS Exchange, Inc., BATS Y-Exchange, Inc., the Chicago Board Options Exchange - CBOE, Chicago Stock Exchange - CSX, EDGA Exchange, Inc., EDGX Exchange, Inc., Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc., International Securities Exchange, LLC - ISE, Nasdaq OMX BX, Inc., Nasdaq OMX PSX, Inc., National Stock Exchange, Inc., New York Stock Exchange LLC – NYSE, NYSE MKT LLC, NYSE Arca, Inc., and Nasdaq Stock Market LLC. A policy committee comprised of one representative from each market, adopts and implements the policies and procedures set forth in the UTP Plan, subject to Securities Exchange Commission approval.

#### **About Jordan & Jordan**

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