



ICE BRENT CRUDE MARKS 30TH YEAR AS LEADING GLOBAL OIL BENCHMARK; TAIFEX TO LAUNCH TAIWANESE DOLLAR BRENT FUTURES

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LONDON--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- Intercontinental Exchange, Inc. (NYSE:ICE), a leading operator of global exchanges and clearing houses and provider of data and listings services, marked the 30th anniversary of its Brent futures complex, which serves as the primary reference price for global crude oil.

The ICE Brent futures contract was established following the discovery of the Forties and Brent North Sea oilfields in the 1970s. The product specification of the contract has evolved along with the commercial market, enabling it to reflect global supply and demand fundamentals and to reflect changes and investment in drilling technology, as well as new fields and discoveries. Since then, ICE has introduced over 500 futures and options contracts based on crude and refined oil, many of which are related to Brent.

In addition, the Taiwan Futures Exchange (TAIFEX) and ICE Futures Europe have entered into an agreement for TAIFEX to licence the ICE Brent Index and subsequently offer trading in Brent futures for Taiwanese participants from July 2, 2018.

The launch of TAIFEX Brent futures provides the opportunity for both commercial and retail participants in Taiwan to trade the leading crude oil benchmark in their local currency and regulatory jurisdiction and follows increasing demand across the region for access to the deep and diverse liquidity and participation that underpins the Brent market.

Stuart Williams, President, ICE Futures Europe said: "As we celebrate the 30th anniversary of Brent this month, it continues to be an exciting time for the world's oil benchmark and we are delighted to enter into an agreement with TAIFEX for the exchange to offer Brent futures to their customers."

Dr. Len-Yu Liu, Chairman of TAIFEX said: "It's a great pleasure to work with ICE to launch this product. We believe a local currency-denominated and small-sized contract will better cater for retail participants and allow local investors to trade the world's oil benchmark without bearing currency risk. This cooperation product shall benefit both exchanges."

Brent futures were first traded on the floor of the International Petroleum Exchange in June 1988. The contract has subsequently delivered 21 years of consecutive annual trading volume records. With ICE's introduction of electronic trading in 2005, Brent's share of the global oil market doubled and the Brent futures market became more accessible to participants around the world. Today, participants from the US and Europe to the Middle East and Asia trade more than 1 million ICE Brent futures and options contracts each trading day, representing over 1 billion barrels.

About Intercontinental Exchange

Intercontinental Exchange (NYSE: ICE) is a Fortune 500 and Fortune Future 50 company formed in the year 2000 to modernize markets. ICE serves customers by operating the **exchanges**, **clearing houses** and information services they rely upon to invest, trade and manage risk across global financial and commodity markets. A leader in market data, **ICE Data Services** serves the information and connectivity needs across virtually all asset classes. As the parent company of the **New York Stock Exchange**, the company raises more capital than any other exchange in the world, driving economic growth and transforming markets.

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