



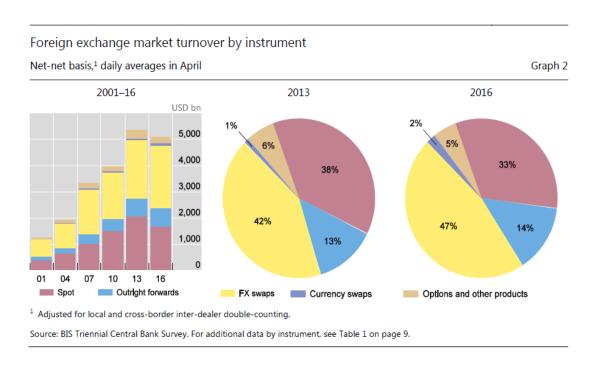




The global FX Market



## The largest market – ever increasing global turnover?



- > Turnover rose quickly since 2000
- A large part are FX swaps which do not provide directional liquidity

#### **Turnover development**

- Daily market turnover was \$5.1 tln in 2016 (latest date of BIS Triennial Survey), up from \$0.8 tln in 1992, but down from 2013.
  - Comparison: We estimate the daily turnover of all NYSE stocks at around \$ 0.1 tln.
- Steadily rising market depth (apart from EUR-introduction effect).
- Turnover of FX swaps more than quintupled.
  - Most part of it is likely due to increased hedging and funding needs.
  - Globalization creates FX exposure for corporates. Most of it has to be hedged away.
  - Decreasing home bias of portfolio investors..

Peter Hahn | FK FICC Sales | Dezember 2017 Source: BIS

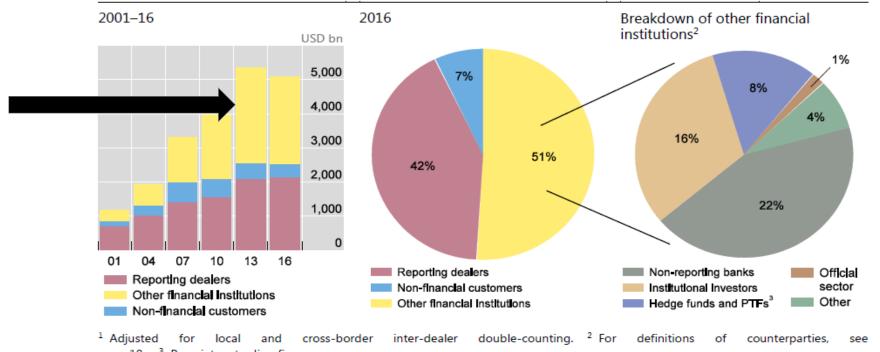


Graph 3

### The largest market – and expanding rapidly

Foreign exchange market turnover by counterparty

Net-net basis,<sup>1</sup> daily averages in April



page 18. <sup>3</sup> Proprietary trading firms.

Source: BIS Triennial Central Bank Survey. For additional data by counterparty, see Tables 4 and 5 on pages 12 and 13.

Reporting Dealers: FI's; Non-financials: Corporates, Government Agencies etc.; Other financials: Institutionals, Hedge Funds

Peter Hahn | FK FICC Sales | Dezember 2017

Source: BIS



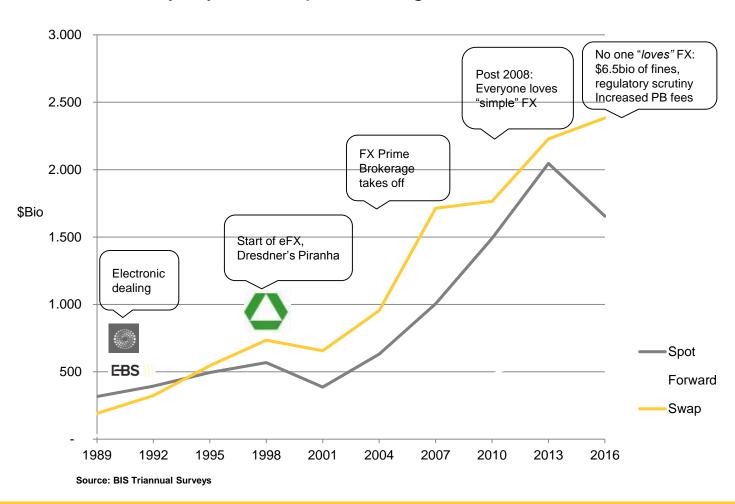
# **Contributors to growth in the FX market**

OTC foreign exchange tur	nover	by in	strume	nt, c	ounter	party	and m	aturi	ty			
Net-net basis, 1 daily averages in A	pril, in bi	llions	of US dol	lars an	ıd percen	tages					T	able 4
	2001		2004		2007		2010		2013		2016	
Instrument/counterparty/maturity	Amount	%	Amount	%	Amount	%	Amount	%	Amount	%	Amount	%
Spot transactions	386	31.2	631	32.6	1,005	30.2	1,489	37.5	2,047	38.2	1,652	32.6
with reporting dealers	216	56.0	310	49.2	426	42.4	518	34.8	676	33.0	605	36.6
with other financial institutions	111	28.9	212	33.7	394	39.2	755	50.7	1,183	57.8	930	56.3
with non-financial customers	58	15.0	108	17.0	184	18.3	217	14.6	188	9.2	117	7.1



### **Evolution of FX Volumes**

## Is the heyday of FX Spot Trading over?

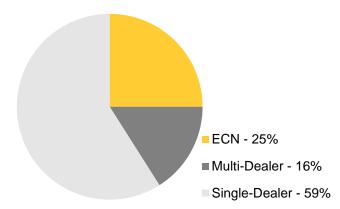




## **FX Spot Trading Volumes**

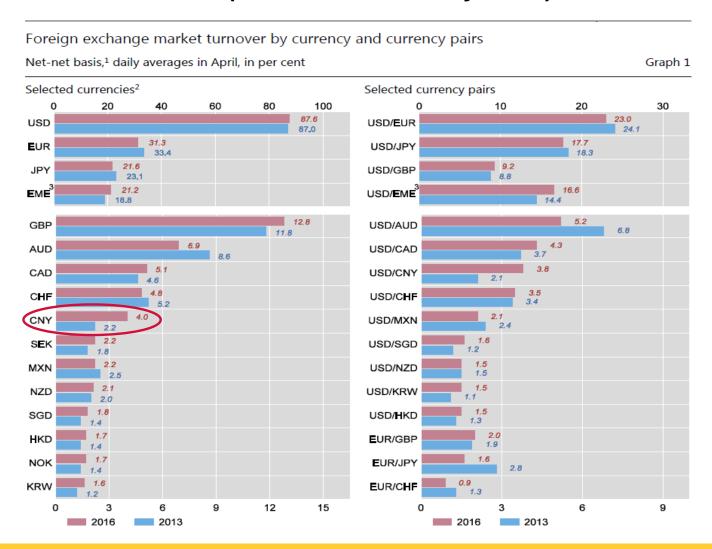
- · Spread compression is back as volatility falls
- Move from anonymous trading to private relationship driven electronic trading
- Fewer market making banks. Core providers who warehouse and periphery who do not
- Fall in FXPB volume. Reduced volume from hedge fund and leveraged players
- Lower High-Frequency-Trading activity
- MIFID/MIFIR
- Swap volumes driven by funding needs
- Usage of FX Algorithm continues to grow

#### Where is Spot FX traded?





## **Most traded currencies (BIS Triennial Study 2016)**





## FX is used differently by different users

Retail & Private Banks



e.g. high-net-worth individuals following trade advice from private bank analysts to manage their portfolios

**Multinational Corporates** 



e.g. hedging international exposure where manufacturing and distribution are in different countries

**Asset Managers & Insurers** 



e.g. UK Asset Manger buys US shares to balance and diversify portfolio

**Central Banks** 



e.g. to control the strength or weakness of the domestic currency to support international and fiscal policy, or balance and diversify portfolio

**Investors & Hedge Funds** 



e.g. if they buy oil futures in USD, rather than in their domestic currency or generate alpha





### **eCommerce at Commerzbank**



# **Pre eTrading**



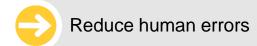


## First eTrading Steps

```
FROM
                                         5GMT_081200 */4359
Our terminal : COBA
                       Our user
    EUR 1
  WELCOME TO INTERBANK FLOW DESK
  80+83
  #INTERRUPT#
  81+84
    84
  TO CONFIRM 1
                 MIO AGREED AT .8884 I SELL EUR
# VAL 12DEC2000
 MY USD TO COMMERZBANK, NEW YORK
  THANKS AND BYE
   TO CONFIRM AT .8884 I BUY 1
   VAL 12DEC2000
   MY EUR TO BCI MILANO
   THANKS AND BYE
   #INTERRUPT#
    #END REMOTE#
   ##ENDED AT 12:15 GMT##
( 315 CHARS)
```



## What is electronic Trading all about?



- More transactions possible: Around 100,000 trades per day
- Main factor is Speed
  - Blink of an eye, as fast as you can: 100 milliseconds
  - Send order from Chicago to NY and back: 12 milliseconds



Project Express will be the fastest cable across the Atlantic, reducing the time it takes data to travel round-trip between New York and London to **59.6 milliseconds** from the current top speed of **64.8 milliseconds** in summer 2015.



## Speed is everything – faster than light?

### Light Speed Trading A Jump affiliate owns a network of microwave towers that can convey data between New Jersey and Illinois about 1.6 milliseconds faster than fiber. CME Chicago Fiber-optic cable: data center 6.6 milliseconds New Jersey 000000000 CME Aurora data center dicrowave towers 5 milliseconds 0 mi. 250 mi. GRAPHIC BY BLOOMBERG BUSINESSWEEK, DATA: FCC \*INFORMATION TRANSMISSION BETWEEN FINANCIAL

MARKETS IN CHICAGO AND NEW YORK' BY LAUGHLIN ET AL

The competition between two "flash boy" financial trading firms over plans to build communications masts higher than the Shard, in rural Kent, has intensified.

New Line Networks (NLN) and Vigilant Global – high-frequency trading firms that use super-fast infrastructure to make trades in the blink of an eye – want to build masts within a few miles of each other in Richborough.

The masts would allow them to beam microwave signals across the Channel, transmitting signals to and from European markets a fraction of a second quicker than rivals.

http://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2014-07-24/high-frequency-traders-find-microwaves-suit-their-need-for-speed

https://www.theguardian.com/business/2016/mar/01/high-frequency-traders-turn-rural-kent-into-telecoms-battleground



### E-Commerce at Commerzbank – our model

- eFX is a flow based business
- Leading FX market maker
  - Spot, Forwards and Swaps, and Forward -Forwards
- Liquidity provider to the market
  - > ECNs, API's and our GUI, on a follow the sun basis (24/5)
- > Around 100,000 trades per day
  - Automatic pricing and risk management via our proprietary risk management system (QTS)
  - > Internalization of in-house-flow adds to risk reduction and cost effectiveness
  - > STP (=Straight Through Processing)











**Definitions** 

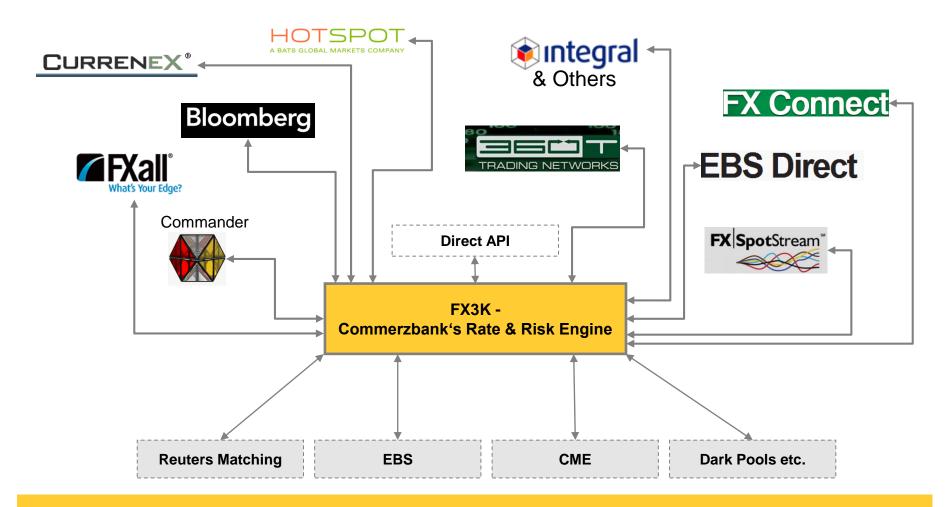
API: Application Programming Interface

ECN: Electronic Communication Network





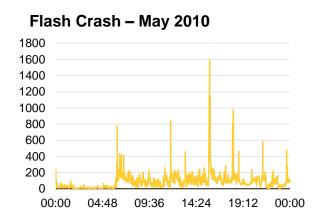
## Our eFX system universe...

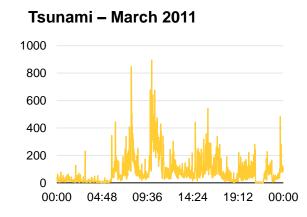


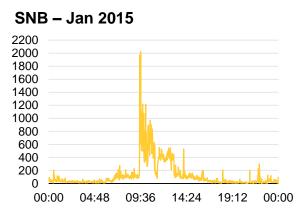
## Proven reliability in difficult market situations



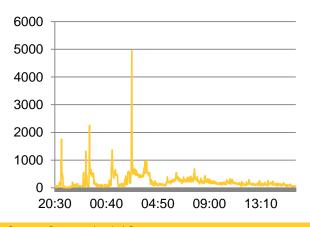
- > The below charts show the tickets per minute during various dramatic events.
- > Throughout these events, Commerzbank systems carried on pricing and trading with clients giving them the needed liquidity.
- > Commerzbank is one of the market makers that is proud to say always provided a service to our clients during these events



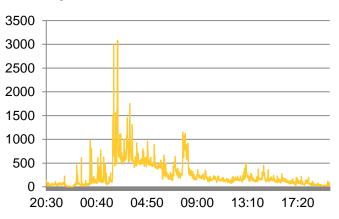




#### Brexit - June 2016



#### **Trump - Nov 2016**





# eFX and its pitfalls

Thu Apr 16 08:33:49 CEST 2015 GBP/CHF	GBP	5,000,000,000.00 BKN (57	BLP.RFQ.1013533	Cancelle	ed 1.43143	1.43103 17/04/2015	20/04/2015	BLOOM	SWP
Thu Apr 16 08:33:25 CEST 2015 GBP/USD	GBP	50,000,000.00 SP / BKN	231307394-Comm	Cancelle	ed 1.4821	1.48196 20/04/2015	20/07/2015	360TR	SWP
Thu Apr 16 08:33:11 CEST 2015 EUR/CHF	EUR	30,000,000.00 BKN / SP	231307369-Comm	Cancelle	ed 1.02984	1.02955 17/04/2015	20/04/2015	360TR	SWP
Thu Apr 16 08:33:05 CEST 2015 EUR/CHF	EUR	50,000,000.00 TOD / TOM	68646041	Cancelle	ed 1.0299	1.02954 16/04/2015	17/04/2015	EP_F_FXALL	SWP
Thu Apr 16 08:31:53 CEST 2011 EUR/JPY	JPY	-5,000,000,000.00 BKN /S	BLP.RFQ.1013530	Cancelle	ed 127.315	127.296 17/04/2015	20/04/2015	BLOOM	SWP
Thu Jun 18 15:14:33 CEST 2015 EUR/JPY	EUR	5,400,000,000.00 SP / BKN	BLP.RFQ.1075145	RFQ	139.913	139.898 22/06/2015	09/05/2016	BLOOM	SWP

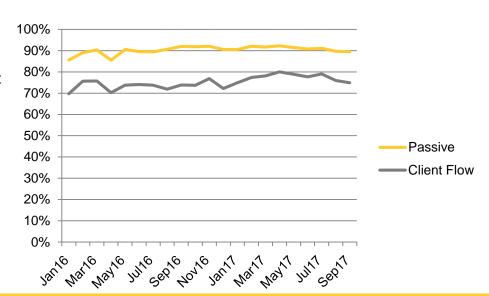


## **Changing Market Structure - Internalisation**

- Internalisation is where a market maker does not hedge flow explicitly even if the position is contrary to a view
- Instead acquired positions are held and aggregated within risk limits
- The aim is to use other client flow to clear positions for example by skewing or because of the size of your franchise and global reach
- According to a BIS report\* spot internalisation is 60% and more for a small group of bank and non-bank liquidity providers
- Overall cost of trading should in theory be less when trading with someone who can internalise
  - An independent pool of liquidity
  - Low or no market impact meaning larger tickets can be drip fed at a small spread
  - Typically tighter prices than central limit order books are provided so as to attract flow

Commerzbank internalisation rate for FX Spot on two measures:

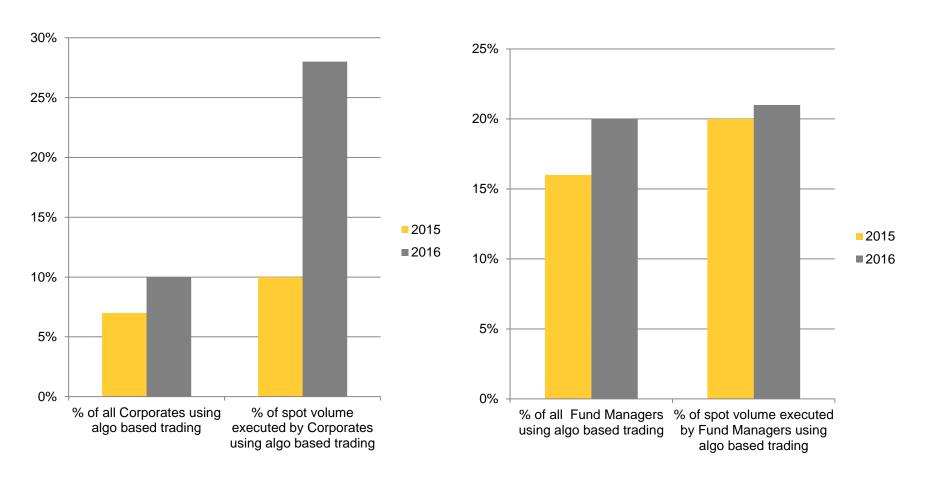
- Passive flow cleared everywhere without crossing a bid/offer spread
- · Client Flow cleared by clients



<sup>\*</sup>Downsized FX markets: causes and implications (www.bisl.org)



## **Increased usage of FX Algorithms**



Source: Greenwich Associates - long-term investors embrace FX algos to optimise performance - June 2017



## What is Driving the use of FX Algorithms

- Global regulatory initiatives such as MiFID II and FX Global Code of Conduct are driving execution to a more transparent and controlled environment
- > Algorithms allow clients to automate their flow, intelligently access a deeper pool of liquidity, control market impact, increase spread capture and minimise information leakage

#### **Key differences**

- Execution risk transfer from dealer to client
- Clients pay an execution fee instead of executing on a principal risk price
- Strategies range from fast liquidity seeking, which are inclined to cross the spread in advantageous scenarios to passive/stealth algorithms that execute within the spread

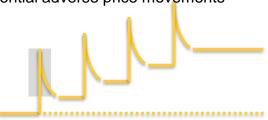
#### Objectives of algorithmic execution:

- Avoid signalling risk
- Minimise market impact
- Increase transparency and benchmarking via Transaction Cost Analysis (TCA)
- Access multiple liquidity pools in a fragmented market place
- Reduce crossing (paying) the spread

Impact larger risk transfer orders have on a fragmented market increases overall transaction costs



Executing the order over multiple venues in smaller clips will help reduce the footprint and potential adverse price movements





This document is a client information according to the German Securities Trading Act.

Information and assessments provided herein ("Information") are solely directed to clients of Commerzbank AG within EWR (European Economic Area). This information is specifically not directed to clients or other persons located in the United States of America, Canada or Asia nor may it be distributed to those persons or brought into/issued in these respective countries.

The information contained herin has been compiled for informational purposes only. This document does not constitute individual investment advice, an offer or an invitation to buy or sell any securities or any other financial instruments or to enter into any other transaction with regard thereto. It is not intended to nor is it able to substitute giving investment advice suitable and appropriate to the client's individual circumstances.

The actual taxation is dependent upon the personal circumstances of the customer and may be subject to changes in the future. Commerzbank AG does not offer legal, balance sheet and/or tax advice.

This publication may not be copied or disseminated without Commerzbank's prior written consent.

© Commerzbank AG 2016. All rights reserved.

Commerzbank AG Corporate Clients FICC Product Management 60261 Frankfurt am Main / Tel.: +49 (069)136-42020 / www.commerzbank.de



### **Peter Hahn**

**Head of eFX Sales Frankfurt** 

Tel.: +49 69 136 84444 Fax: +49 69 136 85589

Email: Peter.Hahn@commerzbank.com

Zentrale Kaiserplatz Frankfurt am Main www.commerzbank.de

60261 Frankfurt am Main

Tel. +49 (0)69 / 136-20

Mail info@commerzbank.com