

# DISCLOSURES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE DIRECTIVE FOR THE CAPITAL REQUIREMENTS OF INVESTMENT FIRMS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2013

**May 2014** 

# **CONTENTS**

1	GENERAL INFORMATION AND SCOPE OF APPLICATION	3
	RISK MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNANCE OF THE COMPANY	
	OWN FUNDS	
	CAPITAL REQUIREMENTS	
	Credit Risk	
	Operational Risk	
	Market Risk	
4.4		16
4.5	Operating Environment of the Company	16
	REMUNERATION	



#### 1 GENERAL INFORMATION AND SCOPE OF APPLICATION

## **Requirements of the Directive**

The information below is disclosed in accordance with Directive DI144-2007-05 of 2012 of the Cyprus Securities and Exchange Commission ("CySEC") for the Capital Requirements of Investment Firms.

The information that Colmex Pro Ltd ("the Company") discloses herein relates to the year ended 31 December 2013.

## **Company Incorporation and Principal Activities**

The Company was incorporated in Cyprus on 29 December 2009 as a private liability company under the Cyprus Companies Law, Cap. 113. The Company was authorized to provide investment firm services by CySEC on 19 October 2010, under CIF license number 123/10.

The principal activities of Colmex Pro Ltd are the provision of investment services to natural and legal persons in accordance with the provisions of the applicable legislation and the requirements issued by the CySEC. Since September 2012 the Company's license was extended in order to also be able to perform own account trading.

The Company is authorized to provide the following investment and ancillary services, in the financial instruments specified below:

T .		•
Invest	tment	services

Reception and transmission of orders in relation to one or more financial instruments

#### **Ancillary Services**

Safekeeping and administration of financial instruments, including custodianship and related services

## **Financial Instruments**

- Transferable securities
- Money market instruments
- Units in Collective Investment Undertakings (CIUs)
- Options, futures, swaps, forward rate agreements and any other derivative contracts relating to securities, currencies, interest rates or yields, or other derivatives instruments, financial indices or financial measures which may be settled physically or in cash
- Options, futures, swaps, forward rate agreements and any other derivative



Execution of orders on behalf of clients	Granting credits or loans to one or more financial instruments, where the firm granting the credit or loan is involved in the transaction	contracts relating to commodities that must be settled in cash or may be settled in cash at the option of one of the parties (otherwise than by reason of a default or other termination event)  • Options, futures, swaps and any other derivative contract relating to commodities that can be physically settled provided that they are traded on a regulated market or/and an MTF  • Options, futures, swaps and any other derivative contracts relating to commodities that can be physically settled not otherwise mentioned in paragraph 6 of Part III and not being for commercial purposes, which have the characteristics of
Dealing on own account	Investment research and financial analysis or other forms	other derivative financial instruments, having regard to whether, inter alia, they are cleared and settled through recognized clearing houses or are subject to regular margin calls  • Derivative instruments, the transfer of credit risk  • Financial contracts for differences  • Options, futures, swaps, forward rate agreements and any other derivative contracts relating to climatic variables, freight rates, emission allowances or inflation rates or other official economic statistics that must be settled in cash or may be settled in cash at the option of the parties (otherwise than by reason of a default or other termination event), as well as any other derivative contract relating to assets, rights, obligations, indices and measures, not otherwise mentioned in this Part, which have the characteristics of other financial instruments, having regard to whether, inter alia, they are traded on a regulated market or an MTF, are cleared and settled through recognized clearing

In addition to the above, the Company is authorized to provide ancillary Foreign exchange services where these are connected to the provision of investment services.

houses are subject to regular margin calls



# **Disclosure Policy**

The Company discloses information in relation to its risk management policies and procedures on an annual basis. The disclosures are published on the website of the Company five months after the financial year end.

# **Scope of the Disclosures**

As at 31 December 2013, the Company did not have any subsidiaries. As a result, the disclosures in this document relate solely to information of the Company.



## 2 RISK MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNANCE OF THE COMPANY

The Board of Directors is responsible for overlooking the operations of the Company. With respect to the management of risk, it has overall responsibility for the establishment and oversight of the Company's risk management framework.

The main duties of the Board of Directors of Colmex Pro Ltd are:

- To carry the overall responsibility for proper implementation of the relevant laws and regulations
- To formulate the Company's business strategy in terms of the development of existing and new services and its presence in the local and international financial markets
- To govern the Company by broad policies and objectives, formulated and agreed upon by the chief executive and employees
- To ensure that sufficient resources are available to the Company to carry out its operations
- To be responsible for the overall duties and responsibilities of the Compliance/Anti-Money Laundering Officer (MLCO)
- To define, record and approve the general policy principles of the Company in relation to the prevention of money laundering and terrorist financing
- To notify the Company's policy for the prevention of money laundering and terrorist financing to the MLCO
- To approve the Company's risk management policies and procedures
- To establish a clear and quick reporting chain for transmission of information to the MLCO
- To assess the Money Laundering function
- To assess and approve the annual report of the MLCO
- To assess the Internal Audit Department's members and the efficiency of the mechanisms of internal control
- To assess the Compliance Function
- To evaluate and adopt strategies to improve the operation of the internal audit mechanism
- To review written reports regarding Compliance, Risk Management and Internal Audit
- To approve the Company's financial statements
- To review the suitability report prepared by the Company's external auditors
- To take decisions on important matters of the Company during Board meetings

#### **Investment Committee**

The Investment Committee of Colmex Pro Ltd has been formed with the purpose of ensuring the practice of a proper investment policy.

The responsibilities of the Investment Committee are the following:

- to supervise the proper choice of investments (framework)
- to perform information analysis for a better briefing prior to decision-making
- to analyze the investment potential and contribute to the elaboration of the investment policy
- to debrief the Internal Auditor
- to establish, approve, monitor and adjust the Company Investment Policy
- to establish risk profile categories for each client (e.g. cautious, balance, growth, aggressive)
- to analyze the economic conditions and the investment alternatives based on a thorough examination of third party reports



- to select appropriate benchmarks for different type of investment activities of the Company, where applicable
- to examine the returns and the associated risks of the activity connected with the Dealing on Own Account
- to decide upon the markets and types of financial instruments in which the Company shall be active (i.e. offering to clients and for dealing on own account)
- to establish, approve and monitor the Company's policy and strategy for dealing on own account
- to review on an annual basis the dealing on own account policy established and to use the recommendations of the Head of the Dealing on Own Account Department. Such a review shall also be carried out whenever a material change occurs
- to monitor the performance of portfolios that the Company shall be dealing on own account, as applicable

Also responsible for the Company's internal control system and the management of its risks are the following:

- Risk Management Department
- Compliance / Anti-Money Laundering Officer
- Internal Audit Function (outsourced)

## **Risk Management Department**

The Risk Management department is responsible for the compliance and monitoring of all transactions in the context of legality, avoidance of conflicts of interest, insider dealing and preservation of confidential information. The Risk Management department is also responsible for the determination, evaluation and efficient management of the risks inherent in the provision of the investment services.

The scope of the Risk Management department is to ensure that, in providing the investment and ancillary services, the Company remains compliant with the provisions of the applicable legislation and the Directives issued by CySEC with regards to capital adequacy and other risk-related issues, as well as with the internal regulations of the Company.

## **Compliance / Anti-Money Laundering Officer**

The Compliance / Anti-Money Laundering Officer reports directly to the Board of Directors and is responsible for:

- Ensuring compliance with laws, regulations and directives issued by CySEC
- Ensuring implementation of the procedures described in the Company's Procedures Manual
- Monitoring and assessing the adequacy of the existing policies and procedures for detecting the
  risk of failure by the Company to comply with its regulatory obligations, as well as the
  associated risks, and making sure that the Company takes into account the nature, scale and
  complexity of its business and the nature and range of investment services and activities
  undertaken in the course of that business
- Ensuring that Company employees attend training sessions on compliance with applicable laws, rules and regulations as well as anti-money laundering and terrorist financing procedures



- Providing advice and guidance to Company employees
- Ensuring that the Company complies with its continuous obligations to CySEC (e.g submission of Capital Adequacy Return, annual reports, notifications to CySEC regarding changes in the Company's structure, services, personnel, procedures, etc)
- Ensuring the implementation of the "know your client" procedures of the Company
- Communicating with regulatory bodies
- Assisting regulatory bodies in performing inspections of the Company's activities
- Gathering information with regards to the new customers of the Company
- Analyzing the customers' transactions
- Continuously improving the existing control procedures
- Reviewing marketing communications and making sure that they have been prepared in accordance with legal requirements
- Advising and assisting employees to comply with the Company's regulatory obligations
- Recommending specific remedial measures, in case of detection of any weakness or failure by the Company to comply with its obligations under applicable laws and regulations
- Providing a written annual report to the Board of Directors on the matters of his/her responsibility, indicating in particular whether the appropriate remedial measures have been taken in the event of any deficiencies

## **Internal Audit**

The Internal Audit function is outsourced to an external audit firm and is an element of the internal control framework established by management to examine, evaluate and report on financial and other controls on operations. Internal audit assists management in the effective discharge of its responsibilities and functions by examining and evaluating controls.

It is an independent unit reporting directly to the Board of Directors through a written internal audit report prepared on an annual basis.



#### 3 OWN FUNDS

The Own Funds of the Company as at 31 December 2013 consisted solely of Tier 1 capital and amounted to USD 1.537 thousand. An analysis is provided in Table 1 below:

Table 1: Capital Base	31 December 2013 (\$ '000)
Original Own Funds (Tier 1)	
Share Capital	1
Share Premium	1.459
Retained Earnings	53
Audited income for the year	56
Total Eligible Own Funds before deductions	1.569
Tier 1 Deductions	
Intangible Assets	(2)
Holding in financial institution exceeding 10% of Own Funds	(30)
Total Eligible Own Funds after deductions	1.537

# **Authorized Share Capital**

The authorized share capital of Colmex Pro Ltd amounts to €10.000.

# Issued Share Capital and Share Premium

On the 6<sup>th</sup> of February 2013 the Company issued 1 additional ordinary share at a premium of EUR 29.999 (USD equivalent 40.574), thus increasing its ordinary shares from USD 1.426 to USD 1.427 and its share premium from USD 1.418.372 to USD 1.458.946.

## Holdings in financial institutions exceeding 10% of Own Funds

As at 31 December 2013 the Company had an Available-For-Sale investment in the Bank of Cyprus which resulted from the conversion of a part of its uninsured deposits with the bank into shares, on the basis of the decrees and final measures for the recapitalization of the bank. The Company deducted from Tier 1 capital the part of this amount that was in excess of the 10% of its Own Funds, as per the provisions of the Capital Requirements Directive.



# 4 CAPITAL REQUIREMENTS

# Minimum regulatory capital requirements

The total capital requirements of the Company as at  $31^{st}$  December 2013 were USD 1.422 thousand and are analyzed in Table 2 below:

Table 2: Minimum Capital Requirements	31 December 2013 (\$ '000)
Risk Category	
Credit Risk	167
Market Risk	974
Operational Risk	144
Excess over Large Exposure Limits in the Trading Book	137
Total	1.422

The Capital Adequacy ratio of the Company as at 31 December 2013 was 8,65%.

#### 4.1 Credit Risk

#### General

Credit risk arises when a failure by counterparties to discharge their obligations could reduce the amount of future cash inflows from financial assets on hand at the reporting date. The Company has no significant concentration of credit risk. The Company has policies in place to ensure that sales of services are made to customers with an appropriate credit history, as well as to limit the amount of credit exposure to any financial institution.

## **Capital Requirements**

The Company follows the Standardized Approach for the calculation of the minimum capital requirements for credit risk.

Table 3 below presents the allocation of credit risk by exposure class:



Table 3: Exposure Classes and Minimum Capital Requirements						
Exposures at 31 December 2013 Average Total Minimum Capita Exposure Value Exposure Value Requirements						
Exposure Class	(\$ '000)	(\$ '000)	(\$ '000)			
Institutions	1.475	1.621	62			
Corporates	996	1.292	103			
Other Items	34	28	2			
Total	2.505	2.941	167			

The following Table presents the exposures of the Company per risk weight:

Table 4: Exposure amount per risk weight	
Exposures at 31 December 2013	Exposure Amount
Risk Weight	(900) (\$
20%	1.222
100%	1.478
150%	241
Total	2.941

# **Risk Weighted Assets and Credit Quality Steps**

## **Institutions**

For the credit ratings of institutions the Company made use of the ratings of Moody's and mapped them to the corresponding Credit Quality Step ("CQS") in accordance with the mapping table provided in the Capital Requirements Directive. A breakdown of the CQS by asset class is provided in the following table:

Table 5: Breakdown by CQS						
Exposures at 31 December 2013	CQS 1	CQS 4	CQS 6	Total		
Exposure Class	(\$ '000)	(\$ '000)	(\$ '000)	(\$ '000)		
Institutions	1.165	1	455	1.621		

# **Corporates**

Exposures to corporates were unrated. As a result, a 100% risk weight was used.



# Other Items

A risk weight of 100% has been applied to all other items.

Table 6 below analyses the Company's credit risk exposures by residual maturity:

Table 6: Exposure Classes and Residual Maturity							
Exposures at 31 December 2013 Maturity Maturity ≤ 3 months > 3 months							
Exposure Class	(\$ '000)	(\$ '000)	(\$ '000)				
Institutions	1.300	321	1.621				
Corporates	1.208	84	1.292				
Other Items	0	28	28				
Total	2.508	433	2.941				

Table 7 presents the geographic distribution of the Company's exposures, by exposure class:

Table 7: Exposure classes by Country							
Exposures at 31 December 2013	Cyprus	UK	Other	Total			
Exposure Class	(\$ '000)	(\$ '000)	(\$ '000)	(\$ '000)			
Institutions	455	1.165	1	1.621			
Corporates	84	0	1.208	1.292			
Other Items	28	0	0	28			
Total	567	1.165	1.209	2.941			



Table 8 below presents the breakdown of the Company's exposures into industry sectors, analyzed by exposure class:

Exposures at 31 December 2013	Financial	Private Individuals	Other	Total
Exposure Class	(\$ '000)	(\$ '000)	(\$ '000)	(\$ '000)
Institutions	1.621	0	0	1.621
Corporates	79	1.208	5	1.292
Other Items	0	0	28	28
Total	1.700	1.208	33	2.941

The Company is subject to Counterparty Credit Risk through its positions in derivative contracts with its counterparties, and has employed the Mark-to-Market method to calculate the capital requirement arising from these exposures. The resulting capital requirement is USD 61 thousand. Details of the Company's Mark-to-Market calculations, as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2013, are provided in the Table below:

Table 9: Counterparty Credit Risk Exposures						
Exposures at 31 December 2013	Market Value	PFCE %	Final Exposure	Capital Requirement		
<u>Type</u>	(\$ '000)		(\$ '000)	(\$ '000)		
Equity CFDs	(22)	6%	591	48		
Stock Index CFDs	82	6%	166	13		
Total	60	-	757	61		

## **Impairment of assets**

Assets that have an indefinite useful life are not subject to amortization and are tested annually for impairment. Assets that are subject to depreciation or amortization are reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount may not be recoverable. An impairment loss is recognized for the amount by which the asset's carrying amount exceeds its recoverable amount. The recoverable amount is the higher of an asset's fair value less costs to sell and value in use. For the purposes of assessing impairment, assets are grouped at the lowest levels for which there are separately identifiable cash flows (cash-generating units).



At the end of the reporting period for financial year 2013 the management of the Company has assessed its investment in Bank of Cyprus available for sale shares which resulted from the conversion of its uninsured deposits into shares on the basis of the decrees and related measures for the bank's recapitalization, and recognized an impairment loss of USD 112.332. As a consequence, the Company's investment in Bank of Cyprus available for sale shares decreased from USD 299.473 to USD 187.141.

## 4.2 Operational Risk

#### General

Operational risk is the risk of direct or indirect loss arising from a wide variety of causes associated with the Company's processes, personnel, technology and infrastructure, and from external factors other than credit, market and liquidity risks. The Company's directors are responsible for managing operational risk and have identified the following risks which are considered significant to the Company:

# **Technology**

The Company's operations are highly dependent on technology and advanced information systems. Its ability to provide its clients with reliable, real-time access to its systems is fundamental to the success of the business. Such dependency upon technology exposes the Company to significant risk in the event that such technology or systems experience any form of damage, interruption or failure. The Company has business continuity procedures and policies in place which are designed to allow it to continue trading in its core markets and its systems are designed to mitigate the risk of failure of any component.

Where the Company is dependent upon providers of data, market information, telephone and internet connectivity, the Company mitigates against the risk of failure of any of these suppliers by ensuring that, where possible, multiple providers and data routes are utilized. To remain competitive, the Company must continue to enhance and improve the responsiveness, functionality, accessibility and other features of its software, network distribution systems and technologies.

# **Capital Requirements**

The Company applies the Basic Indicator Approach for calculating the amount of capital required under the minimum regulatory capital requirements for Operational Risk. As at 31 December 2013, the minimum capital requirements under this approach, and based on the gross-income average of the last three years, amounted to approximately USD 144 thousand.

#### 4.3 Market Risk

## General

Market risk changes in line with fluctuations in market prices, such as foreign exchange rates, interest rates, equities and commodities prices. These market prices affect the Company's income indirectly as a result of the increase or decrease in the clients' activities, as well as the foreign exchange differences.



The Table below shows the capital requirements for Market risk as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2013:

Table 10: Minimum Capital Requirements for Market Risk				
Amounts at 31 December 2013	Minimum Capital Requirement			
Risk Weight	(\$'000)			
Foreign Exchange Risk	86			
Interest Rate Risk	0			
Commodity Risk	11			
Equity Risk	877			
Total	974			

## 4.3.1 Currency Risk

Currency risk results from adverse movements in the rate of exchange on transactions in currencies other than the Company's reporting currency. As at the reporting date the Company was exposed to several foreign currencies, arising both from its assets and liabilities and from its positions in FX instruments. The Company also held some positions in gold, which are also subject to currency risk.

#### 4.3.2 Interest Rate risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that movements in market interest rates will adversely impact the financial results of the Company. The Company is exposed to Interest rate risk through its positions in FX instruments, which are booked in the Trading Book. However, due to their short residual maturity, the resulting capital requirement is zero.

## 4.3.3 Commodity Risk

Commodity risk arises from the positions of the Company in derivative contracts for which the underlying instruments are commodities and which are booked in the Trading Book. The capital requirement for Commodity risk was calculated using the Simplified Approach.

# 4.3.4 Equity Risk

Equity risk is the risk of loss resulting from fluctuations in the price of stocks or changes that relate to the issuer of a share or the stock market in general. The Company is exposed to Equity risk through its positions in equity CFDs and stock index CFDs which are booked in the Trading Book.



# 4.4 Liquidity Risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that arises when the maturity of assets and liabilities does not match. An unmatched position potentially enhances profitability, but can also increase the risk of losses. The Company holds in separate accounts all the funds of its clients and therefore considers that its liquidity risk is significantly low.

# 4.5 Operating Environment of the Company

The Cyprus economy has been adversely affected over the last few years by the international credit crisis and the instability in the financial markets. During 2012 there was a considerable tightening of financing availability from Cypriot financial institutions, mainly resulting from financial instability in relation to the Greek sovereign debt crisis, including the impairment of Greek Government Bonds, and its impact on the Cyprus economy. In addition, following its credit downgrades, the ability of the Republic of Cyprus to borrow from international markets has been significantly affected. The Cyprus government entered into negotiations with the European Commission, the European Central Bank and the International Monetary Fund, in order to obtain financial support.

Cyprus and the Eurogroup (together with the International Monetary Fund) reached an agreement on 25 March 2013 on the key elements necessary for a future macroeconomic adjustment programme which includes the provision of financial assistance to the Republic of Cyprus of up to €10 billion. The programme aims to address the exceptional economic challenges that Cyprus is facing and to restore the viability of the financial sector, with the view of restoring sustainable economic growth and sound public finances over the coming years.

The Eurogroup decision on Cyprus includes plans for the restructuring of the financial sector and safeguards deposits below €100.000 in accordance with EU legislation. In addition, the Cypriot authorities have reaffirmed their commitment to step up efforts in the areas of fiscal consolidation, structural reforms and privatization. The Eurogroup requested the Cypriot authorities and the European Commission, in liaison with the European Central Bank, and the International Monetary Fund to finalize the Memorandum of Understanding within April 2013 which will then be followed by the formal approval of the Board of Directors of the European Stability Mechanism as well as by the ratification by Eurozone member states through national parliamentary (or equivalent) approvals.

On 22 March 2013 the House of Representatives voted legislation relating to capital controls affecting transactions executed through banking institutions operating in Cyprus. The extent and duration of the capital controls is decided by the Minister of Finance and the Governor of the Central Bank of Cyprus and were enforced on 28 March 2013. The Company's management is monitoring the developments in relation to these capital controls and is assessing the implications on the Company's operations.

The effect of these developments on the operations of the Company was the blockage of the Company's funds (approximately USD 715 thousand) held in the Bank of Cyprus.

The Company's management believes that it is taking all the necessary measures to maintain the viability of the Company and the development of its business in the current business and economic environment.



#### **5** REMUNERATION

As part of the Company's performance management and its commitment to the ongoing development of its people, Colmex Pro Ltd operates an annual Performance Appraisal programme, in which all staff participates.

The main purpose of the Performance Appraisal procedure is to ensure that, at least once a year, the CEO meets with each employee to discuss his/her performance and professional development and set new goals for the new period. This includes:

- A review of the employee's performance during the period since the last appraisal or since joining the Company
- Agreement on the work objectives and priorities to be achieved in the coming 12 months, and
- Discussion of any issues identified by either the employee or the CEO

It is important to note that this appraisal process is not designed to replace ongoing feedback and discussion, but to enhance the communication that is already taking place between the CEO and the individuals. To achieve this, the Company takes the necessary steps to ensure that this takes place in a continuous manner throughout the year.

The final decisions with regards to the fixed and variable remuneration levels and salary increases of staff are taken by the CEO in consultation with the second general manager and Executive Director of Colmex Pro Ltd. Apart from the discussions held with employees, this decision-making process is informed by the observed employee performance which is based on a number of parameters such as the speed of conducting the assigned tasks, the quality of the end results, the achievement of the set goals, the quality of customer service and speed of order execution (where applicable), and the overall commitment to the Company and its values.

#### **Quantitative data**

The aggregate remuneration of the Company's personnel for the year ended 31 December 2013, broken down by business area, is as follows:

Table 11: Aggregate Remuneration by Business Area - 31 December 2013 (\$ '000)				
Business Area	Aggregate Remuneration			
Control Functions	156			
Back Office & Customer Service	63			
Dealing on Own Account	46			
Reception & Transmission of orders	180			
Total	445			

Control functions include the AML & Compliance Department, the Risk Manager and the General Manager.



The aggregate remuneration, broken down by Senior Management (Executive Directors) and members of staff whose actions have a material impact on the risk profile of the Company, is as follows:

Table 12: Aggregate Remuneration by Senior Management & Executive Directors and Other Staff - 31 December 2013 (\$ '000)						
Personnel	No. of people during 2013	Fixed (Cash)	Variable (Cash)	Aggregate Remuneration		
Senior Management (Executive Directors)	5	255	1	256		
Other risk takers/Other staff	10	188	1	189		
Total	15	443	2	445		

The Company did not pay any non-cash remuneration during 2013.

<sup>&</sup>quot;Senior Management" consists of the Executive Director and the heads of departments, while "Other risk takers/Other Staff" includes the staff employed in the departments presented in Table 11 above.