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Structured Investments Solution Series  
Volume III:

# Reverse Exchangeables



# Introduction

FOCUSING ON YOUR FINANCIAL GOALS can be challenging during periods of market volatility. While your brain may tell you that staying the course is the smartest strategy, your stomach may lead you to make impulsive investment decisions. For many investors, finding the optimal balance between risk and reward—and having the fortitude to maintain that balance over the long haul—is no easy task.

You can use Structured Investments to achieve greater diversification, to gain exposure to certain asset classes, to hedge certain exposures in your investment portfolio or to align your portfolio with a particular market or economic view. These instruments can also be designed to provide asymmetrical returns, meaning that potential returns may be higher or lower than those derived from a direct investment in a particular asset. Structured Investments are securities that provide exposure to underlying equities, commodities, indices, other assets or market measures or a basket or hybrid combination of these. Structured Investments offer risk-return profiles that vary from product to product and are designed for specific expectations of market performance and investment objectives. They are complex instruments that may not be suitable for all investors. It is important for investors to understand and consider carefully the unique features of a particular Structured Investment and their own risk profiles before making an investment decision. All payments on J.P. Morgan's Structured Investments are subject to the credit risk of the issuer, JPMorgan Chase & Co.

Structured Investments have become increasingly popular over the past several years. According to StructuredRetailProducts.com, approximately \$49 billion in new Structured Investment products were issued to U.S. investors from January 1, 2011 through October 31, 2011. Nearly \$55 billion were issued in 2010, up from \$34 billion in 2009 and \$37.5 billion in 2008.<sup>1</sup>

This report examines the role that Reverse Exchangeables can play in your portfolio, specifically during periods when expectations for the stock market are range-bound. This report also discusses how Reverse Exchangeables are structured and how, in exchange for accepting downside risk in a particular stock, you can potentially earn a higher yield compared to the current dividend on that stock or the current yield on a conventional debt security with the same maturity issued by JPMorgan Chase & Co. or an issuer with a comparable credit rating. Like all Structured Investments, all payments on Reverse Exchangeables are subject to the credit risk of JPMorgan Chase & Co.

<sup>1</sup> [www.structuredretailproducts.com](http://www.structuredretailproducts.com). Information contained in this website is not incorporated by reference in, and should not be considered part of, this report.

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## Augmenting Returns in a Low-Return Environment

If you believe that returns for stocks are likely to be range-bound over the short term, a Reverse Exchangeable can help you implement this view. Reverse Exchangeables enable you to earn potentially higher yields in a low-return environment. In return, an investor in a Reverse Exchangeable should be willing to risk losing some or all of their initial investment at maturity.

## Anatomy of a Reverse Exchangeable

A Reverse Exchangeable is a hybrid security that pays a fixed coupon and provides contingent protection for your initial investment, so long as the underlying asset does not decline below a stated initial level by more than a specified contingent buffer amount on any day during the term of the note. The specific terms and conditions of every Reverse Exchangeable vary, but they are typically linked to the performance of a particular stock, a basket of stocks, an exchange traded fund or a stock market index. Reverse Exchangeables are issued as registered notes, generally mature within one year or less and trade in \$1,000 increments. Reverse Exchangeables have contingent protection, which means that subject to the credit risk of JPMorgan Chase & Co., your principal is protected unless the contingent buffer is breached at the close on any day during the term of the note, at which point a knock-out event has occurred and you are then exposed to 100% of any depreciation in the underlying stock from the initial price to the final price on the final observation date. Any payment on a Reverse Exchangeable is subject to the credit risk of JPMorgan Chase & Co.

A Reverse Exchangeable is designed for investors who seek a higher interest rate than the current dividend yield on the particular underlying stock or the current yield on a conventional debt security with the same maturity issued by JPMorgan Chase & Co. or an issuer with a comparable credit rating. Investors should be willing to forgo the potential to participate in the appreciation of the underlying stock, be willing to accept the risks of owning equities in general and the underlying stock in particular and be willing to lose some or all of their principal at maturity. Unlike a direct investment in a stock, however, your maximum return on a Reverse Exchangeable is limited to the coupon amount. If the underlying stock appreciates in value during the term of the note, you do not participate in those gains. Therefore, a Reverse Exchangeable may be appropriate if you believe that the return on the underlying stock will be lower than the coupon rate you can earn over the short term of the note (typically one year or less), and that the underlying stock will not decline below the stated initial price by more than the specified contingent buffer amount at the close of any day during the term of the note. Any payment on a Reverse Exchangeable is subject to the credit risk of JPMorgan Chase & Co.

The coupon on a Reverse Exchangeable is determined by the volatility of the underlying asset, as well as the amount of contingent protection. The dividend yield, if applicable, of the underlying asset will also factor into the coupon rate—the higher the dividend, the higher the coupon rate. Once determined, the coupon rate remains fixed regardless of how the underlying asset performs. The frequency of interest payments varies and may occur periodically throughout the term of the note or be paid in full at maturity. In all cases, the frequency of interest payments is determined and specified at inception. Any interest on a Reverse Exchangeable is subject to the credit risk of JPMorgan Chase & Co.

Reverse Exchangeables feature a “contingent buffer” which typically ranges between 20% and 30% (but could be less or more) and allows you to receive a full repayment of your principal at maturity so long as the underlying asset does not decline by more than the buffer amount during the term of the note. While not all Reverse Exchangeables are monitored at the close of business each day, the example we will refer to has daily end-of-business monitoring for a “knock-out” event. In all scenarios, your payment at maturity is subject to the credit risk of JPMorgan Chase & Co.

This buffer disappears or gets “knocked out” if, on any day over the term of the note, the underlying asset closes below the initial price by more than the specified contingent buffer amount. Under these circumstances, you will lose some or all of your principal at maturity unless the asset closes at or above its initial price on the final observation date. If the buffer knocks out and the underlying asset is a stock and it closes below its initial price on the final observation date, you will receive physical settlement at maturity – that is, a number of actual shares of the underlying stock equal to the principal amount divided by the initial price of the underlying stock or the cash value of those actual shares.

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The market value of the shares (or the cash value of those shares) you receive will most likely be substantially less than the principal amount of your notes and may be zero. Reverse Exchangeables linked to a commodity or an index or ETF offer cash settlement under these circumstances, the value of which will also most likely be substantially less than the principal amount of your notes and may be zero. You should be comfortable with the prospect of holding shares of the underlying stock (assuming the underlying asset is a single stock) before investing in a Reverse Exchangeable and understand that in the event the buffer knocks out, you may be delivered shares or the cash value of the underlying asset, with that payment likely worth less, or in some circumstances substantially less, than your initial investment.

## Performance under Different Market Conditions

To understand how a Reverse Exchangeable might perform under varying market conditions, consider the following hypothetical example. You invest \$1,000 in a Reverse Exchangeable linked to ABC stock. ABC stock is trading at \$10 a share initially. The Reverse Exchangeable pays a coupon rate of 12% per annum and includes a 20% contingent buffer (or \$2).

There are several possible outcomes that can occur when a Reverse Exchangeable matures (see figure 1). If the underlying stock never falls below the level at which its contingent buffer would be eliminated (\$8) for the remaining term of the note, you are entitled to a repayment of principal in full at maturity, along with any accrued interest due, subject to the credit risk of JPMorgan Chase & Co.

For example, if the lowest closing price of ABC stock during the term of the note was \$8.50, you would receive your entire principal back (\$1,000), along with 12% per annum interest. Because the stock never breached the 20% contingent buffer by falling below \$8 a share during the term of the note, you are entitled to a repayment of principal in full at maturity. All payments on the Reverse Exchangeable are subject to the credit risk of JPMorgan Chase & Co.

You would also receive your entire principal back (\$1,000), along with 12% per annum interest, subject to the credit risk of JPMorgan Chase & Co., if ABC stock breached the buffer, falling below \$8 during the term of the note, but then closed at or above the initial price of \$10 a share on the final observation date. Because your maximum return is limited to the coupon amount, you would not participate in any appreciation of the underlying stock.

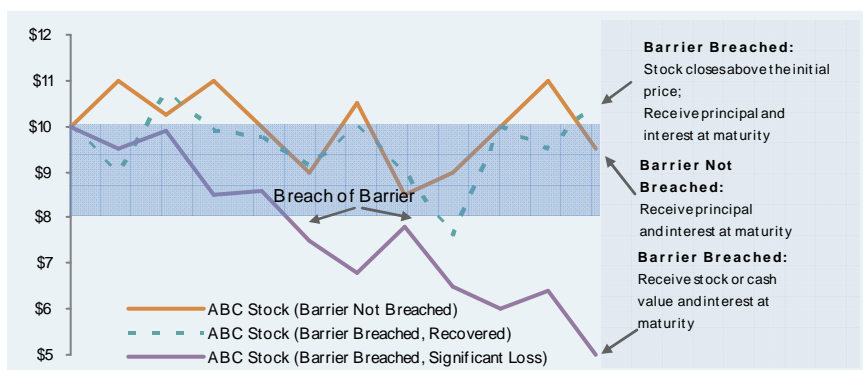
Now consider what would have happened if ABC stock had fallen below \$8 on the close on any day during the term of the note and then also closed below the initial price of \$10 on the final observation date. In this case, a knock-out event occurred and you would receive physical delivery of 100 shares of ABC stock at maturity or its equivalent in cash, along with any accrued interest. The number of shares you receive is determined by dividing the principal amount (\$1,000 in this case) by the initial price of the underlying stock (\$10 in this case). Because the stock closed below the initial price on the final observation date, this physical delivery will be worth less, and in some circumstances substantially less, than your initial investment and may be zero.

If the Reverse Exchangeable settled in cash, the cash payment would reflect the decreased price of the underlying stock on the final observation date as compared to the initial price and you could similarly lose some or all of your principal at maturity. For example, if ABC stock was worth \$5 on the final observation date, you would be delivered 100 shares of stock with a market value of \$500 on the final observation date (or \$500 in cash if the Reverse Exchangeable is settled in cash), which is a 50% loss in principal.

In the scenario above, the coupon rate that you receive offsets some of the loss of your principal due to the decline in the value of the underlying stock, but may not be sufficient to offset fully such a loss and you may still lose some or substantially all of your initial investment. For example, in the scenario described in the preceding paragraph, assuming the Reverse Exchangeable has a term of one year, the \$120 in interest payments received will not be sufficient to offset fully the \$500 loss in principal, resulting in a net loss of \$380.

Due to its coupon rate and contingent buffer, a Reverse Exchangeable may outperform its underlying asset in a declining market. However, the maximum return is the coupon rate. Therefore, you must be willing to forgo any appreciation in the value of the underlying asset in exchange for the coupon payments as well as accept risks of loss of your principal. If you have a stable to moderately bullish short-term outlook, are seeking a coupon rate that is higher than current yields and are comfortable taking on market downside risk, you may want to consider a Reverse Exchangeable.

Figure 1: Return: Reverse Exchangeable on ABC stock at \$10.  
Features 12% coupon and 20% contingent buffer.



## Certain Risk Considerations

- Payment on the notes at maturity is subject to the credit risk of JPMorgan Chase & Co. Therefore, the value of a Reverse Exchangeable prior to maturity is subject to changes in the market's view of the creditworthiness of JPMorgan Chase & Co. If JPMorgan Chase & Co. were to default on its payment obligations, you may not receive any amounts owed to you under the Reverse Exchangeable and could lose your entire investment.
  - An investment in a Reverse Exchangeable may result in a loss.
  - Reverse Exchangeables do not guarantee any return of principal.
  - Under certain circumstances, you will receive at maturity a pre-determined number of shares of the applicable underlying stock (if the underlying asset is a stock) or an amount in cash that reflects the depreciation of the underlying asset from the initial level to the final level on the final observation date. The market value of those shares (or any cash amount paid at maturity) will most likely be less than the principal amount invested and may be zero.
  - For each \$1,000 principal amount note, your maximum return at maturity is \$1,000 plus any accrued and unpaid interest, regardless of any appreciation in the value of the applicable underlying asset, which may be significant.
  - The return on a Reverse Exchangeable may be significantly less than the return on a direct investment in the applicable underlying asset.
  - The contingent buffer may terminate on any day during the term of the Reverse Exchangeable. If on any day during the term of the notes the closing price of the underlying asset declines below the initial level by more than the contingent buffer amount, you will at maturity be fully exposed to any depreciation in that underlying asset.
  - No ownership rights in the underlying asset (including any dividend payments or voting rights).
  - Certain built-in costs are likely to adversely affect the value of the Reverse Exchangeables prior to maturity. The original issue price of the Reverse Exchangeables includes the commissions paid to any placement agent and the estimated costs of hedging JPMorgan Chase & Co.'s obligations under the Reverse Exchangeable. As a result, the price, if any, at which J.P.Morgan Securities LLC (which we refer to as JPMS) may be willing to purchase Reverse Exchangeables from investors in secondary market transactions, if at all, will likely be lower than the original issue price and any sale prior to the maturity date could result in a substantial loss for investors.
- (continued on page 6.)*

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## Certain Risk Considerations (continued)

- Some Reverse Exchangeables have an "automatic call" feature that will trigger a mandatory redemption of the Reverse Exchangeables prior to maturity if the level of the underlying asset closes above the initial level on specified dates. If that happens, you will not be entitled to receive any further interest payment after the redemption date, and there is no guarantee that you would be able to reinvest the proceeds from an investment in the Reverse Exchangeables at a comparable return and/or with a comparable interest rate for a similar level of risk.
- Lack of liquidity: JPMS, acting as agent for JPMorgan Chase & Co., may offer to purchase the Reverse Exchangeables in the secondary market but is not required to do so. The price, if any, at which JPMS may be willing to purchase Reverse Exchangeables from you in the secondary market, if at all, may result in a significant loss of your principal.
- JPMS, or its affiliates, may publish research reports that are unfavorable to the stock underlying a Reverse Exchangeable and could hurt the performance of a Reverse Exchangeable that is linked to that stock.
- Many economic and market factors, such as volatility, time to maturity, interest rates and creditworthiness of JPMorgan Chase & Co., will impact the value of the Reverse Exchangeables prior to maturity.
- Potential Conflicts: JPMorgan Chase & Co. and its affiliates play a variety of roles in connection with the Reverse Exchangeables, including acting as a calculation agent and hedging their obligations under the Reverse Exchangeables. It is possible that such hedging activities or other trading activities of JPMorgan Chase & Co. or its affiliates could result in substantial returns for JPMorgan Chase & Co. or its affiliates while the value of the Reverse Exchangeables decline.
- The tax consequences of the Reverse Exchangeables may be uncertain. You should consult your tax advisor regarding the U.S. federal income tax consequences of an investment in the Reverse Exchangeables.
- Reverse Exchangeables may have complex payout structures that impact returns. Investors should consider these structures carefully before investing in these instruments.

The risks identified above are not exhaustive. Please see "Risk Factors" in the applicable product supplement and "Selected Risk Considerations" in the applicable term sheet for additional information.

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## IN BRIEF

### What benefits do they provide?

Reverse Exchangeables provide the potential for higher interest rates than the current dividend yield, if applicable, on the particular underlying asset or the current yield on a conventional debt security with the same maturity issued by JPMorgan Chase & Co. or an issuer with a comparable credit rating. They also provide for the return of principal at maturity if a "knock-out" event does not occur during the term of the note. They may outperform the underlying asset in a bear market, due to the coupon rates they pay. They typically mature in one year or less.

### What is the downside?

If the underlying asset appreciates in value, you do not participate in those gains as return is capped at the coupon rate. The notes provide only contingent principal protection and that protection disappears or "knocks-out" for the entire term of the note if the underlying asset closes below the initial level by more than the pre-determined contingent buffer amount on any day. In addition, all payments on Reverse Exchangeables are subject to the credit risk of JPMorgan Chase & Co.

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You may receive physical shares at maturity (if the underlying asset is a stock) or equivalent cash value, which could be less, or substantially less, than your principal.

Your ability to sell the Reverse Exchangeables prior to maturity may be limited.

Reverse Exchangeables are subject to additional risks, including those described under "Certain Risk Considerations" above.

**Reverse Exchangeables may be right for you if you:**

- Have a range-bound view of the markets
- Are an income-oriented investor
- Are comfortable taking on downside risk and potentially losing all of your principal
- Are comfortable capping your gains at the coupon rate

## Do Reverse Exchangeables Make Sense for You?

Structured Investments, including Reverse Exchangeables, can provide innovative ways to help you meet your investment goals. To determine whether a Reverse Exchangeable is appropriate for you, review the following questions with your advisor:

- What is my investment time horizon?
- Do I have a bullish, bearish or stable market outlook?
- Am I comfortable with the risk profile of the underlying asset?
- Am I willing to risk losing a portion or all of my principal?
- Am I seeking higher coupon rates in a flat to moderately bullish market?
- Am I comfortable with the credit risk of the issuer?

The answers to these questions should help you determine whether Reverse Exchangeables belong in your portfolio. At a minimum, taking the time to gain a better understanding of your financial goals and risk tolerance will be its own reward.

## Experience the J.P. Morgan Advantage

J.P. Morgan's Structured Investments are designed to complement your overall investment strategy. They allow for varying degrees of principal protection, subject to the credit risk of JPMorgan Chase & Co., and an array of asset class exposure backed by J.P. Morgan. Experience the unique benefits of J.P. Morgan's Structured Investments, including:

- **Innovative** Structured Investments that span all of the major asset classes.
- Innovative rules-based algorithmic indices.
- Turn-key marketing program and education campaign utilizing website available to advisors and their clients, education materials, customized web-based conference calls and/or in-person branch presentations.

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