

Structured
Investments

HSBC USA Inc.

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Contingent Buffered Notes (CBN) Linked to the Industrial Select
Sector SPDR® Fund, due June 19, 2019 (the "Notes")

General

- Terms used in this free writing prospectus are described or defined herein and in the accompanying ETF Underlying Supplement, prospectus supplement and prospectus. The Notes will have the terms described herein and in the accompanying ETF Underlying Supplement, prospectus supplement and prospectus. **The Notes do not guarantee any return of principal, and you may lose up to 100% of your initial investment. The Notes will not bear interest.**
- This free writing prospectus relates to a single note offering. The purchaser of a Note will acquire a security linked to the Reference Asset described below.
- Although the offering relates to a Reference Asset, you should not construe that fact as a recommendation as to the merits of acquiring an investment linked to the Reference Asset or any stock held by the Reference Asset or as to the suitability of an investment in the Notes.
- Senior unsecured debt obligations of HSBC USA Inc. maturing June 19, 2019.
- Minimum denominations of \$10,000 and integral multiples of \$1,000 in excess thereof.
- **If the terms of the Notes set forth below are inconsistent with those described in the accompanying ETF Underlying Supplement, prospectus supplement and prospectus, the terms set forth below will supersede.**
- Any payment on the Notes is subject to the Issuer's credit risk.

Key Terms

Issuer:	HSBC USA Inc.
Reference Asset:	The Industrial Select Sector SPDR® Fund ("XLI")
Knock-Out Event:	A Knock-Out Event will occur if the Final Price is less than the Initial Price by a percentage that is greater than the Knock-Out Buffer Amount.
Knock-Out Buffer Amount:	15%
Contingent Minimum Return:	0.00%
Principal Amount:	\$1,000 per Note
Trade Date:	December 15, 2017
Pricing Date:	December 15, 2017
Original Issue Date:	December 20, 2017
Final Valuation Date:	June 14, 2019, subject to adjustment as described in the accompanying ETF Underlying Supplement.
Maturity Date:	3 business days after the Final Valuation Date and expected to be June 19, 2019. The Maturity Date is subject to adjustment as described in "Additional Terms of the Notes—Coupon Payment Dates, Call Payment Dates and Maturity Date" in the accompanying ETF Underlying Supplement.
Maximum Return:	18.75%. In no event will the return on your Notes exceed the Maximum Return of 18.75%. This means the Payment at Maturity for each \$1,000 Principal Amount will not exceed \$1,187.50.
Payment at Maturity:	If a Knock-Out Event has occurred , you will receive a cash payment on the Maturity Date that will reflect the performance of the Reference Asset, subject to the Maximum Return. Under these circumstances, your Payment at Maturity per \$1,000 Principal Amount will equal \$1,000 + (\$1,000 × Reference Return). <i>If a Knock-Out Event has occurred, you will lose some or all of your investment. This means that if the Reference Return is -100%, you will lose your entire investment.</i> If a Knock-Out Event has not occurred , you will receive a cash payment on the Maturity Date that will reflect the performance of the Reference Asset, subject to the Contingent Minimum Return and the Maximum Return. If a Knock-Out Event has not occurred, your Payment at Maturity per \$1,000 Principal Amount will equal \$1,000 plus the product of (a) \$1,000 multiplied by (b) the Reference Return multiplied by the Upside Participation Rate, subject to a minimum return of \$1,000.00 (the return represented by the Contingent Minimum Return) and a maximum return of \$1,187.50 (the return represented by the Maximum Return). For additional clarification, please see "What is the Total Return on the Notes at Maturity Assuming a Range of Performances for the Reference Asset?" herein.
Upside Participation Rate:	100.00%
Reference Return:	The quotient, expressed as a percentage, calculated as follows: $\frac{\text{Final Price} - \text{Initial Price}}{\text{Initial Price}}$
Initial Price:	The Official Closing Price of the Reference Asset as determined by the Calculation Agent on the Pricing Date.
Final Price:	The Official Closing Price of the Reference Asset as determined by the Calculation Agent on the Final Valuation Date based upon the value displayed on Bloomberg Professional® service page "XLI UP <EQUITY>" or any successor page on the Bloomberg Professional® service or any successor service, as applicable, subject to adjustment by the calculation agent as described under "Additional Terms of the Notes — Antidilution and Reorganization Adjustments" in the accompanying ETF Underlying Supplement.
Estimated Initial Value:	The Estimated Initial Value of the Notes will be less than the price you pay to purchase the Notes. The Estimated Initial Value does not represent a minimum price at which we or any of our affiliates would be willing to purchase your Notes in the secondary market, if any, at any time. The Estimated Initial Value will be calculated on the Pricing Date and will be set forth in the pricing supplement to which this free writing prospectus relates. See "Selected Risk Considerations — The Estimated Initial Value of the Notes, which will be determined by us on the Pricing Date, will be less than the price to public and may differ from the market value of the Notes in the secondary market, if any."
Calculation Agent:	HSBC USA Inc. or one of its affiliates
CUSIP / ISIN:	40435FPD3 / US40435FPD32
Form of the Notes:	Book-Entry
Listing:	The Notes will not be listed on any U.S. securities exchange or quotation system.

An investment in the Notes involves certain risks. You should refer to "Selected Risk Considerations" beginning on page 4 of this document and "Risk Factors" beginning on page S-1 of the ETF Underlying Supplement and page S-1 of the prospectus supplement.

Neither the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of the Notes or determined that this free writing prospectus, or the accompanying ETF Underlying Supplement, prospectus supplement and prospectus, is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

HSBC Securities (USA) Inc. or another of our affiliates or agents may use the pricing supplement to which this free writing prospectus relates in market-making transactions in any Notes after their initial sale. **Unless we or our agent informs you otherwise in the confirmation of sale, the pricing supplement to which this free writing prospectus relates will be used in a market-making transaction.** HSBC Securities (USA) Inc., an affiliate of ours, will purchase the Notes from us for distribution to the placement agent. See "Supplemental Plan of Distribution (Conflicts of Interest)" on the last page of this free writing prospectus.

JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A. and J.P. Morgan Securities LLC will act as placement agents for the Notes. The placement agents will forgo fees for sales to fiduciary accounts. The total fees represent the amount that the placement agents receive from sales to accounts other than such fiduciary accounts.

The Estimated Initial Value of the Notes on the Pricing Date is expected to be between \$965.00 and \$987.50 per Note, which will be less than the price to public. The market value of the Notes at any time will reflect many factors and cannot be predicted with accuracy. See "Estimated Initial Value" above and "Selected Risk Considerations" beginning on page 4 of this document for additional information.

	Price to Public ⁽¹⁾	Fees and Commissions	Proceeds to Issuer
Per Note	\$1,000.00	\$12.50	\$987.50
Total	\$	\$	\$

⁽¹⁾ Certain fiduciary accounts purchasing the Notes will pay a purchase price of \$987.50 per Note, and the placement agents with respect to sales made to such accounts will forgo any fees.

The Notes:

Are Not FDIC Insured	Are Not Bank Guaranteed	May Lose Value
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JPMorgan
Placement Agent

December [•], 2017

Additional Terms Specific to the Notes

This free writing prospectus relates to a single note offering linked to the Reference Asset. The purchaser of a Note will acquire a senior unsecured debt security linked to the Reference Asset. We reserve the right to withdraw, cancel or modify this offering and to reject orders in whole or in part. Although the Note offering relates only to the Reference Asset, you should not construe that fact as a recommendation as to the merits of acquiring an investment linked to the Reference Asset or any stock held by the Reference Asset or as to the suitability of an investment in the Notes.

You should read this document together with the prospectus dated March 5, 2015, the prospectus supplement dated March 5, 2015 and the ETF Underlying Supplement dated March 5, 2015. If the terms of the Notes offered hereby are inconsistent with those described in the accompanying ETF Underlying Supplement, prospectus supplement or prospectus, the terms described in this free writing prospectus shall control. You should carefully consider, among other things, the matters set forth in "Selected Risk Considerations" beginning on page 4 of this free writing prospectus and "Risk Factors" beginning on page S-1 of the accompanying ETF Underlying Supplement and page S-1 of the prospectus supplement, as the Notes involve risks not associated with conventional debt securities. We urge you to consult your investment, legal, tax, accounting and other advisors before you invest in the Notes. As used herein, references to the "Issuer", "HSBC", "we", "us" and "our" are to HSBC USA Inc.

HSBC has filed a registration statement (including a prospectus, a prospectus supplement and the ETF Underlying Supplement) with the SEC for the offering to which this free writing prospectus relates. Before you invest, you should read the prospectus, prospectus supplement and ETF Underlying Supplement in that registration statement and other documents HSBC has filed with the SEC for more complete information about HSBC and this offering. You may get these documents for free by visiting EDGAR on the SEC's web site at www.sec.gov. Alternatively, HSBC Securities (USA) Inc. or any dealer participating in this offering will arrange to send you the prospectus, prospectus supplement and ETF Underlying Supplement if you request them by calling toll-free 1-866-811-8049.

You may also obtain:

- The ETF Underlying Supplement at:
http://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/83246/000114420415014329/v403640_424b2.htm
- The prospectus supplement at:
http://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/83246/000114420415014311/v403645_424b2.htm
- The prospectus at:
<http://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/83246/000119312515078931/d884345d424b3.htm>

We are using this free writing prospectus to solicit from you an offer to purchase the Notes. You may revoke your offer to purchase the Notes at any time prior to the time at which we accept your offer by notifying HSBC Securities (USA) Inc. We reserve the right to change the terms of, or reject any offer to purchase, the Notes prior to their issuance. The Trade Date, the Pricing Date and the other terms of the Notes are subject to change, and will be set forth in the final pricing supplement relating to the Notes. In the event of any material changes to the terms of the Notes, we will notify you.

Investor Suitability

The Notes may be suitable for you if:

- You seek an investment with a return linked to the performance of the Reference Asset and you believe that the Final Level of the Reference Asset will be equal to or greater than the Knock-Out Buffer Amount on the Final Valuation Date.
- You are willing to invest in the Notes based on the Maximum Cap indicated herein, which may limit your return at maturity.
- You are willing to make an investment that is exposed to the negative Reference Return on a 1-to-1 basis for each percentage point that the Reference Return is less than zero when a Knock-Out Event has occurred.
- You are willing to accept the risk and return profile of the Notes versus a conventional debt security with a comparable maturity issued by HSBC or another issuer with a similar credit rating.
- You are willing to forgo dividends or other distributions paid on the Reference Asset or on the stocks held by the Reference Asset.
- You do not seek current income from your investment.
- You do not seek an investment for which there is an active secondary market.
- You are willing to hold the Notes to maturity.
- You are comfortable with the creditworthiness of HSBC, as Issuer of the Notes.

The Notes may not be suitable for you if:

- You do not believe that the Final Level of the Reference Asset will be equal to or greater than the Knock-Out Buffer Amount on the Final Valuation Date.
- You are unwilling to invest in the Notes based on the Maximum Cap indicated herein, which may limit your return at maturity.
- You are unwilling to make an investment that is exposed to the negative Reference Return on a 1-to-1 basis for each percentage point that the Reference Return is less than zero when a Knock-Out Event has occurred.
- You seek an investment that provides full return of principal.
- You prefer the lower risk, and therefore accept the potentially lower returns, of conventional debt securities with comparable maturities issued by HSBC or another issuer with a similar credit rating.
- You prefer to receive the dividends or other distributions paid on the Reference Asset or the stocks held by the Reference Asset.
- You seek current income from your investment.
- You seek an investment for which there will be an active secondary market.
- You are unable or unwilling to hold the Notes to maturity.
- You are not willing or are unable to assume the credit risk associated with HSBC, as Issuer of the Notes.

Selected Purchase Considerations

- **APPRECIATION POTENTIAL** — The Notes provide the opportunity for returns at maturity up to the Maximum Return on the Notes of 18.75%, or a maximum Payment at Maturity of \$1,187.50 for every \$1,000 Principal Amount. ***If a Knock-Out Event has not occurred***, in addition to the Principal Amount, you will receive at maturity at least the Contingent Minimum Return of 0.00% on the Notes, or a minimum Payment at Maturity of \$1,000.00 for every \$1,000 Principal Amount of the Notes. Because the Notes are our senior unsecured debt obligations, payment of any amount at maturity is subject to our ability to pay our obligations as they become due.
- **THE CONTINGENT MINIMUM RETURN APPLIES ONLY IF A KNOCK-OUT EVENT HAS NOT OCCURRED** — ***If a Knock-Out Event has not occurred***, you will receive at least the Principal Amount at maturity, even if the Final Price is below the Initial Price. ***If a Knock-Out Event has occurred and the Final Price is less than the Initial Price***, you will lose 1% of your Principal Amount for every 1% that the Final Price is less than the Initial Price. If a Knock-Out Event has occurred and the Reference Return is -100%, you will lose your entire investment.
- **UNCERTAIN TAX TREATMENT** — For a discussion of the U.S. federal income tax consequences of your investment in a Note, please see the discussion under “Tax Considerations” herein and the discussion under “U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations” in the accompanying prospectus supplement.

In Notice 2008-2, the Internal Revenue Service (“IRS”) and the Treasury Department requested comments as to whether the purchaser of an exchange traded note or pre-paid forward contract (which may include the Notes) should be required to accrue income during its term under a mark-to-market, accrual or other methodology, whether income and gain on such a note or contract should be ordinary or capital, and whether foreign holders should be subject to withholding tax on any deemed income accrual. Accordingly, it is possible that regulations or other guidance could provide that a U.S. holder (as defined in the accompanying prospectus supplement) of a Note is required to accrue income in respect of the Notes prior to the receipt of payments with respect to the Notes or their earlier sale. Moreover, it is possible that a non-U.S. holder of the Notes could be subject to U.S. withholding tax in respect of the Notes. It is unclear whether any regulations or other guidance would apply to the Notes (possibly on a retroactive basis). Prospective investors are urged to consult with their tax advisors regarding Notice 2008-2 and the possible effect to them of the issuance of regulations or other guidance that affects the U.S. federal income tax treatment of the Notes.

Selected Risk Considerations

An investment in the Notes involves significant risks. Investing in the Notes is not equivalent to investing directly in the Reference Asset or any stock held by the Reference Asset. These risks are explained in more detail in the “Risk Factors” sections of the accompanying ETF Underlying Supplement and prospectus supplement.

- **YOUR INVESTMENT IN THE NOTES MAY RESULT IN A LOSS** — The Notes do not guarantee any return of principal. The return on the Notes at maturity is linked to the performance of the Reference Asset, subject to the Maximum Return and will depend on whether a Knock-Out Event has occurred and whether, and the extent to which, the Reference Return is positive or negative. If on the Final Valuation Date, the Final Price is less than the Initial Price by a percentage that exceeds the Knock-Out Buffer Amount, a Knock-Out Event will have occurred, and the benefit provided by the Knock-Out Buffer Amount will terminate. Under these circumstances, you will lose 1% of the Principal Amount of your investment for every 1% decline of the Final Price as compared to the Initial Price. **IF A KNOCK-OUT EVENT OCCURS, YOU MAY LOSE UP TO 100% OF YOUR INVESTMENT.**
- **THE AMOUNT PAYABLE ON THE NOTES IS NOT LINKED TO THE PRICE OF THE REFERENCE ASSET AT ANY TIME OTHER THAN ON THE FINAL VALUATION DATE** — The Final Price will be based on the Official Closing Price of the Reference Asset on the Final Valuation Date, subject to postponement for non-trading days and certain market disruption events. Even if the price of the Reference Asset appreciates during the term of the Notes other than on the Final Valuation Date but then drops on the Final Valuation Date to a price that is less than the Initial Price, the Payment at Maturity may be less, and may be significantly less, than it would have been had the Payment at Maturity been linked to the price of the Reference Asset prior to such decrease. Although the actual price of the Reference Asset on the stated maturity date or at other times during the term of the Notes may be higher than the Final Price, the Payment at Maturity will be based solely on the Official Closing Price of the Reference Asset on the Final Valuation Date.
- **YOUR MAXIMUM GAIN ON THE NOTES IS LIMITED TO THE MAXIMUM RETURN** — If the Final Price is greater than the Initial Price, for each \$1,000 Principal Amount you hold, you will receive at maturity \$1,000 plus an additional amount that will not exceed the Maximum Return of 18.75% of the Principal Amount, regardless of the appreciation in the Reference Asset, which may be significantly greater than the Maximum Return. **YOU WILL NOT RECEIVE A RETURN ON THE NOTES GREATER THAN THE MAXIMUM RETURN.**
- **THE NOTES ARE SUBJECT TO THE CREDIT RISK OF HSBC USA INC.** — The Notes are senior unsecured debt obligations of the Issuer, HSBC, and are not, either directly or indirectly, an obligation of any third party. As further described in the accompanying prospectus supplement and prospectus, the Notes will rank on par with all of the

other unsecured and unsubordinated debt obligations of HSBC, except such obligations as may be preferred by operation of law. Any payment to be made on the Notes, including any return of principal at maturity, depends on the ability of HSBC to satisfy its obligations as they come due. As a result, the actual and perceived creditworthiness of HSBC may affect the market value of the Notes and, in the event HSBC were to default on its obligations, you may not receive the amounts owed to you under the terms of the Notes.

- **SUITABILITY OF THE NOTES FOR INVESTMENT** — You should only reach a decision to invest in the Notes after carefully considering, with your advisors, the suitability of the Notes in light of your investment objectives and the information set out in this free writing prospectus. Neither HSBC nor any dealer participating in the offering makes any recommendation as to the suitability of the Notes for investment.
- **THE ESTIMATED INITIAL VALUE OF THE NOTES, WHICH WILL BE DETERMINED BY US ON THE PRICING DATE, WILL BE LESS THAN THE PRICE TO PUBLIC AND MAY DIFFER FROM THE MARKET VALUE OF THE NOTES IN THE SECONDARY MARKET, IF ANY** — The Estimated Initial Value of the Notes will be calculated by us on the Pricing Date and will be less than the price to public. The Estimated Initial Value will reflect our internal funding rate, which is the borrowing rate we pay to issue market-linked securities, as well as the mid-market value of the embedded derivatives in the Notes. This internal funding rate is typically lower than the rate we would use when we issue conventional fixed or floating rate debt securities. As a result of the difference between our internal funding rate and the rate we would use when we issue conventional fixed or floating rate debt securities, the Estimated Initial Value of the Notes may be lower if it were based on the prices at which our fixed or floating rate debt securities trade in the secondary market. In addition, if we were to use the rate we use for our conventional fixed or floating rate debt issuances, we would expect the economic terms of the Notes to be more favorable to you. We will determine the value of the embedded derivatives in the Notes by reference to our or our affiliates' internal pricing models. These pricing models consider certain assumptions and variables, which can include volatility and interest rates. Different pricing models and assumptions could provide valuations for the Notes that are different from our Estimated Initial Value. These pricing models rely in part on certain forecasts about future events, which may prove to be incorrect. The Estimated Initial Value does not represent a minimum price at which we or any of our affiliates would be willing to purchase your Notes in the secondary market (if any exists) at any time.
- **THE PRICE OF YOUR NOTES IN THE SECONDARY MARKET, IF ANY, IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE PRICING DATE WILL BE LESS THAN THE PRICE TO PUBLIC** — The price to public takes into account certain costs. These costs will include our affiliates' projected hedging profits (which may or may not be realized) for assuming risks inherent in hedging our obligations under the Notes, the underwriting discount and the costs associated with structuring and hedging our obligations under the Notes. These costs, except for the underwriting discount, will be used or retained by us or one of our affiliates. If you were to sell your Notes in the secondary market, if any, the price you would receive for your Notes may be less than the price you paid for them because secondary market prices will not take into account these costs. The price of your Notes in the secondary market, if any, at any time after issuance will vary based on many factors, including the price of the Reference Asset and changes in market conditions, and cannot be predicted with accuracy. The Notes are not designed to be short-term trading instruments, and you should, therefore, be able and willing to hold the Notes to maturity. Any sale of the Notes prior to maturity could result in a loss to you.
- **IF HSBC SECURITIES (USA) INC. WERE TO REPURCHASE YOUR NOTES IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE ORIGINAL ISSUE DATE, THE PRICE YOU RECEIVE MAY BE HIGHER THAN THE ESTIMATED INITIAL VALUE OF THE NOTES** — Assuming that all relevant factors remain constant after the Original Issue Date, the price at which HSBC Securities (USA) Inc. may initially buy or sell the Notes in the secondary market, if any, and the value that we may initially use for customer account statements, if we provide any customer account statements at all, may exceed the Estimated Initial Value on the Pricing Date for a temporary period expected to be approximately 3 months after the Original Issue Date. This temporary price difference may exist because, in our discretion, we may elect to effectively reimburse to investors a portion of the estimated cost of hedging our obligations under the Notes and other costs in connection with the Notes that we will no longer expect to incur over the term of the Notes. We will make such discretionary election and determine this temporary reimbursement period on the basis of a number of factors, including the tenor of the Notes and any agreement we may have with the distributors of the Notes. The amount of our estimated costs which we effectively reimburse to investors in this way may not be allocated ratably throughout the reimbursement period, and we may discontinue such reimbursement at any time or revise the duration of the reimbursement period after the Original Issue Date of the Notes based on changes in market conditions and other factors that cannot be predicted.
- **THERE IS LIMITED ANTI-DILUTION PROTECTION** — The Calculation Agent will adjust the Official Closing Price, for certain events affecting the shares of the Reference Asset, such as stock splits and corporate actions which may affect the price of the Reference Asset. The Calculation Agent is not required to make an adjustment for every corporate action which affects the shares of the Reference Asset. If an event occurs that does not require the Calculation Agent to adjust the price of the shares of the Reference Asset, the market price of the Notes and the Payment at Maturity may be materially and adversely affected. See "Additional Terms of the Notes — Antidilution and Reorganization Adjustments" on page S-47 of the accompanying ETF Underlying Supplement.

- **THE VALUE OF SHARES OF THE REFERENCE ASSET MAY NOT COMPLETELY TRACK THE VALUE OF THE UNDERLYING INDEX** — Although the trading characteristics and valuations of shares of the Reference Asset will usually mirror the characteristics and valuations of the Industrial Select Sector Index (the “underlying index”), the value of the shares of the Reference Asset may not completely track the level of the underlying index. The Reference Asset may reflect transaction costs and fees that are not included in the calculation of the underlying index. Additionally, because the Reference Asset may not actually hold all of the stocks comprising the underlying index but invests in a representative sample of securities which have a similar investment profile as the stocks comprising the underlying index, the Reference Asset may not fully replicate the performance of the underlying index.
- **MANAGEMENT RISK** — The Reference Asset is not managed according to traditional methods of “active” investment management, which involve the buying and selling of securities based on economic, financial and market analysis and investment judgment. Instead, the Reference Asset, utilizing a “passive” or indexing investment approach, attempts to approximate the investment performance of the underlying index by investing in a portfolio of securities that generally replicate the underlying index. Therefore, unless a specific security is removed from the underlying index, the Reference Asset generally would not sell a security because the security’s issuer was in financial trouble. In addition, the Reference Asset is subject to the risk that the investment strategy of the investment adviser may not produce the intended results. Your investment is linked to the Reference Asset, which is an index fund. Any information relating to the underlying index is only relevant to understanding the index that the Reference Asset seeks to replicate.
- **THE STOCKS HELD BY THE REFERENCE ASSET ARE CONCENTRATED IN ONE SECTOR** — All of the stocks held by the Reference Asset are issued by companies in the industrial sector. As a result, the stocks that will determine the performance of the Reference Asset are concentrated in one sector. Although an investment in the Notes will not give holders any ownership or other direct interests in the stocks underlying the Reference Asset, the return on the Notes will be subject to certain risks associated with a direct equity investment in companies in the industrial sector. Accordingly, by investing in the Notes, you will not benefit from the diversification which could result from an investment linked to companies that operate in multiple sectors.
- **CHANGES THAT AFFECT THE REFERENCE ASSET OR THE UNDERLYING INDEX MAY AFFECT THE PRICE OF THE REFERENCE ASSET AND THE MARKET VALUE OF THE SECURITIES AND THE AMOUNT YOU WILL RECEIVE AT MATURITY.** The policies of the reference issuer of the Reference Asset (the “Reference Sponsor”) or S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC (the “Index Sponsor”), the index sponsor of the underlying index, concerning additions, deletions and substitutions of the constituents comprising the Reference Asset or the underlying index, as applicable, and the manner in which the Reference Sponsor or the Index Sponsor takes account of certain changes affecting those constituents included in the Reference Asset or the underlying index may affect the price of the Reference Asset. The policies of the Reference Sponsor or the Index Sponsor with respect to the calculation of the Reference Asset or the underlying index, as applicable, could also affect the price of the Reference Asset. The Reference Sponsor or the Index Sponsor may discontinue or suspend calculation or dissemination of the Reference Asset or the underlying index, as applicable. Any such actions could affect the price of the Reference Asset and the value of the securities.
- **THE PERFORMANCE AND MARKET VALUE OF THE REFERENCE ASSET DURING PERIODS OF MARKET VOLATILITY MAY NOT CORRELATE WITH THE PERFORMANCE OF THE UNDERLYING INDEX AS WELL AS THE NET ASSET VALUE PER SHARE OF THE REFERENCE ASSET** — During periods of market volatility, securities underlying the Reference Asset may be unavailable in the secondary market, market participants may be unable to calculate accurately the net asset value per share of the Reference Asset and the liquidity of the Reference Asset may be adversely affected. This kind of market volatility may also disrupt the ability of market participants to create and redeem shares of the Reference Asset. Further, market volatility may adversely affect, sometimes materially, the prices at which market participants are willing to buy and sell shares of the Reference Asset. As a result, under these circumstances, the market value of shares of the Reference Asset may vary substantially from the net asset value per share of the Reference Asset. For all of the foregoing reasons, the performance of the Reference Asset may not correlate with the performance of the underlying index as well as the net asset value per share of the Reference Asset, which could materially and adversely affect the value of the Notes in the secondary market and/or reduce your payment at maturity.
- **NO INTEREST OR DIVIDEND PAYMENTS OR VOTING RIGHTS** — As a holder of the Notes, you will not receive interest payments, and you will not have voting rights or rights to receive cash dividends or other distributions or other rights that holders of the Reference Asset would have. As a result, the return on an investment in the Notes may be less than the return on a direct investment in the Reference Asset.
- **POTENTIALLY INCONSISTENT RESEARCH, OPINIONS OR RECOMMENDATIONS BY HSBC AND JPMORGAN** — HSBC, JPMorgan, or their respective affiliates may publish research, express opinions or provide recommendations that are inconsistent with investing in or holding the Notes and which may be revised at any time. Any such research, opinions or recommendations could affect the price of the Reference Asset, and therefore, the

market value of the Notes.

- **THE NOTES LACK LIQUIDITY** — The Notes will not be listed on any securities exchange. HSBC Securities (USA) Inc. may offer to purchase the Notes in the secondary market. However, it is not required to do so and may cease making such offers at any time if at all. Because other dealers are not likely to make a secondary market for the Notes, the price at which you may be able to trade your Notes is likely to depend on the price, if any, at which HSBC Securities (USA) Inc. is willing to buy the Notes. Even if there is a secondary market, it may not provide enough liquidity to allow you to trade or sell the Notes easily.
- **POTENTIAL CONFLICTS** — HSBC and its affiliates play a variety of roles in connection with the issuance of the Notes, including acting as Calculation Agent and hedging its obligations under the Notes. In performing these duties, the economic interests of the Calculation Agent and other affiliates of HSBC are potentially adverse to your interests as an investor in the Notes. HSBC and the Calculation Agent are under no obligation to consider your interests as a holder of the Notes in taking any corporate actions or other actions, that might affect the price of the Reference Asset and the value of the Notes.
- **THE NOTES ARE NOT INSURED OR GUARANTEED BY ANY GOVERNMENTAL AGENCY OF THE UNITED STATES OR ANY OTHER JURISDICTION** — The Notes are not deposit liabilities or other obligations of a bank and are not insured or guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other governmental agency or program of the United States or any other jurisdiction. An investment in the Notes is subject to the credit risk of HSBC, and in the event that HSBC is unable to pay its obligations as they become due, you may not receive the full Payment at Maturity of the Notes.
- **HISTORICAL PERFORMANCE OF THE REFERENCE ASSET SHOULD NOT BE TAKEN AS AN INDICATION OF ITS FUTURE PERFORMANCE DURING THE TERM OF THE NOTES** — It is impossible to predict whether the price of the Reference Asset will rise or fall. The Reference Asset will be influenced by complex and interrelated political, economic, financial and other factors.
- **MARKET DISRUPTIONS MAY ADVERSELY AFFECT YOUR RETURN** — The Calculation Agent may, in its sole discretion, determine that the markets have been affected in a manner that prevents it from determining the Reference Asset in the manner described herein, and calculating the amount that we are required to pay you upon maturity, or from properly hedging its obligations under the Notes. These events may include disruptions or suspensions of trading in the markets as a whole. If the Calculation Agent, in its sole discretion, determines that any of these events prevents us or any of our affiliates from properly hedging our obligations under the Notes or prevents the Calculation Agent from determining the Reference Return or Payment at Maturity in the ordinary manner, the Calculation Agent will determine the Reference Return or Payment at Maturity in good faith and in a commercially reasonable manner, and it is possible that the Final Valuation Date and the Maturity Date will be postponed, which may adversely affect the return on your Notes.
- **MANY ECONOMIC AND MARKET FACTORS WILL IMPACT THE VALUE OF THE NOTES** — In addition to the price of the Reference Asset on any day, the value of the Notes will be affected by a number of economic and market factors that may either offset or magnify each other, including:
 - the actual and expected volatility of the Reference Asset;
 - the time to maturity of the Notes;
 - the dividend rate on the equity securities held by the Reference Asset;
 - interest and yield rates in the market generally;
 - a variety of economic, financial, political, regulatory or judicial events that affect the Reference Asset or the stock markets generally; and
 - our creditworthiness, including actual or anticipated downgrades in our credit ratings.

What Is the Total Return on the Notes at Maturity Assuming a Range of Performance for the Reference Asset?

The following table illustrates the hypothetical total return at maturity on the Notes. The “total return” as used in this free writing prospectus is the number, expressed as a percentage, that results from comparing the Payment at Maturity per \$1,000 Principal Amount to \$1,000. The hypothetical total returns set forth below reflect the Knock-Out Buffer Amount of 15%, the Contingent Minimum Return on the Notes of 0.00%, the Maximum Return of 18.75%, the Upside Participation Rate of 100.00% and assume an Initial Price of \$100.00. The actual Initial Price will be determined on the Pricing Date. The hypothetical total returns set forth below are for illustrative purposes only and may not be the actual total returns applicable to a purchaser of the Notes. The numbers appearing in the following table and examples have been rounded for ease of analysis.

Hypothetical Final Price	Hypothetical Reference Return	Hypothetical Total Return*
\$200.00	100.00%	18.75%
\$180.00	80.00%	18.75%
\$170.00	70.00%	18.75%
\$150.00	50.00%	18.75%
\$140.00	40.00%	18.75%
\$130.00	30.00%	18.75%
\$120.00	20.00%	18.75%
\$118.75	18.75%	18.75%
\$110.00	10.00%	10.00%
\$105.00	5.00%	5.00%
\$104.00	4.00%	4.00%
\$103.00	3.00%	3.00%
\$101.00	1.00%	1.00%
\$100.00	0.00%	0.00%
\$95.00	-5.00%	0.00%
\$90.00	-10.00%	0.00%
\$85.00	-15.00%	0.00%
\$80.00	-20.00%	-20.00%
\$70.00	-30.00%	-30.00%
\$60.00	-40.00%	-40.00%
\$50.00	-50.00%	-50.00%
\$40.00	-60.00%	-60.00%
\$20.00	-80.00%	-80.00%
\$0.00	-100.00%	-100.00%

The table above assumes an Initial Price of \$100.00; the actual Initial Price will be set on the pricing date.

* If a Knock-Out Event occurs, you will lose 1% of your Principal for each 1% that the Final Price is less than the Initial Price.

Hypothetical Examples of Amounts Payable at Maturity

The following examples illustrate how the total returns set forth in the table above are calculated.

Example 1: A Knock-Out Event does not occur, and the price of the Reference Asset decreases from the hypothetical Initial Price of \$100.00 to a hypothetical Final Price of \$90.00. Because a Knock-Out Event has not occurred and the Reference Return of -10.00% is less than the Contingent Minimum Return of 0.00%, the investor benefits from the Contingent Minimum Return and receives a Payment at Maturity of \$1,000.00 per \$1,000 Principal Amount, calculated as follows:

$$\$1,000 + (\$1,000 \times 0.00\%) = \$1,000.00$$

Example 2: A Knock-Out Event does not occur, and the price of the Reference Asset increases from the hypothetical Initial Price of \$100.00 to a hypothetical Final Price of \$130.00. Because a Knock-Out Event has not occurred and the Reference Return of 30.00% multiplied by the Upside Participation Rate is greater than the Maximum Return of 18.75% the investor receives a Payment at Maturity of \$1,187.50 per \$1,000 Principal Amount, calculated as follows:

$$\$1,000 + (\$1,000 \times 18.75\%) = \$1,187.50$$

Example 3: A Knock-Out Event does not occur, and the price of the Reference Asset increases from the hypothetical Initial Price of \$100.00 to a hypothetical Final Price of \$105.00. Because a Knock-Out Event has not occurred and the Reference Return of 5.00% multiplied by the Upside Participation Rate is less than the Maximum Return of 18.75% the investor receives a Payment at Maturity of \$1,050.00 per \$1,000 Principal Amount, calculated as follows:

$$\$1,000 + (\$1,000 \times 5.00\%) = \$1,050.00$$

Example 4: A Knock-Out Event has occurred, and the price of the Reference Asset decreases from the hypothetical Initial Price of \$100.00 to a hypothetical Final Price of \$60.00. Because a Knock-Out Event has occurred, and the Reference Return is -40.00%, the investor is exposed to the negative performance of the Reference Asset. The investor will receive a Payment at Maturity of \$600.00 per \$1,000.00 Principal Amount, calculated as follows:

$$\$1,000 + (\$1,000 \times -40\%) = \$600.00$$

Description of the Reference Asset

General

This free writing prospectus is not an offer to sell and it is not an offer to buy shares of the Reference Asset. All disclosures contained in this free writing prospectus regarding the Reference Asset are derived from publicly available information. Neither HSBC nor any of its affiliates has made any independent investigation as to the adequacy or accuracy of information about the Reference Asset contained in this free writing prospectus. You should make your own investigation into the Reference Asset.

Description of the Industrial Select Sector SPDR® Fund

This information reflects the policies of, and is subject to change by the Select Sector SPDR® Trust (the “Select Sector Trust”), an investment portfolio managed by SSGA Funds Management, Inc. (“SSGA FM”). The investment objective of each Select Sector SPDR® Fund is to provide investment results that, before expenses, correspond generally to the price and yield performance of publicly traded equities securities of companies included in a Select Sector Index, as specified below. The companies included in each Select Sector Index (as defined below) are selected on the basis of general industry classifications from a universe of companies defined by the S&P 500® Index.

The Industrial Select Sector SPDR® Fund is composed of equity securities included in the Industrial Select Sector Index. The Industrials Select Sector Index measures the performance of the industrials sector of the U.S. equity market. The Industrials Select Sector Index is intended to track the movement of companies that are components of the S&P 500® Index and, as of September 30, 2017, includes the shares of common stock of companies from the following industries: aerospace and defense; industrial conglomerates; marine; transportation infrastructure; machinery; road and rail; air freight and logistics; commercial services and supplies; professional services; electrical equipment; construction and engineering; trading companies and distributors; airlines; and building products.

The Industrial Select Sector SPDR® Fund employs a replication strategy in seeking to track the performance of the Industrial Select Sector Index. This means that the it typically invests in substantially all of the securities represented in the Industrial Select Sector Index in approximately the same proportions as that Select Sector Index. There may, however, be instances where SSGA FM intends to employ a sampling strategy in managing the Select Sector SPDR® Funds. Sampling means that SSGA FM will use quantitative analysis to select securities, including securities in the relevant index, outside of the relevant index and derivatives that have a similar investment profile as the relevant index in terms of key risk factors, performance attributes and other economic characteristics. These include industry weightings, market capitalization and other financial characteristics of securities.

While SSGA FM seeks to track the performance of the relevant Select Sector Index as closely as possible (*i.e.*, achieve a high degree of correlation with the relevant Select Sector Index), the Industrial Select Sector SPDR® Fund's return may not match or achieve a high degree of correlation with the return of the Industrial Select Sector Index due to operating expenses, transaction costs, cash flows, regulatory requirements and operational inefficiencies. For example, it may take several business days for additions and deletions to the Industrial Select Sector Index to be reflected in the portfolio composition of the Select Sector SPDR® Fund.

The Select Sector Trust is a registered investment company that consists of a separate investment portfolio for each of the Select Sector SPDR® Funds. Information provided to or filed with the SEC by the Select Sector Trust pursuant to the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended, can be located by reference to SEC file numbers 333-57791 and 811-08837, respectively, through the SEC's website at <http://www.sec.gov>. For additional information regarding the Select Sector Trust or the Select Sector SPDR® Funds, please see the Select Sector SPDR® Funds' prospectus. In addition, information about the Select Sector Trust, SSGA FM and the Select Sector SPDR® Funds may be obtained from other sources including, but not limited to, press releases, newspaper articles and other publicly disseminated documents and the Select Sector Trust website at <http://www.sectorspdrs.com>. Information contained in the Select Sector Trust website is not incorporated by reference in, and should not be considered a part of, this document.

The Select Sector Indices

All information contained in this document regarding the Industrial Select Sector Index and the other Select Sector sub-indices of the S&P 500® Index (each, a “Select Sector Index” and collectively, the “Select Sector Indices”), including, without limitation, their make-up, method of calculation and changes in their components, has been derived from publicly available information, without independent verification. This information reflects the policies of, and is subject to change by, S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC (“S&P Dow Jones” or the “Index Sponsor”). The Select Sector Indices are calculated, maintained and published by S&P Dow Jones. S&P Dow Jones has no obligation to continue to publish, and may discontinue the publication of, any of the Select Sector Indices.

The constituents included in each Select Sector Index at each moment in time are members of the S&P 500® Index. S&P Dow Jones assigns constituents to a Select Sector Index based on the constituent's classification under the Global Industry Classification Standard ("GICS®").

The Industrial Select Sector Index

The Industrial Select Sector Index measures the performance of the GICS® industrial sector, which currently includes companies in the following industries: aerospace and defense; building products; construction and engineering; electrical equipment; industrial conglomerates; machinery; trading companies and distributors; commercial services and supplies; professional services; air freight and logistics; airlines; marine; road and rail; and transportation infrastructure. The Industrial Select Sector Index is reported by Bloomberg L.P. under the ticker symbol "IXI."

Select Sector Index Capping Methodology

For capping purposes, the Select Sector Indices are rebalanced quarterly after the close of business on the second to last business day of March, June, September and December using the following procedures:

1. The rebalancing reference date is two business days prior to the last business day of March, June, September and December.
2. Using adjusted prices as of the rebalancing reference date, and membership, shares outstanding and other metrics as of the rebalancing effective date, each company is weighted using the modified market capitalization methodology. Modifications are made as described below.
3. The Select Sector Indices are first evaluated based on each companies' modified market capitalization weight to ensure none of the Select Sector Indices breach the maximum allowable limits defined in paragraphs 4 and 7 below. If a Select Sector Index does breach any of the allowable limits, the companies are reweighted based on their float-adjusted market capitalization weights calculated using adjusted prices as of the rebalancing reference date, and membership, shares outstanding and other metrics as of the rebalancing effective date.
4. If any company has a weight greater than 24%, that company's float-adjusted market capitalization weight is capped at 23%, which allows for a 2% buffer. This buffer is meant to ensure that no company exceeds 25% as of the quarter end diversification requirement date.
5. All excess weight is equally redistributed to all uncapped companies within the relevant Select Sector Capped Index.
6. After this redistribution, if the float-adjusted market capitalization weight of any other company then breaches 23%, the process is repeated iteratively until no company breaches the 23% weight cap.
7. The sum of the companies with weights greater than 4.8% cannot exceed 50% of the total index weight. These caps are set to allow for a buffer below the 5% limit.
8. If the rule in paragraph 7 is breached, all companies are ranked in descending order of their float-adjusted market capitalization weights. The first company that causes the 50% limit to be breached has its weight reduced to 4.6%.
9. This excess weight is equally redistributed to all companies with weights below 4.6%. This process is repeated iteratively until paragraph 7 is satisfied.
10. Index share amounts are assigned to each constituent to arrive at the weights calculated above. Since index shares are assigned based on prices one business day prior to rebalancing, the actual weight of each constituent at the rebalancing differs somewhat from these weights due to market movements.

If necessary, the reweighting process may take place more than once prior to the close on the last business day of March, June, September or December to ensure the Select Sector Indices conform to all diversification requirements.

When companies represented in the Select Sector Indices are represented by multiple share classes, maximum weight capping is based on company float-adjusted market capitalization, with the weight of multiple-class companies allocated proportionally to each share class based on its float-adjusted market capitalization as of the rebalancing reference date. If no capping is required, both share classes remain in the relevant Select Sector Index at their natural float-adjusted market capitalization.

Calculation, Maintenance and Governance of the Select Sector Indices

The Select Sector Indices are calculated, maintained and governed using the same methodology as the S&P 500[®] Index ("Index").

The Index is intended to provide an indication of the pattern of common stock price movement. The calculation of the level of the Index, discussed below in further detail, is based on the relative value of the aggregate Market Value (as defined below) of the common stocks of 500 companies as of a particular time compared to the aggregate average Market Value of the common stocks of 500 similar companies during the base period of the years 1941 through 1943.

Relevant criteria employed by the Index sponsor include the viability of the particular company, the extent to which that company represents the industry group to which it is assigned, the extent to which the market price of that company's common stock is generally responsive to changes in the affairs of the respective industry and the market value and trading activity of the common stock of that company. Eleven main industry groups comprise the Index: Information Technology, Financials, Consumer Staples, Health Care, Energy, Industrials, Consumer Discretionary, Utilities, Real Estate, Materials and Telecommunication Services. Changes in the Index are reported daily in the financial pages of many major newspapers, on Bloomberg Professional[®] service under the symbol "SPX" and on the Index sponsor's website. Information contained in the Index sponsor's website is not incorporated by reference in, and should not be considered a part of, this document.

The Index does not reflect the payment of dividends on the stocks included in the Index and therefore the payment on the Notes will not produce the same return you would receive if you were able to purchase such underlying stocks and hold them until the Maturity Date.

Computation of the Index

Prior to March 2005, the Market Value of a component stock was calculated as the product of the market price per share and the total number of outstanding shares of the component stock. In March 2004, the Index sponsor announced that it would transition the Index to float adjusted market capitalization weights. The transition began in March 2005 and was completed in September 2005. The Index sponsor's criteria for selecting stocks for the Index were not changed by the shift to float adjustment. However, the adjustment affects each company's weight in the Index (i.e., its Market Value). Currently, the Index sponsor calculates the Index based on the total float-adjusted market capitalization of each component stock, where each stock's weight in the Index is proportional to its float-adjusted Market Value.

Under float adjustment, the share counts used in calculating the Index reflect only those shares that are available to investors, not all of a company's outstanding shares. Float adjustment excludes shares that are closely held by control groups, other publicly traded companies or government agencies.

In September 2012, all shareholdings representing more than 5% of a stock's outstanding shares, other than holdings by "block owners," were removed from the float for purposes of calculating the Index. Generally, these "control holders" will include officers and directors, private equity, venture capital and special equity firms, other publicly traded companies that hold shares for control, strategic partners, holders of restricted shares, ESOPs, employee and family trusts, foundations associated with the company, holders of unlisted share classes of stock, government entities at all levels (other than government retirement/pension funds) and any individual person who controls a 5% or greater stake in a company as reported in regulatory filings. However, holdings by block owners, such as depository banks, pension funds, mutual funds and ETF providers, 401(k) plans of the company, government retirement/pension funds, investment funds of insurance companies, asset managers and investment funds, independent foundations and savings and investment plans, will ordinarily be considered part of the float.

Treasury stock, stock options, equity participation units, warrants, preferred stock, convertible stock, and rights are not part of the float. Shares held in trust to allow investors in countries outside the country of domicile, such as depository shares and Canadian exchangeable shares, are normally part of the float unless those shares form a control block.

For each stock, an investable weight factor ("IWF") is calculated by dividing the available float shares by the total shares outstanding. As of September 21, 2012, available float shares are defined as the total shares outstanding less shares held by control holders. This calculation is subject to a 5% minimum threshold for control blocks. For example, if a company's officers and directors hold 3% of the company's shares, and no other control group holds 5% of the company's shares, the Index sponsor would assign that company an IWF of 1.00, as no control group meets the 5% threshold. However, if a company's officers and directors hold 3% of the company's shares and another control group holds 20% of the company's shares, the Index sponsor would assign an IWF of 0.77, reflecting the fact that 23% of the company's outstanding shares are considered to be held for control. As of July 31, 2017, companies with multiple share class lines are no longer eligible for inclusion in the Index. Constituents of the Index prior to July 31, 2017 with multiple share class lines will be grandfathered in and continue to be included in the Index. If a constituent company of the Index reorganizes into a multiple share class line structure, that company will remain in the Index at the discretion of the S&P Index Committee in order to minimize turnover.

As of the date of this document, the Index is also calculated using a base-weighted aggregate methodology: the level of the Index reflects the total Market Value of all the component stocks relative to the Index base period of 1941-43. The daily calculation of the Index is computed by dividing the Market Value of the Index component stocks by a Divisor, which is adjusted from time to time as discussed below.

The simplest capitalization weighted index can be thought of as a portfolio consisting of all available shares of the stocks in the index. While this might track this portfolio's value in dollar terms, it would probably yield an unwieldy number in the trillions. Therefore, the actual number used in the Index is scaled to a more easily handled number, currently in the thousands, by dividing the portfolio Market Value by the Divisor.

Ongoing maintenance of the Index includes monitoring and completing the adjustments for additions and deletions of the constituent companies, share changes, stock splits, stock dividends and stock price adjustments due to company restructurings or spin-offs. Continuity in the level of the Index is maintained by adjusting the Divisor for all changes in the Index constituents' share capital after the base period of 1941-43 with the level of the Index as of the base period set at 10. Some corporate actions, such as stock splits and stock dividends do not require Divisor adjustments because following a stock split or stock dividend, both the stock price and number of shares outstanding are adjusted by the Index sponsor so that there is no change in the Market Value of the component stock. All stock split and dividend adjustments are made after the close of trading on the day before the ex-date.

To prevent the level of the Index from changing due to corporate actions, all corporate actions which affect the total Market Value of the Index also require a Divisor adjustment. By adjusting the Divisor for the change in total Market Value, the level of the Index remains constant. This helps maintain the level of the Index as an accurate barometer of stock market performance and ensures that the movement of the Index does not reflect the corporate actions of individual companies in the Index. All Divisor adjustments are made after the close of trading and after the calculation of the closing levels of the Index. As noted in the preceding paragraph, some corporate actions, such as stock splits and stock dividends, require simple changes in the common shares outstanding and the stock prices of the companies in the Index and do not require Divisor adjustments. The table below summarizes the types of Index maintenance adjustments and indicates whether or not a Divisor adjustment is required.

Type of Corporate Action	Comments	Divisor Adjustment
Company added/deleted	Net change in Market Value determines Divisor adjustment.	Yes
Change in shares outstanding	Any combination of secondary issuance, share repurchase or buy back—share counts revised to reflect change.	Yes
Stock split	Share count revised to reflect new count. Divisor adjustment is not required since the share count and price changes are offsetting.	No
Spin-off	If spun-off company is not being added to the Index, the Divisor adjustment reflects the decline in Index Market Value (i.e., the value of the spun-off unit).	Yes
Spin-off	Spun-off company added to the Index, no company removed from the Index. As a general policy, a spin off company is added to the Index if the parent company is an Index constituent, at a zero price at the market close of the day before the ex-date (with no divisor adjustment). The spin off security will remain in the Index if it meets all necessary criteria.	No
Spin-off	Spun-off company added to the Index, another company removed to keep number of names fixed. Divisor adjustment reflects deletion.	Yes

Change in IWF	Increasing (decreasing) the IWF increases (decreases) the total Market Value of the Index. The Divisor change reflects the change in Market Value caused by the change to an IWF.	Yes
Special dividend	When a company pays a special dividend the share price is assumed to drop by the amount of the dividend; the Divisor adjustment reflects this drop in Index Market Value.	Yes
Rights offering	Each shareholder receives the right to buy a proportional number of additional shares at a set (often discounted) price. The calculation assumes that the offering is fully subscribed. Divisor adjustment reflects increase in market cap measured as the shares issued multiplied by the price paid.	Yes

Each of the corporate events exemplified in the table requiring an adjustment to the Divisor has the effect of altering the Market Value of the component stock and consequently of altering the aggregate Market Value of the Index component stocks (the "Post-Event Aggregate Market Value"). In order that the level of the Index (the "Pre-Event Index Value") not be affected by the altered Market Value (whether increase or decrease) of the affected component stock, a new Divisor ("New Divisor") is derived as follows:

$$\frac{\text{Post-Event Aggregate Market Value}}{\text{New Divisor}} = \text{Pre-Event Index Value}$$

$$\text{New Divisor} = \frac{\text{Post-Event Aggregate Market Value}}{\text{Pre-Event Index Value}}$$

Another large part of the Index maintenance process involves tracking the changes in the number of shares outstanding of each of the companies whose stocks are included in the Index. To prevent the level of the Index from changing due to corporate actions, corporate actions which affect the total Market Value of the Index require a Divisor adjustment. By adjusting the Divisor for the change in Market Value, the level of the Index remains constant and does not reflect the corporate actions of individual companies in the Index. Divisor adjustments are made after the close of trading and after the calculation of the Index closing level.

Changes in a company's shares outstanding and IWF due to its acquisition of another public company are made as soon as reasonably possible. At S&P's discretion, *de minimis* merger and acquisition share changes are accumulated and implemented with the quarterly share rebalancing.

All other changes of less than 5% are accumulated and made quarterly on the third Friday of March, June, September, and December.

Changes in a company's total shares outstanding of 5% or more due to public offerings are made as soon as reasonably possible. Other changes of 5% or more (for example, due to tender offers, Dutch auctions, voluntary exchange offers, company stock repurchases, private placements, acquisitions of private companies or non-index companies that do not trade on a major exchange, redemptions, exercise of options, warrants, conversion of preferred stock, notes, debt, equity participations, at-the-market stock offerings or other recapitalizations) are made weekly, and are generally announced on Fridays for implementation after the close of trading the following Friday (one week later). If a 5% or more share change causes a company's IWF to change by five percentage points or more, the IWF is updated at the same time as the share change. IWF changes resulting from partial tender offers are considered on a case-by-case basis.

Historical Performance of the Reference Asset

The following table sets forth the quarterly high and low closing prices, as well as end-of-quarter closing prices on the relevant exchange, of the Reference Asset for each quarter in the period from January 1, 2008 through December 11, 2017. We obtained the data in these tables from the Bloomberg Professional[®] service. We have not undertaken any independent review of, or made any due diligence inquiry with respect to, the information obtained from the Bloomberg Professional[®] service. All historical prices are denominated in U.S. dollars and rounded to the nearest penny. Historical prices of the Reference Asset should not be taken as an indication of its future performance.

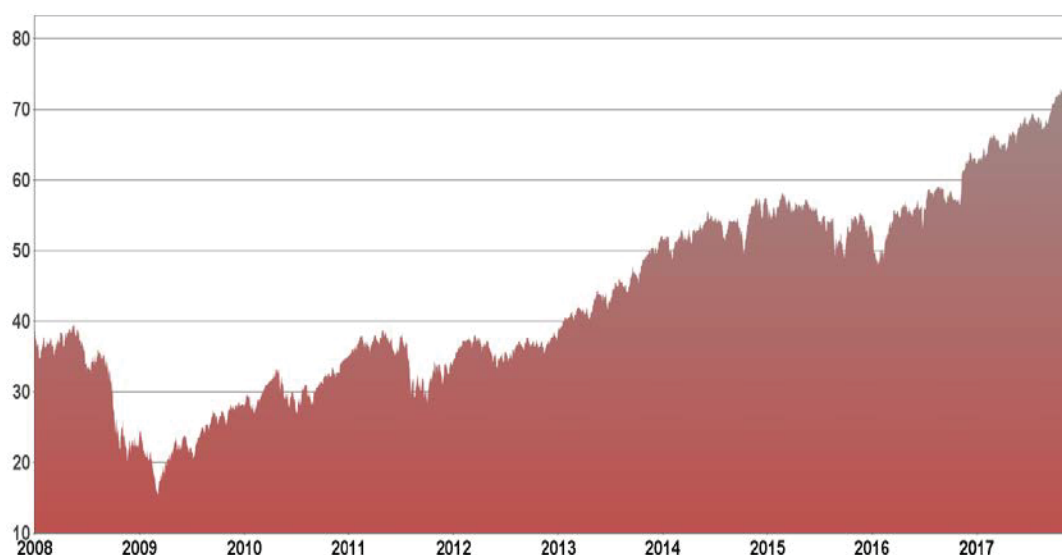
QUARTER ENDING	QUARTER HIGH (\$)	QUARTER LOW (\$)	QUARTER CLOSE (\$)
March 31, 2008	39.08	34.50	37.07
June 30, 2008	39.57	33.80	34.01
September 30, 2008	35.89	29.80	30.63
December 31, 2008	30.63	20.00	23.48
March 31, 2009	24.73	15.36	18.43
June 30, 2009	23.79	18.43	21.96
September 30, 2009	27.31	20.56	26.34
December 31, 2009	28.55	25.27	27.79
March 31, 2010	31.42	26.90	31.23
June 30, 2010	33.36	27.45	27.45
September 30, 2010	31.48	27.01	31.28
December 31, 2010	34.91	30.98	34.90
March 31, 2011	38.03	34.90	37.68
June 30, 2011	38.70	35.21	37.24
September 30, 2011	38.28	28.98	29.21
December 30, 2011	34.28	28.37	33.75
March 30, 2012	38.15	33.75	37.42
June 30, 2012	37.66	33.34	35.67
September 30, 2012	37.76	34.21	36.54
December 31, 2012	38.46	35.40	37.90

QUARTER ENDING	QUARTER HIGH (\$)	QUARTER LOW (\$)	QUARTER CLOSE (\$)
March 31, 2013	42.12	37.90	41.73
June 30, 2013	44.36	40.17	42.57
September 30, 2013	47.76	42.57	46.37
December 31, 2013	52.26	45.41	52.26
March 31, 2014	53.00	48.64	52.33
June 30, 2014	55.59	50.90	54.06
September 30, 2014	54.75	51.40	53.15
December 31, 2014	57.50	49.54	56.57
March 31, 2015	58.16	54.37	55.77
June 30, 2015	57.22	54.03	54.06
September 30, 2015	54.94	48.83	49.89
December 31, 2015	55.40	49.78	53.01
March 31, 2016	55.82	48.02	55.47
June 30, 2016	57.16	53.10	55.96
September 30, 2016	59.08	55.67	58.38
December 31, 2016	64.05	56.42	62.22
March 31, 2017	66.97	62.22	65.06
June 30, 2017	69.10	64.02	68.11
September 30, 2017	71.00	67.15	71.00
December 11, 2017*	74.69	70.23	74.54

* This free writing prospectus includes information for the fourth calendar quarter of 2017 for the period from October 1, 2017 through December 11, 2017. Accordingly, the "Quarter High," "Quarter Low" and "Quarter Close" data indicated are for this shortened period only and do not reflect complete data for the fourth calendar quarter of 2017.

The graph below illustrates the performance of the Reference Asset from January 2, 2008 through December 11, 2017, based on closing price information from the Bloomberg Professional[®] service. **Past performance of the Reference Asset is not indicative of its future performance.**

Historical Performance of the Reference Asset



Source: Bloomberg Professional[®] service

Events of Default and Acceleration

If the Notes have become immediately due and payable following an Event of Default (as defined in the accompanying prospectus) with respect to the Notes, the Calculation Agent will determine the accelerated Payment at Maturity due and payable in the same general manner as described in "Payment at Maturity" in this free writing prospectus. In that case, the trading day preceding the date of acceleration will be used as the Final Valuation Date for purposes of determining the accelerated Reference Return (including the Final Price). The accelerated Maturity Date will be the third business day following the postponed accelerated Final Valuation Date.

If the Notes have become immediately due and payable following an event of default, you will not be entitled to any additional payments with respect to the Notes. For more information, see "Description of Debt Securities — Senior Debt Securities — Events of Default" in the accompanying prospectus.

Supplemental Plan of Distribution (Conflicts of Interest)

Pursuant to the terms of a distribution agreement, HSBC Securities (USA) Inc., an affiliate of HSBC, will purchase the Notes from HSBC for distribution to JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A. and J.P. Morgan Securities LLC, acting as placement agents, at the price indicated on the cover of the pricing supplement, the document that will be filed pursuant to Rule 424(b)(2) containing the final pricing terms of the Notes. The placement agents for the Notes will receive a fee that will not exceed \$10 per \$1,000 Principal Amount. Certain fiduciary accounts purchasing the Notes will pay a purchase price of \$987.50 per Note, and the placement agents with respect to sales made to such accounts will forgo any fees.

In addition, HSBC Securities (USA) Inc. or another of its affiliates or agents may use the pricing supplement to which this free writing prospectus relates in market-making transactions after the initial sale of the Notes. However, it is under no obligation to make a market in the Notes and may discontinue any market-making activities at any time without notice.

We expect that delivery of the Notes will be made against payment for the Notes on or about the Original Issue Date set forth above, which is more than two business days following the Trade Date. Under Rule 15c6-1 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, trades in the secondary market generally are required to settle in two business days, unless the parties to that trade expressly agree otherwise. Accordingly, purchasers who wish to trade the Notes more than two business days prior to the Original Issue Date will be required to specify an alternate settlement cycle at the time of any such trade to prevent a failed settlement, and should consult their own advisors.

See "Supplemental Plan of Distribution (Conflicts of Interest)" on page S-59 in the prospectus supplement.

Tax Considerations

There is no direct legal authority as to the proper tax treatment of the Notes, and therefore significant aspects of the tax treatment of the Notes are uncertain as to both the timing and character of any inclusion in income in respect of the Notes.

Under one approach, the Notes should be treated as pre-paid executory contracts with respect to the Reference Asset. We intend to treat the Notes consistent with this approach. Pursuant to the terms of the Notes, you agree to treat the Notes under this approach for all U.S. federal income tax purposes. Subject to the limitations described therein, and based on certain factual representations received from us, in the opinion of our special U.S. tax counsel, Morrison & Foerster LLP, it is reasonable to treat the Notes as pre-paid executory contracts with respect to the Reference Asset. Pursuant to this approach, and subject to the discussion below regarding "constructive ownership transactions," we do not intend to report any income or gain with respect to the Notes prior to their maturity or an earlier sale or exchange and we generally intend to treat any gain or loss upon maturity or an earlier sale or exchange as long-term capital gain or loss, provided that you have held the Note for more than one year at such time for U.S. federal income tax purposes.

Despite the foregoing, U.S. holders (as defined under "U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations" in the accompanying prospectus supplement) should be aware that the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code") contains a provision, Section 1260 of the Code, which sets forth rules which are applicable to what it refers to as "constructive ownership transactions." Due to the manner in which it is drafted, the precise applicability of Section 1260 of the Code to any particular transaction is often uncertain. In general, a "constructive ownership transaction" includes a contract under which an investor will receive payment equal to or credit for the future value of any equity interest in a regulated investment company (such as shares of the Reference Asset (the "Underlying Shares")). Under the "constructive ownership" rules, if an investment in the Notes is treated as a "constructive ownership transaction," any long-term capital gain recognized by a U.S. holder in respect of a Note will be recharacterized as ordinary income to the extent such gain exceeds the amount of "net underlying long-term capital gain" (as defined in Section 1260 of the Code) of the U.S. holder determined as if the U.S. holder had acquired the Underlying Shares on the Original Issue Date of the Note at fair market value and sold them at fair market value on the Maturity Date (if the Note was held until the Maturity Date) or on the date of sale or exchange of the Note (if the Note was sold or exchanged prior to the Maturity Date) (the "Excess Gain"). In addition, an interest charge will also apply to any deemed underpayment of tax in respect of any Excess Gain to the extent such gain would have resulted in gross income inclusion for the U.S. holder in taxable years prior to the taxable year of the sale, exchange or maturity of the Note (assuming such income accrued at a constant rate equal to the applicable federal rate as of the date of sale, exchange or maturity of the Note).

Although the matter is not clear, there exists a substantial risk that an investment in the Notes will be treated as a "constructive ownership transaction." If such treatment applies, it is not entirely clear to what extent any long-term capital gain recognized by

a U.S. holder in respect of a Note will be recharacterized as ordinary income. It is possible, for example, that the amount of the Excess Gain (if any) that would be recharacterized as ordinary income in respect of each Note will equal the excess of (i) any long-term capital gain recognized by the U.S. holder in respect of such a Note over (ii) the “net underlying long-term capital gain” such U.S. holder would have had if such U.S. holder had acquired a number of the Underlying Shares at fair market value on the Original Issue Date of such Note for an amount equal to the “issue price” of the Note and, upon the date of sale, exchange or maturity of the Note, sold such Underlying Shares at fair market value (which would reflect the percentage increase in the value of the Underlying Shares over the term of the Note). Accordingly, U.S. holders should consult their tax advisors regarding the potential application of the “constructive ownership” rules.

We will not attempt to ascertain whether the Reference Asset or any of the entities whose stock is owned by the Reference Asset would be treated as a passive foreign investment company (“PFIC”) or United States real property holding corporation (“USRPHC”), both as defined for U.S. federal income tax purposes. If the Reference Asset or one or more of the entities whose stock is owned by the Reference Asset were treated as a PFIC or USRPHC, certain adverse U.S. federal income tax consequences might apply. You should refer to information filed with the SEC and other authorities by the Reference Asset and the entities whose stock is owned by the Reference Asset and consult your tax advisor regarding the possible consequences to you, if any, if the Reference Asset or one or more of the entities whose stock is owned by the Reference Asset is or becomes a PFIC or a USRPHC.

Under current law, while the matter is not entirely clear, individual non-U.S. holders, and entities whose property is potentially includible in those individuals’ gross estates for U.S. federal estate tax purposes (for example, a trust funded by such an individual and with respect to which the individual has retained certain interests or powers), should note that, absent an applicable treaty benefit, the Notes are likely to be treated as U.S. situs property, subject to U.S. federal estate tax. These individuals and entities should consult their own tax advisors regarding the U.S. federal estate tax consequences of investing in the Notes.

A “dividend equivalent” payment is treated as a dividend from sources within the United States and such payments generally would be subject to a 30% U.S. withholding tax if paid to a non-U.S. holder. Under U.S. Treasury Department regulations, payments (including deemed payments) with respect to equity-linked instruments (“ELIs”) that are “specified ELIs” may be treated as dividend equivalents if such specified ELIs reference an interest in an “underlying security,” which is generally any interest in an entity taxable as a corporation for U.S. federal income tax purposes if a payment with respect to such interest could give rise to a U.S. source dividend. However, Internal Revenue Service guidance provides that withholding on dividend equivalent payments will not apply to specified ELIs that are not delta-one instruments and that are issued before January 1, 2019. Based on the Issuer’s determination that the Notes are not “delta-one” instruments, non-U.S. holders should not be subject to withholding on dividend equivalent payments, if any, under the Notes. However, it is possible that the Notes could be treated as deemed reissued for U.S. federal income tax purposes upon the occurrence of certain events affecting the Reference Asset or the Notes, and following such occurrence the Notes could be treated as subject to withholding on dividend equivalent payments. Non-U.S. holders that enter, or have entered, into other transactions in respect of the Reference Asset or the Notes should consult their tax advisors as to the application of the dividend equivalent withholding tax in the context of the Notes and their other transactions. If any payments are treated as dividend equivalents subject to withholding, we (or the applicable paying agent) would be entitled to withhold taxes without being required to pay any additional amounts with respect to amounts so withheld.

Additionally, the IRS has announced that withholding under the Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act (as discussed in the accompanying prospectus supplement) on payments of gross proceeds from a sale, exchange, redemption or other disposition of the Notes will only apply to dispositions after December 31, 2018.

For a discussion of the U.S. federal income tax consequences of your investment in a Note, please see the discussion under “U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations” in the accompanying prospectus supplement.