

# **E\*TRADE SECURITIES LLC**

**(SEC ID. NO. 8-44112)**

**Statement of Financial Condition  
As of December 31, 2017, and  
Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm**

\* \* \* \* \*

**PUBLIC DOCUMENT**

Filed pursuant to Rule 17a-5(e)(3) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 as a Public Document.

UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL	
OMB Number:	3235-0123
Expires:	August 31, 2020
Estimated average burden hours per response.....	12.00

ANNUAL AUDITED REPORT  
FORM X-17A-5  
PART III

SEC FILE NUMBER
8-44112

FACING PAGE

Information Required of Brokers and Dealers Pursuant to Section 17 of the  
Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and Rule 17a-5 Thereunder

REPORT FOR THE PERIOD BEGINNING 01/01/17 AND ENDING 12/31/17  
MM/DD/YY MM/DD/YY

**A. REGISTRANT IDENTIFICATION**

NAME OF BROKER DEALER: E\*TRADE Securities LLC

OFFICIAL USE ONLY

ADDRESS OF PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS: (Do not use P.O. Box No.)

FIRM ID. NO.

11 Times Square, 32<sup>nd</sup> Floor

(No. and Street)

New York

New York

10036

(City)

(State)

(Zip Code)

NAME AND TELEPHONE NUMBER OF PERSON TO CONTACT IN REGARD TO THIS REPORT

Brent Simonich, Chief Financial Officer

(703) 236-8339

(Area Code - Telephone No.)

**B. ACCOUNTANT IDENTIFICATION**

INDEPENDENT PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT whose opinion is contained in this Report\*

Deloitte & Touche LLP

(Name - if individual, state last, first, middle name)

7900 Tysons One Place, Suite 800

McLean

Virginia

22102

(Address)

(City)

(State)

(Zip Code)

**CHECK ONE:**

- ☒ Certified Public Accountant  
☐ Public Accountant  
☐ Accountant not resident in United States or any of its possessions.

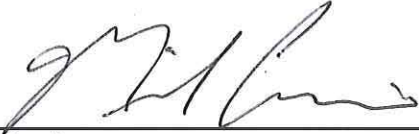
**FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY**

*\*Claims for exemption from the requirement that the annual report be covered by the opinion of an independent public accountant must be supported by a statement of facts and circumstances relied on as the basis for the exemption. See section 240.17a-5(e)(2).*

SFC 1410 (06-02)

## OATH OR AFFIRMATION

We, Michael Curcio and Brent Simonich, affirm that, to the best of our knowledge and belief, the accompanying financial statements and supplemental schedules pertaining to E\*TRADE Securities LLC (the Company), as of and for the year ended December 31, 2017, are true and correct. We further affirm that neither the Company nor any officer or director has any proprietary interest in any account classified solely as that of a customer.



Michael Curcio  
Chief Executive Officer and President  
E\*TRADE Securities LLC

2/22/2018

Date



Notary Public



Brent Simonich  
Chief Financial Officer  
E\*TRADE Securities LLC

2/22/2018

Date



Notary Public



## **REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM**

To the Board of Managers and Member of E\*TRADE Securities LLC

### **Opinion on the Financial Statement**

We have audited the accompanying statement of financial condition of E\*TRADE Securities LLC (the "Company") as of December 31, 2017, and the related notes (collectively referred to as the "financial statement"). In our opinion, the financial statement presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Company as of December 31, 2017, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

### **Basis for Opinion**

The financial statement is the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on this financial statement based on our audit. We are a public accounting firm registered with the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) (PCAOB) and are required to be independent with respect to the Company in accordance with the U.S. federal securities laws and the applicable rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the PCAOB.

We conducted our audit in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statement is free of material misstatement, whether due to error or fraud.

Our audit included performing procedures to assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statement, whether due to error or fraud, and performing procedures that respond to those risks. Such procedures included examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statement. Our audit also included evaluating the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statement. We believe that our audit of the financial statement provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

*Deloitte & Touche LLP*

February 22, 2018

We have served as the Company's auditor since 1994.

**E\*TRADE SECURITIES LLC**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL CONDITION**  
(In thousands)

**December 31, 2017**

**ASSETS**

Cash and equivalents	\$ 134,198
Cash and investments required to be segregated under federal or other regulations (including securities purchased from affiliate under agreement to resell of \$800,000)	1,652,044
Securities purchased from affiliate under agreement to resell	200,000
Receivables from customers (net of allowance for doubtful accounts of \$5,046)	9,114,375
Receivables from brokers, dealers, clearing organizations and institutions	1,230,325
Goodwill	2,185,875
Other intangibles, net	284,897
Other assets (including receivables from affiliates of \$10,385)	113,376
Total assets	<b><u>\$ 14,915,090</u></b>

**LIABILITIES AND MEMBER'S EQUITY**

**LIABILITIES:**

Payables to customers	\$ 9,496,534
Payables to brokers, dealers and clearing organizations	1,433,316
Other liabilities (including payables to Parent and affiliates of \$41,456)	154,429
Total liabilities	11,084,279

**MEMBER'S EQUITY:**

Total liabilities and member's equity	<b><u>\$ 14,915,090</u></b>
---------------------------------------	-----------------------------

See accompanying notes to statement of financial condition

**E\*TRADE SECURITIES LLC**  
**NOTES TO STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL CONDITION**  
**AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2017**

**NOTE 1—ORGANIZATION AND SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**Organization**

E\*TRADE Securities LLC (the Company) is a wholly-owned subsidiary of ETCM Holdings, LLC (ETCM Holdings), which is a direct wholly-owned subsidiary of E\*TRADE Financial Corporation (the Parent). E\*TRADE Bank and its subsidiary E\*TRADE Savings Bank are affiliated federal savings banks under common control of the Parent, and considered to be related parties of the Company. E\*TRADE Futures LLC (E\*TRADE Futures) is an affiliated futures commission merchant under common control of the Parent, and considered to be a related party of the Company.

The Company, a single member limited liability company (LLC), is a broker-dealer registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the SEC) and a member of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA).

In August, 2017, the Company completed an agreement with its direct parent, ETCM Holdings and Aperture, LLC (dba OptionsHouse), an affiliated broker-dealer, whereby all brokerage accounts and brokerage customer-related assets and obligations of Aperture, LLC, representing \$40.6 million of net assets, were transferred to the Company. The transfer was accounted for as a transaction between entities under common control of its direct parent, ETCM Holdings, in accordance with Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) Codification Section 805-50 (the merger transaction). As such, the assets and liabilities transferred included intangible assets of \$727.2 million, consisting of \$570.6 million of goodwill and \$156.6 million of finite lived intangible assets, recognized by ETCM Holdings upon its acquisition of Aperture, LLC in September 2016. Additionally, \$385.5 million of receivables from customers was transferred to the Company and customer cash of \$1.3 billion was transferred to the Company's cash sweep program. These receivables and customer cash balances were previously held by a third party clearing firm. Upon completion of the transfer, Aperture, LLC changed its name to E\*TRADE Futures.

In connection with the above transaction, the Company completed a separate agreement with its direct parent, ETCM Holdings and E\*TRADE Futures (formerly Aperture, LLC), whereby the Company's futures accounts and futures customer-related assets and obligations, representing \$7.6 million of net assets of the Company, were transferred to E\*TRADE Futures (the asset transfer). The transaction was accounted for as a transfer of assets between entities under common control.

**Nature of Operations**

The Company is a provider of brokerage services primarily to retail customers. It offers a comprehensive suite of financial products and services to individual investors, which includes automated order facilitation of US equities, options, exchange-traded funds, mutual funds and bond orders. The Company offers a fully paid lending program, which allows our customers to be compensated for lending certain securities in their account. The Company also offers services such as sweep deposits, money transfer, wireless account access, extended hours trading, quotes, research and advanced planning tools. In addition, the Company's customers have access to managed investment portfolios and futures trading capabilities through affiliate relationships. The Company carries security accounts for customers and is subject to the requirements of Rule 15c3-3 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (Rule 15c3-3). The Company clears the majority of its mutual fund transactions through an omnibus account arrangement with a third party broker-dealer.

**Use of Estimates**

The Company's statement of financial condition is prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP), which require management to make estimates and assumptions

that affect the amounts reported in the statement of financial condition and related notes for the period presented. Actual results could differ from management's estimates. Certain significant accounting policies are critical because they are based on estimates and assumptions that require complex and subjective judgments by management. Changes in these estimates or assumptions could materially impact the Company's financial condition. Material estimates in which management believes changes could reasonably occur include the valuation of goodwill and other intangibles.

## **Financial Statement Descriptions and Related Accounting Policies**

### ***Cash and Equivalents***

The Company considers all highly liquid investments with original or remaining maturities of three months or less at the time of purchase that are not required to be segregated under federal or other regulations to be cash and equivalents. At December 31, 2017, cash and equivalents included \$19.4 million on deposit with E\*TRADE Bank.

### ***Cash and Investments Required to be Segregated Under Federal and Other Regulations***

Cash and investments required to be segregated under federal or other regulations consists of cash held in special reserve bank accounts for the exclusive benefit of customers pursuant to Rule 15c3-3 and securities purchased under agreement to resell from E\*TRADE Bank. At December 31, 2017, the Company had \$852.0 million of interest-bearing cash deposits maintained in special reserve bank accounts pursuant to Rule 15c3-3 and \$800.0 million of securities purchased under agreement to resell from E\*TRADE Bank, that were collateralized by agency securities maintained in a special reserve account pursuant to Rule 15c3-3. At December 31, 2017, the market value of the collateral was \$830.1 million. For additional information, see *Note 7 - Related Party Transactions*.

### ***Securities Purchased from Affiliate under Agreement to Resell***

Securities purchased from affiliate under agreement to resell represent reverse repurchase agreements executed between the Company and E\*TRADE Bank that are short-term in nature. The reverse repurchase agreements are accounted for as collateralized financing transactions (collateralized by agency securities) recorded at their contractual amount plus accrued interest. The Company obtains collateral with market value equal to or in excess of the principal amount loaned under the agreement. At December 31, 2017, the market value of the collateral was \$207.0 million. For additional information, see *Note 7 - Related Party Transactions*.

### ***Receivables from and Payables to Customers***

Receivables from customers primarily represent credit extended to customers to finance their purchases of securities on margin. Securities owned by customers, including those that collateralize margin or other similar transactions, are not reflected in the statement of financial condition. Payables to customers primarily represents deposits of customer cash, and also includes credits in customer accounts related to sales of securities and other funds pending completion of securities transactions. Customers' securities transactions are recorded on a settlement date basis. For additional information, see *Note 4 - Receivables from and Payables to Customers*.

### ***Receivables from and Payables to Brokers, Dealers, Clearing Organizations and Institutions***

Receivables from brokers, dealers and clearing organizations includes deposits paid for securities borrowed, amounts receivable for securities not delivered by the Company to a purchaser by the settlement date (securities failed to deliver), clearing margin deposits and net receivables arising from unsettled trades. Payables to brokers, dealers and clearing organizations include deposits received for securities loaned, amounts payable for securities not received by the Company from a seller by the settlement date (securities failed to receive) and net payables arising from unsettled trades.

Deposits paid for securities borrowed and deposits received for securities loaned are recorded at the amount of cash collateral advanced or received plus accrued interest. Deposits paid for securities borrowed transactions require the Company to deposit cash collateral with the lender whereas deposits received for securities loaned result in the Company receiving cash collateral. Cash collateral requirements generally exceed the market value of the securities. The Company monitors the market value of the securities borrowed and loaned on a daily basis, with additional collateral obtained or refunded, as necessary.

This line item also includes receivables from institutions participating in the Company's cash sweep programs whereby the Company has satisfied customer disbursements and is awaiting next day settlement of such customer redemptions. For additional information, see *Note 3 - Receivables from and Payables to Brokers, Dealers, Clearing Organizations and Institutions*.

### ***Internally Developed Software, net***

The costs of internally developed software that qualify for capitalization are included in the other assets line item in the statement of financial condition. For qualifying internal-use software costs, capitalization begins when the conceptual formulation, design and testing of possible software project alternatives are complete and management authorizes and commits to funding the project. The Company does not capitalize pilot projects and projects where it believes that future economic benefits are less than probable. Technology development costs incurred in the development and enhancement of software used in connection with services provided by the Company that do not otherwise qualify for capitalization treatment are expensed as incurred. Completed projects are carried at cost and amortized on a straight-line basis over their estimated useful lives of four years.

### ***Goodwill***

Goodwill is acquired through business combinations and represents the excess of the purchase price over the fair value of net tangible assets and identifiable intangible assets. The Company evaluates goodwill for impairment on an annual basis as of November 30 and in interim periods when events or changes indicate the carrying value may not be recoverable. The Company has the option of performing a qualitative assessment of goodwill to determine whether it is more likely than not that the fair value of its equity is less than the carrying value. If it is more likely than not that the fair value exceeds the carrying value, then no further testing is necessary; otherwise, the Company must perform a quantitative assessment of goodwill. The Company may elect to bypass the qualitative assessment and proceed directly to performing a quantitative assessment.

### ***Other Intangibles, net***

Other intangibles, net represents the acquisition date fair value of intangible assets, net of accumulated amortization, acquired through business combinations. The Company currently does not have any intangible assets with indefinite lives other than goodwill. The Company evaluates intangible assets with finite lives for impairment on an annual basis or when events or changes indicate the carrying value may not be recoverable. The Company also evaluates the remaining useful lives of intangible assets with finite lives each reporting period to determine whether events and circumstances warrant a revision to the remaining period of amortization. Customer relationship intangibles are amortized on an accelerated basis, while technology and trade name intangibles are amortized on a straight-line basis.

### ***Fair Value***

Fair value is defined as the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. The Company determines the fair value for its financial instruments and for nonfinancial assets and nonfinancial liabilities that are recognized or disclosed at fair value in the financial statements on a recurring basis. In addition, the Company determines the fair value for



nonfinancial assets and nonfinancial liabilities on a nonrecurring basis as required during impairment testing or by other accounting guidance. For additional information, see *Note 2 - Fair Value Disclosures*.

### ***Share-Based Payments***

The Company participates in the Parent's share-based employee compensation plans. The Parent and the Company record share-based compensation expense in accordance with the share-based compensation accounting guidance. The Company recognizes compensation expense at the grant date fair value of a share-based payment award over the requisite service period less estimated forfeitures. Share-based compensation amounts are recognized in members' equity net of shares withheld for taxes that are reimbursed to the Parent. The Parent also issues performance share units to certain of its officers. The compensation expense related to performance shares of the Company's officers is allocated to the Company by the Parent in accordance with an intercompany agreement.

### ***Income Taxes***

The Company is treated as a disregarded entity and is not directly subject to federal or state income taxes. All federal and state taxes based on the Company's taxable income are accrued and paid by the Parent.

## **Adoption of New Accounting Standards**

### ***Accounting for Employee Share-Based Payments***

In March 2016, the FASB amended the accounting guidance on employee share-based payments. Relevant changes in the amended guidance include the requirement to make an accounting policy election to either estimate forfeitures or account for them as they occur. The Company adopted the amended accounting guidance as of January 1, 2017. Forfeitures continue to be estimated consistent with the Company's prior accounting policies.

## **New Accounting Standards Not Yet Adopted**

### ***Accounting for Leases***

In February 2016, the FASB amended the guidance on accounting for leases. The new standard requires lessees to recognize assets and liabilities on the balance sheet for the rights and obligations created by all qualifying leases with terms of more than twelve months. The recognition, measurement and presentation of expenses and cash flows arising from a lease by a lessee remains substantially unchanged and depends on classification as a finance or operating lease. The new standard also requires quantitative and qualitative disclosures that provide information about the amounts related to leasing arrangements recorded in the financial statements. The new guidance will be effective for interim and annual periods beginning on January 1, 2019. The Company is in the process of evaluating the new accounting guidance, which includes the analysis of the Company's arrangement to occupy space leased by the Parent with respect to the embedded lease considerations within the new guidance.

### ***Accounting for Credit Losses***

In June 2016, the FASB amended the accounting guidance on accounting for credit losses. The amended guidance requires measurement of all expected credit losses for financial instruments and other commitments to extend credit held at the reporting date. For financial assets measured at amortized cost, factors such as historical experience, current conditions, and reasonable and supportable forecasts will be used to estimate expected credit losses. The new guidance will be effective for interim and annual periods beginning January 1, 2020. Early adoption is permitted. The Company is currently evaluating the impact of the new accounting guidance on the Company's financial condition and does not expect this amended accounting guidance to have a material impact.

## ***Simplifying the Test for Goodwill Impairment***

In January 2017, the FASB issued guidance to simplify the test for goodwill impairment by eliminating Step 2 from the goodwill impairment test. The amended guidance requires the Company to perform its annual goodwill impairment test by comparing the fair value of a reporting unit with its carrying amount. An impairment charge should be recognized at the amount by which the carrying amount exceeds the fair value of the reporting unit; however, the loss recognized should not exceed the total amount of goodwill allocated to that reporting unit. The Company will still have the option to perform a qualitative assessment to conclude whether it is more likely than not that the carrying amount of the Company exceeds its fair value. The guidance will be effective for interim and annual periods beginning January 1, 2020 and must be applied prospectively. Early adoption is permitted.

## **NOTE 2—FAIR VALUE DISCLOSURES**

Fair value is defined as the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. In determining fair value, the Company may use various valuation approaches, including market, income and/or cost approaches. The fair value hierarchy requires the Company to maximize the use of observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs when measuring fair value. Fair value is a market-based measure considered from the perspective of a market participant. Accordingly, even when market assumptions are not readily available, the Company's own assumptions reflect those that market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability at the measurement date. The fair value measurement accounting guidance describes the following three levels used to classify fair value measurements:

- Level 1—unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that are accessible by the Company
- Level 2—quoted prices for similar assets and liabilities in an active market, quoted prices in markets that are not active or for which all significant inputs are observable, either directly or indirectly
- Level 3—unobservable inputs that are significant to the fair value of the assets or liabilities

The availability of observable inputs can vary and in certain cases, the inputs used to measure fair value may fall into different levels of the fair value hierarchy. In such cases, the level within the fair value hierarchy is based on the lowest level of input that is significant to the fair value measurement. The Company's assessment of the significance of a particular input to a fair value measurement requires judgment and consideration of factors specific to the asset or liability.

The Company maintains security deposits in the form of US Treasuries (included in receivables from brokers, dealers, clearing organizations and institutions) that are measured at fair value and are classified as Level 1 of the fair value hierarchy.

### **Fair Value of Financial Instruments Not Carried at Fair value**

The fair value of cash and equivalents, cash and investments required to be segregated under federal or other regulations (excluding securities purchased from affiliate under agreement to resell that is classified as Level 2), and cash deposits with clearing organizations (included in receivables from brokers, dealers, clearing organizations and institutions), was estimated to be carrying value and classified as Level 1 of the fair value hierarchy.

The fair value of securities purchased from affiliate under agreement to resell, receivables from/payables to brokers, dealers, clearing organizations and institutions (excluding cash and security deposits with clearing organizations that are classified as Level 1), receivables from/payables to customers, Parent and affiliated companies, due to their short-term nature, was estimated to approximate carrying value and classified as Level 2 of the fair value hierarchy.

### NOTE 3—RECEIVABLES FROM AND PAYABLES TO BROKERS, DEALERS, CLEARING ORGANIZATIONS AND INSTITUTIONS

Receivables from and payables to brokers, dealers, clearing organizations and institutions consist of the following at December 31, 2017 (dollars in thousands):

	<b>December 31, 2017</b>
Receivables:	
Deposits paid for securities borrowed	\$ 740,734
Receivables from clearing organizations	354,396
Receivables from institutions <sup>(1)</sup>	109,338
Securities failed to deliver	3,501
Other	22,356
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,230,325</b>
Payables:	
Deposits received for securities loaned	\$ 1,372,862
Payables to clearing organizations	14,277
Securities failed to receive	11,702
Other	34,475
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,433,316</b>

(1) At December 31, 2017, receivables from institutions included \$85.0 million from E\*TRADE Bank.

### Offsetting Assets and Liabilities

For financial statement purposes, the Company does not offset its securities borrowing, securities lending transactions and reverse repurchase agreements. The Company's securities borrowing and securities lending transactions and reverse repurchase agreements are generally transacted under master agreements that are widely used by counterparties and that may allow for net settlements of payments in the normal course as well as offsetting of all contracts with a given counterparty in the event of bankruptcy or default of one of the two parties to the transaction. The following table presents information about these transactions to enable the users of the Company's financial statements to evaluate the potential effect of rights of set-off between these recognized assets and recognized liabilities at December 31, 2017 (dollars in thousands):

		Gross Amounts Not Offset in the Statement of Financial Condition				
	Gross Amounts of Recognized Assets and Liabilities	Gross Amounts Offset in the Statement of Financial Condition	Net Amounts Presented in the Statement of Financial Condition	Financial Instruments	Collateral Received or Pledged (Including Cash)	Net Amount
December 31, 2017						
Assets:						
Securities purchased from affiliate under agreement to resell <sup>(1)</sup>	\$ 1,000,000	\$ —	\$ 1,000,000	\$ —	\$ (1,000,000)	\$ —
Deposits paid for securities borrowed <sup>(2)</sup>	740,734	—	740,734	(251,468)	(465,594)	23,672
Deposits paid - Fully paid lending <sup>(3)</sup>	17,897	—	17,897	—	(17,586)	311
Total	<u>\$ 1,758,631</u>	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$ 1,758,631</u>	<u>\$ (251,468)</u>	<u>\$ (1,483,180)</u>	<u>\$ 23,983</u>
Liabilities:						
Deposits received for securities loaned <sup>(4)</sup>	\$ 1,354,119	\$ —	\$ 1,354,119	\$ (251,468)	\$ (986,819)	115,832
Deposits received - Fully paid lending <sup>(5)</sup>	18,743	—	18,743	—	(17,506)	1,237
Total	<u>\$ 1,372,862</u>	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$ 1,372,862</u>	<u>\$ (251,468)</u>	<u>\$ (1,004,325)</u>	<u>\$ 117,069</u>

(1) Over-collateralized at December 31, 2017, as the market value of the securities received by the Company was \$1.04 billion.

(2) Included in the gross amounts of deposits paid for securities borrowed is \$347.2 million at December 31, 2017 transacted through a program with a clearing organization, which guarantees the return of cash to the Company. For presentation purposes, these amounts presented are based on the counterparties under the Company's master securities loan agreements.

(3) Included in receivables from customers in the statement of financial condition.

(4) Included in the gross amounts of deposits received for securities loaned is \$814.4 million at December 31, 2017 transacted through a program with a clearing organization, which guarantees the return of securities to the Company. For presentation purposes, these amounts presented are based on the counterparties under the Company's master securities loan agreements.

(5) Included in the gross amounts of deposits received for securities loaned is \$6.3 million at December 31, 2017 transacted through a program with a clearing organization, which guarantees the return of securities to the Company.

## Securities Lending Transactions

Deposits paid for securities borrowed and deposits received for securities loaned are recorded at the amount of cash collateral advanced or received plus accrued interest. Securities borrowing transactions require the Company to deposit cash with the lender whereas securities loaned result in the Company receiving collateral in the form of cash, with both requiring cash in an amount generally in excess of the market value of the equity securities. Securities lending transactions have overnight or continuous remaining contractual maturities.

Securities lending transactions expose the Company to counterparty credit risk and market risk. To manage the counterparty risk, the Company maintains internal standards for approving counterparties, reviews and analyzes the credit rating of each counterparty, and monitors its positions with each counterparty on an ongoing basis. In addition, for certain of the Company's securities lending transactions, the Company uses a program with a clearing organization that guarantees the return of securities. The Company monitors the market value of the securities borrowed and loaned using collateral arrangements that require additional collateral to be obtained from or excess collateral to be returned to the counterparties based on changes in market value, to maintain specified collateral levels.

The Company offers a fully paid lending program, through which customers can receive payment for lending qualifying securities holdings.

## Securities Purchased from Affiliate under Agreement to Resell

Securities purchased from affiliate under agreement to resell are treated as collateralized financing transactions and are recorded at their contractual amounts, plus accrued interest. The Company takes possession of securities with a market value in excess of the principal amount loaned in order to collateralize these secured borrowings. At December 31, 2017 the market value of the agency securities received as collateral was \$1.04 billion. For additional information, see *Note 7 - Related Party Transactions*.

## NOTE 4—RECEIVABLES FROM AND PAYABLES TO CUSTOMERS

Receivables from customers of \$9.1 billion primarily represents credit extended to customers to finance their purchases of securities on margin. Securities owned by customers collateralize the margin receivables, the value of which is not reflected in the statement of financial condition.

Payables to customers of \$9.5 billion consists primarily of cash balances and other customer funds pending completion of securities transactions.

## NOTE 5—GOODWILL AND OTHER INTANGIBLES, NET

### Goodwill

At December 31, 2017, the Company held goodwill at a carrying value of \$2.2 billion. There was a \$570.6 million addition to the carrying value of the Company's goodwill during the year ended December 31, 2017, in connection with the merger transaction. For additional information on the merger transaction, see *Note 1 - Organization and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies*.

For the year ended December 31, 2017, the Company elected to perform a qualitative analysis to determine whether the fair value of the Company was less than the carrying value. As a result of this assessment, the Company concluded that its goodwill was not impaired at December 31, 2017.

### Other Intangibles, Net

There was a \$156.6 million addition to other intangible assets during the year ended December 31, 2017, in connection with merger transaction.

The following table outlines the Company's other intangible assets with finite lives (dollars in thousands):

December 31, 2017					
	Weighted Average Original Useful Life (Years)	Weighted Average Remaining Useful Life (Years)	Gross Amount	Accumulated Amortization	Net Amount
Customer relationships	18	10	553,304	(308,588)	244,716
Technology	7	6	48,100	(8,875)	39,225
Trade name	2	1	2,700	(1,744)	956
Total			\$ 604,104	\$ (319,207)	\$ 284,897

## NOTE 6—SHORT-TERM BORROWINGS

The Company primarily relies on customer payables and securities lending to provide liquidity and to fund margin lending. External and internal lines of credit are also available as a source of liquidity.

## External Lines of Credit

As of December 31, 2017, the Company maintained \$1.1 billion of aggregate external liquidity lines of credit, of which \$625.0 million is committed:

- In June 2017 the Company entered into a 364-day, \$450.0 million senior unsecured committed revolving credit facility with a syndicate of banks. This revolving credit facility replaced the \$400.0 million senior unsecured committed revolving credit facility which expired in accordance with its terms. This credit facility may be used by the Company for short-term operating needs. The credit facility contains maintenance covenants related to the Company's minimum consolidated tangible net worth and regulatory net capital ratio.
- Secured committed lines of credit with two unaffiliated banks, aggregating to \$175.0 million and scheduled to mature in June 2018.
- Secured uncommitted lines of credit with several unaffiliated banks aggregating to \$375.0 million that have no maturity dates. If drawn upon, the secured lines of credit with unaffiliated banks are collateralized by customer securities used as collateral on margin loans.
- Unsecured uncommitted lines of credit with three unaffiliated banks aggregating to \$125.0 million, of which \$50.0 million is scheduled to mature in June 2018 and the remaining line has no maturity date.

There were no outstanding balances on external lines of credits at December 31, 2017.

## Lines of Credit with Affiliates

As of December 31, 2017, the Company maintained \$750.0 million of aggregate liquidity lines of credit with affiliated entities:

- Secured uncommitted line of credit of \$250.0 million with E\*TRADE Bank for working capital purposes that has no maturity date. If drawn upon, this line of credit is collateralized by customer securities used as collateral on margin loans.
- Unsecured uncommitted line of credit of \$500.0 million with the Parent. Advances under the line may be used for the Company's working capital and back-up liquidity requirements in connection with the funding and settlement of customer transactions. This line of credit has no maturity date.

There were no outstanding balances on lines of credits with affiliates at December 31, 2017.

## NOTE 7—RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The Company and the Parent are party to a written Master Services Agreement (MSA) under which the Parent provides the Company with technology infrastructure and development, facilities, back-office functions and general and administrative support. The Company provided consulting services to E\*TRADE Futures (formerly Aperture LLC). The Company has an intercompany service agreement with E\*TRADE Futures, under which the Company provides E\*TRADE Futures full and part-time personnel and technology support. Customer support services, account opening and other processing services are provided to the Company under agreements with E\*TRADE Information Services, LLC, an affiliated company.

The Company offers cash sweep products, collectively the Sweep Deposit Accounts (SDA), which transfer certain customer uninvested cash balances to E\*TRADE Bank and its subsidiary, and other unaffiliated third party financial institutions. E\*TRADE Bank, its subsidiary and certain third party institutions carry these balances as customer deposits in FDIC-insured money market accounts up to applicable insurance limits and pay interest on these balances. E\*TRADE Bank and its subsidiary pays the Company a fee based on the average SDA balances at a negotiated rate. The Company has a Master Repurchase Agreement with E\*TRADE Bank which allows the parties

to execute repurchase agreements from time to time. Accordingly E\*TRADE Bank agrees to transfer to the Company securities or other assets in exchange for cash, including cash that is segregated for the benefit of the Company's customers. At December 31, 2017, the Company had a total of \$1.0 billion of reverse repurchase agreements, of which \$800.0 million was recorded in cash and investments required to be segregated under federal and other regulations and \$200.0 million was recorded in securities purchased from affiliate under agreement to resell in the statement of financial condition. The fair value of the securities that serve as collateral underlying the agreements was \$1.04 billion at December 31, 2017.

The Company provides customer support services for deposit and banking products under agreements with E\*TRADE Bank.

The Company pays transfer agent fees on behalf of E\*TRADE Financial Corporate Services Inc. (Corporate Services) customers which are passed through to each customer per the terms of each individual agreement. .

The Company provides automated order facilitation, custody, account administration and other related services under an agreement with E\*TRADE Capital Management, LLC, an affiliated company. The Company receives digital portfolio advisory services from E\*TRADE Capital Management, LLC. In connection with the merger transaction all brokerage accounts and brokerage customer-related assets and obligations of Aperture, LLC, representing \$40.6 million of member's equity, were transferred to the Company. The Parent transferred to the Company \$727.2 million of goodwill and intangible assets recognized by the Parent upon its acquisition of Aperture, LLC. In connection with the asset transfer, the Company's futures accounts and futures customer-related assets and obligations, representing \$7.6 million of its member's equity, were transferred to E\*TRADE Futures. See *Note 1 - Organization and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies* for additional information.

The Company paid dividends of \$345.0 million to the Parent during the year ended December 31, 2017.

For additional related party arrangements, see *Note 6 - Short-term Borrowings*.

## **NOTE 8—INTERNALLY DEVELOPED SOFTWARE, NET**

Under the terms of the MSA, the Parent provides software development services to the Company. For the year ended December 31, 2017, the Company paid the Parent \$41.2 million for internally developed software specifically attributable to the Company. At December 31, 2017, the Company had \$91.5 million of internally developed software, net included in other assets in the statement of financial condition. Included in the balance was \$11.8 million of costs associated with internally developed software in the process of development for which amortization had not begun.

## **NOTE 9—NET CAPITAL REQUIREMENTS**

The Company is subject to the Uniform Net Capital Rule (the Rule) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 administered by the SEC and FINRA, which requires the maintenance of minimum net capital. The Company has elected to use the alternative method permitted by the Rule, which requires that the Company maintain net capital equal to the greater of \$250,000 or 2% of aggregate debit balances arising from customer transactions. Under the alternative method, a broker-dealer may not repay subordinated borrowings, pay cash dividends, or make any unsecured advances or loans to its Parent or employees if such payment would result in net capital of less than 5% of aggregate debit balances or less than 120% of its minimum dollar amount requirement.

At December 31, 2017, the Company had net capital of \$1.2 billion (11.50% of aggregate debit balances) which was \$1.0 billion in excess of its required net capital of \$210.9 million, the amount required by the SEC's net capital rule.



## **NOTE 10—COMMITMENTS, CONTINGENT LIABILITIES & OTHER REGULATORY MATTERS**

The securities industry is subject to extensive regulation under federal, state and applicable international laws. From time to time, the Company has been threatened with or named as a defendant in, lawsuits, arbitrations and administrative claims involving securities and other matters. The Company is also subject to periodic regulatory examinations and inspections. Compliance and trading problems that are reported to regulators, such as the SEC or FINRA by dissatisfied customers or others are investigated by such regulators, and may, if pursued, result in formal claims being filed against the Company by customers or disciplinary action being taken against the Company or its employees by regulators. Any such claims or disciplinary actions that are decided against the Company could have a material impact on the financial results of the Company.

### **Litigation Matters**

On May 16, 2011, Droplets Inc., the holder of two patents pertaining to user interface servers, filed a complaint in the US District Court for the Eastern District of Texas against the Company, the Parent, E\*TRADE Bank and multiple other unaffiliated financial services firms. The Plaintiff contends that the defendants engaged in patent infringement under federal law and seeks unspecified damages and an injunction against future infringements, plus royalties, costs, interest and attorneys' fees. On March 28, 2012, a change of venue was granted and the case was transferred to the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York. The Company's motion for summary judgment on the grounds of non-infringement was granted by the US District Court in a Decision and Order dated March 9, 2015. All remaining claims are stayed pending resolution of issues on Droplet's remaining patents under review by the Patent Trial and Appeal Board (PTAB). After a hearing, the PTAB deemed Droplets' putative '115 patent to be "unpatentable" on June 23, 2016. In a separate proceeding, the PTAB has also separately deemed Droplets' putative '838 patent to be "unpatentable." Droplets has appealed to the Circuit Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia. The briefing was completed on July 24, 2017, and an oral argument was heard on February 6, 2018. The Company will continue to defend itself vigorously in this matter.

On April 30, 2013, a putative class action was filed by John Scranton, on behalf of himself and a class of persons similarly situated, against the Company and the Parent in the Superior Court of California, County of Santa Clara, pursuant to the California procedures for a private Attorney General action. The complaint alleged that the Company misrepresented through its website that it would always automatically exercise options that were in-the-money by \$0.01 or more on expiration date. The Plaintiffs allege violations of the California Unfair Competition Law, the California Consumer Remedies Act, fraud, misrepresentation, negligent misrepresentation and breach of fiduciary duty and plaintiffs seek unspecified damages. Final judgment was entered in the Company's favor on April 8, 2015, and on December 4, 2017 the Court of Appeals upheld the dismissal. The matter is now closed.

On March 26, 2015, a putative class action was filed in the US District Court for the Northern District of California by Ty Rayner, on behalf of himself and all others similarly situated, naming the Company and the Parent as defendants. The complaint alleges that the Company breached a fiduciary duty and unjustly enriched itself in connection with the routing of its customers' orders to various market-makers and exchanges. The plaintiff seeks unspecified damages, declaratory relief, restitution, disgorgement of payments received by the Company, and attorneys' fees. On April 2, 2017, the District Court dismissed the complaint in *Rayner*. The plaintiffs in *Rayner* appealed and the oral argument was heard by the Second Court of Appeals on December 7, 2017. The Company will continue to defend itself vigorously in these matters.

On July 23, 2016, a putative class action was filed in the US District Court for the Southern District of New York by Craig L. Schwab, on behalf of himself and others similarly situated, naming the Company, the Parent, and former Company executives as defendants. The complaint alleges that the Company violated federal securities laws in connection with the routing of its customers' orders to various market-makers and exchanges. The plaintiff seeks unspecified damages, declaratory relief, restitution, disgorgement of payments received by the Company, and



attorneys' fees. By stipulation both matters are now venued in the Southern District of New York. On July 10, the Court dismissed the *Schwab* claims without prejudice. The plaintiff in *Schwab* filed a third amended complaint on August 9, 2017, which E\*TRADE moved to dismiss. On January 22, the Court dismissed all claims with prejudice. The Company will continue to defend itself vigorously in these matters.

In addition to the matters described above, the Company is subject to various legal proceedings and claims that arise in the normal course of business. In each pending matter, the Company contests liability or the amount of claimed damages. In view of the inherent difficulty of predicting the outcome of such matters, particularly in cases where claimants seek substantial or indeterminate damages, or where investigation or discovery have yet to be completed, the Company is unable to reasonably estimate a range of possible losses on its remaining outstanding legal proceedings; however, the Company believes any losses, both individually or in the aggregate, would not be reasonably likely to have a material adverse effect on the financial condition.

An unfavorable outcome in any matter could have a material adverse effect on the Company's business or financial condition. In addition, even if the ultimate outcomes are resolved in the Company's favor, the defense of such litigation could entail considerable cost or the diversion of the efforts of management, either of which could have a material adverse effect on the Company's business or financial condition.

## **Estimated Liabilities**

The Company reviews its lawsuits, regulatory inquiries and other legal proceedings on an ongoing basis and provides disclosure and records loss contingencies in accordance with the loss contingencies accounting guidance. The Company establishes an accrual for losses at management's best estimate when it assesses that it is probable that a loss has been incurred and the amount of the loss can be reasonably estimated. The Company monitors these matters for developments that would affect the likelihood of a loss and the accrued amount, if any, and adjusts the amount as appropriate.

In accordance with applicable accounting guidance, the Company accrues liabilities that are impacted by estimates related to general operating expenses, such as incentive compensation and market data usage within communications expense. Management estimates reflect the probable liability as of the balance sheet date. In determining the adequacy of estimated liabilities, the Company performs ongoing evaluations based on available information.

## **Guarantees**

The Company clears its mutual fund transactions on an omnibus basis through a third-party clearing broker-dealer and, prior to the asset transfer, cleared its futures transactions on an omnibus basis through a third-party clearing FCM. The Company has agreed to indemnify its third-party clearing broker-dealer and FCM for losses to the extent sustained in connection with providing the omnibus clearing services and caused by certain acts or omissions of the Company, including any breach or default under the various relevant agreements. No such indemnification payments were made during the year ended December 31, 2017. The Company has determined that its liability under this arrangement is not reasonably estimable or probable. Accordingly, no contingent liability is carried in the statement of financial condition for these transactions.

## **NOTE 11—FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS WITH OFF-BALANCE-SHEET RISK AND CONCENTRATIONS OF CREDIT RISK**

The Company's securities activities are transacted on either a cash or margin basis. In margin transactions, the Company extends credit to the customer, subject to various regulatory and internal margin requirements, collateralized by cash and securities in the customer's account. As customers write option contracts or sell securities short, the Company may incur losses if the customers do not fulfill their obligations and the collateral in the customers' accounts is not sufficient to fully cover losses which customers may incur from these strategies. To

control this risk, the Company monitors margin levels daily, and customers are required to deposit additional collateral (in the form of cash or marginable securities), or reduce positions, when necessary.

The Company loans securities temporarily to other brokers in connection with its securities lending activities. The Company receives cash as collateral for the securities loaned. Increases in security prices may cause the market value of the securities loaned to exceed the amount of cash received as collateral. In the event the counterparty to these transactions does not return the loaned securities, the Company may be exposed to the risk of acquiring the securities at prevailing market prices in order to satisfy its customer obligations. The Company controls this risk by requiring credit approvals for counterparties, by monitoring the market value of securities loaned on a daily basis, and by requiring additional cash as collateral.

The Company borrows securities temporarily from other brokers in connection with its securities borrowing transactions. The Company deposits cash as collateral for the securities borrowed. Decreases in security prices may cause the market value of the securities borrowed to fall below the amount of cash deposited as collateral. In the event the counterparty to these transactions does not return collateral, the Company may be exposed to the risk of selling the securities at prevailing market prices. The Company controls this risk by requiring credit approvals for counterparties, by monitoring the collateral values on a daily basis, and by depositing additional collateral with counterparties or receiving cash when deemed necessary.

At December 31, 2017, the Company had received collateral, primarily in connection with securities borrowing transactions and customer margin loans, with a market value of \$12.8 billion that can be sold or re-pledged. Of this amount, \$3.2 billion had been sold or re-pledged at December 31, 2017, in connection with securities lending transactions and deposits with clearing organizations.

In connection with its clearing activities, the Company is obligated to settle transactions with brokers and other financial institutions even if its customers fail to meet their obligations to the Company. Customers are required to complete their transactions by the settlement date, generally two business days after the trade date. If customers do not fulfill their contractual obligations, the Company may incur losses. The Company has established procedures to reduce this risk by generally requiring that customers deposit sufficient cash and/or securities into their account prior to placing an order.

## **NOTE 12—SUBSEQUENT EVENTS**

### **Acquisition of brokerage accounts from Capital One**

In January 2018, the Company announced an agreement to acquire retail brokerage accounts from Capital One Financial Corporation for a cash purchase price of up to \$170 million. The acquisition is expected to close by the third quarter of 2018, subject to customary closing conditions and regulatory approvals.

### **Dividend Payment to Parent**

On February 2, 2018, the Company paid a \$125 million cash dividend to the Parent.

\* \* \* \* \*

## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Please see the Compliance Report of E\*TRADE Securities LLC and the Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2017, for a material weakness in Internal Control Over Compliance that was identified and remediated during 2017. A copy of each report is available for inspection at the principal office of the Securities and Exchange Commission in Washington, D.C., and the New York regional office.