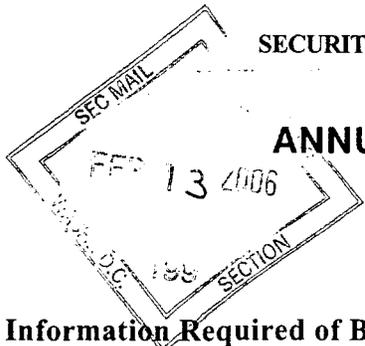


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**ANNUAL AUDITED REPORT  
FORM X-17A-5  
PART III**

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 January 1, 2005 AND ENDING December 31, 2005  
MM/DD/YY MM/DD/YY

**A. REGISTRANT IDENTIFICATION**

NAME OF BROKER-DEALER: Cognitive Capital, LLC

OFFICIAL USE ONLY
FIRM I.D. NO.

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

440 S. LaSalle Street, Suite 1825

(No. and Street)

Chicago

Illinois

60605

(City)

(State)

(Zip Code)

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

Jacqueline Sloan

(312) 291-0560

(Area Code - Telephone Number)

**B. ACCOUNTANT IDENTIFICATION**

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

Schultz and Chez, LLP

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

141 W. Jackson Blvd., Suite 2900

Chicago, IL

60604

(Address)

(City)

(State)

(Zip Code)

CHECK ONE:

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

**PROCESSED**

*N* APR 03 2006  
THOMSON FINANCIAL

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)

*KA* 3/31/06 *to*

OATH OR AFFIRMATION

I, Arthur Margulis, affirm that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the accompanying financial statements and Supplemental information pertaining to the firm of **Cognitive Capital, L.L.C.**, as of December 31, 2005 are true and correct. I further affirm that neither the Company nor any member, proprietor, principal officer, or director has any proprietary interest in any account classified solely as that of a customer.



Arthur Margulis  
Signature

Managing Member  
Title

Janet M. Herr  
Notary Public

This report contains (check all applicable boxes):

- (a) Facing Page
- (b) Statement of Financial Condition
- (c) Statement of Income
- (d) Statement of Changes in Member's Equity
- (e) Statement of Cash Flows
- (f) Statement of Changes in Subordinated Borrowings

Supplemental Information:

- (g) Computation of Net Capital
- (h) Computation for Determination of Reserve Requirements pursuant to Rule 15c3-3
- (i) Information Relating to the Possession or Control under Requirement under Rule 15c3-3
- (j) A Reconciliation, including appropriate explanation, of the Computation of Net Capital Under Rule 15c3-1 and the Computation for Determination of the Reserve Requirements pursuant to Rule 15c3-3
- (k) A Reconciliation between the audited and unaudited Statements of Financial Condition with respect to methods of consolidation
- (l) An Oath or Affirmation
- (m) A copy of the SIPC Supplemental Report
- (n) A report describing any material inadequacies found to exist or found to have existed since the date of the previous audit.
- (o) Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control Structure.

\*\* For conditions of confidential treatment of certain portions of this filing, see section 240.17a-5(e)(3)

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# SCHULTZ & CHEZ, L.L.P.

*Certified Public Accountants*

141 West Jackson Boulevard, Suite 2900  
Chicago, Illinois 60604  
Main: (312) 332-1912  
Fax: (312) 332-3635

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Member of  
Cognitive Capital LLC  
Chicago, Illinois

We have audited the accompanying statement of financial condition of Cognitive Capital LLC as of December 31, 2005, and the related statements of income, changes in member's equity and cash flows for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Cognitive Capital LLC as of December 31, 2005, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Our audit was made for the purpose of forming an opinion on the basic financial statements taken as a whole. The information contained on pages 8 and 9 is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements, but is supplementary information required by Rule 17a-5 of the Securities and Exchange Commission. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and, in our opinion, is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

*Schultz & Chez, LLP*

Chicago, Illinois  
January 18, 2006

Cognitive Capital LLC  
(An Illinois Limited Liability Company)  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL CONDITION**  
DECEMBER 31, 2005

**ASSETS**

Cash	\$	60,393
Due from clearing broker		3,308,743
Equities owned, at market		2,651,294
Interest receivable		941
Exchange membership (market value \$875,000)		330,000
Furniture and equipment, net		104,711
Other assets		<u>10,000</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b><u>6,466,082</u></b>

**LIABILITIES AND MEMBER'S EQUITY**

Equities sold, not yet purchased	\$	2,558,243
Interest and dividends payable		792
Accounts payable and accrued expenses		<u>187,500</u>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>		<b><u>2,746,535</u></b>
 Member's Equity		 <u>3,719,547</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND MEMBER'S EQUITY</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b><u>6,466,082</u></b>

See accompanying notes.

Cognitive Capital LLC  
(An Illinois Limited Liability Company)

**STATEMENT OF INCOME**

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2005

**REVENUES**

Firm trading	\$	1,959,605
Interest		121,802
Dividends		20,075
Other		<u>72,887</u>
Total Revenues		<u>2,174,369</u>

**EXPENSES**

Commissions and clearing fees	140,504
Regulatory fees	6,970
Interest	65,438
Dividends	43,380
Depreciation and amortization	44,256
Communications	141,628
Employee compensation	579,151
Occupancy	70,258
Consulting	12,568
Other	<u>22,423</u>

Total Expenses 1,126,576

NET INCOME \$ 1,047,793

See accompanying notes.

Cognitive Capital LLC  
(An Illinois Limited Liability Company)  
**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN MEMBER'S EQUITY**  
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2005

Balance at December 31, 2004	\$ 2,671,754
Net income	<u>1,047,793</u>
Balance at December 31, 2005	<u>\$ 3,719,547</u>

See accompanying notes.

Cognitive Capital LLC  
(An Illinois Limited Liability Company)

**STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS**

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2005

OPERATING ACTIVITIES	
Net income	\$ <u>1,047,793</u>
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash used in operating activities	
Depreciation and amortization	44,256
(Increase)/decrease in operating assets:	
Due from broker/dealers	( 646,126)
Securities owned, at market	( 1,684,250)
Increase/(decrease) in operating liabilities:	
Securities sold, not yet purchased	1,205,624
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	<u>150,137</u>
Total Adjustments	( <u>930,359</u> )
NET CASH USED IN OPERATING ACTIVITIES	<u>117,434</u>
INVESTING ACTIVITIES	
Purchase of furniture and equipment	( <u>68,790</u> )
NET CASH USED IN INVESTING ACTIVITIES	( <u>68,790</u> )
NET INCREASE IN CASH	48,644
CASH AT DECEMBER 31, 2004	<u>11,749</u>
CASH AT DECEMBER 31, 2005	\$ <u><u>60,393</u></u>

*Supplemental Cash flow Information:*

Cash payments for interest during the year totaled \$70,497.

Cash payments for income taxes during the year totaled \$0.

See accompanying notes.

Cognitive Capital LLC  
(An Illinois Limited Liability Company)  
**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2005

**(1) NATURE OF BUSINESS**

Cognitive Capital LLC, (the "Company") engages in trading strategies primarily involving equities and equity derivative instruments on a proprietary basis. The company is registered as a broker/dealer with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") and is a member of the Chicago Board Options Exchange.

**(2) SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

Securities owned and securities sold, not yet purchased, held in firm trading and investment accounts, are carried at market value.

Securities transactions are recorded on the trade date and, accordingly, gains and losses are recorded on unsettled transactions.

Futures transactions and resulting gains and losses are recorded on the trade date. Gains and losses on open futures contracts are reflected in income.

Furniture and equipment are recorded at cost and depreciated over their estimated useful lives using accelerated methods. At December 31, 2005, accumulated depreciation was \$48,212.

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles includes the use of estimates that affect the financial statements. Accordingly, actual results could differ from those estimates.

No provision has been made for income taxes as the taxable income or loss of the Company is included in the respective income tax returns of the members.

Financial instruments recorded at fair value on the Company's statement of financial condition include securities owned and securities sold, not yet purchased. Other financial instruments are recorded by the Company at contract amounts and include receivables from and payables to clearing broker. Financial instruments carried at contract amounts, which approximate fair value, either have short-term maturities, are repriced frequently, or bear market interest rates and, accordingly, are carried at amounts approximating fair value.

The Company has not presented a Statement of Comprehensive Income because it does not have any items of "other comprehensive income".

**(3) DERIVATIVE FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS HELD AND ISSUED FOR TRADING PURPOSES AND OTHER FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS WITH OFF-BALANCE-SHEET RISK**

In its normal course of business, the Company trades financial instruments involving off-balance-sheet market risk with securities broker/dealers and futures commission merchants. The gross notional (or contractual) amounts of derivative financial instruments represent the volume of these transactions and not the amounts potentially subject to market risk. In addition, measurement of market risk is meaningful only when all related

Cognitive Capital LLC  
(An Illinois Limited Liability Company)

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2005

**(3) DERIVATIVE FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS HELD AND ISSUED FOR TRADING PURPOSES AND OTHER FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS WITH OFF-BALANCE-SHEET RISK (CONTINUED)**

and offsetting transactions are taken into consideration. Market risk is the risk that a change in the level of one or more market prices, rates, indices, volatilities, correlations or other factors, such as liquidity, will result in losses for a specified position or portfolio. Financial instruments sold, but not yet purchased, entail an obligation to purchase the securities at a future date. The Company may incur a loss if the market value of the securities subsequently increases prior to the purchase of the security. Futures contracts are executed on an exchange, and cash settlement is made on a daily basis for market movements. The settlement of the aforementioned transactions is not expected to have a material adverse affect on the financial position of the Company.

As a trader, the Company is in the business of managing market risk. In management's opinion, market risk is substantially diminished when all financial instruments, including equities owned, are aggregated.

Credit risk represents the loss that the Company would incur if a counterparty fails to perform its contractual obligation to the Company. All derivative financial instruments entered into by the Company are exchange-traded. For exchange traded contracts, the Company's clearing broker, through industry clearing organizations, acts as the counterparty of specific transactions and therefore, bears the risk of delivery to and from counterparties.

**(4) CONCENTRATIONS OF CREDIT RISK**

At December 31, 2005, a credit concentration with its clearing broker consisted of approximately \$3.4 million representing the market value of the Company's trading account. The Company monitors the credit worthiness of the clearing broker to mitigate the Company's exposure to credit risk.

**(5) REGULATORY MATTERS**

As a registered broker/dealer, the Company is subject to the SEC's Uniform Net Capital Rule (Rule 15c3-1) which requires the maintenance of minimum net capital and requires that the ratio of aggregate indebtedness to net capital, both as defined, shall not exceed 15 to 1. At December 31, 2005, the Company had net capital of \$2,593,693 which exceeded requirements by \$2,493,693 and the ratio of aggregate indebtedness to net capital was less than 1:1.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

Cognitive Capital LLC  
(An Illinois Limited Liability Company)  
**COMPUTATION OF NET CAPITAL,  
PER UNIFORM NET CAPITAL RULE 15c3-1**  
DECEMBER 31, 2005

NET CAPITAL		
Member's equity		\$ 3,719,547
Non-allowable assets		
Furniture and equipment, net		( 104,711)
Exchange membership		( 330,000)
Other assets		<u>( 10,000)</u>
NET CAPITAL BEFORE HAIRCUTS ON SECURITIES		3,274,836
Haircuts on firm inventory	\$(680,202)	
Undue concentration charges	<u>( - )</u>	
Total haircuts		<u>( 680,202)</u>
NET CAPITAL		\$ <u>2,594,634</u>
COMPUTATION OF BASIC NET CAPITAL REQUIREMENT		
Minimum net capital required (Greater of 6 2/3% of aggregate indebtedness or \$100,000)		\$ <u>100,000</u>
EXCESS NET CAPITAL		\$ <u>2,494,634</u>
COMPUTATION OF AGGREGATE INDEBTEDNESS		
Total aggregate indebtedness - specified liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses		\$ <u>187,500</u>
TOTAL AGGREGATE INDEBTEDNESS		\$ <u>187,500</u>
Ratio of aggregate indebtedness to net capital		<u>&lt;1:1</u>

Note: There are no material differences between the audited computation of net capital and that per the Company's unaudited amended FOCUS report as filed.

Cognitive Capital LLC  
**COMPUTATION FOR DETERMINATION OF RESERVE REQUIREMENTS**

**AND**

**INFORMATION FOR THE POSSESSION OR CONTROL  
REQUIREMENTS PURSUANT TO RULE 15c3-3**

DECEMBER 31, 2005

RESERVE COMPUTATION  
(see Note)

INFORMATION FOR POSSESSION OR CONTROL REQUIREMENTS  
(see Note)

NOTE: Although the Company is not exempt from Rule 15c3-3, it does not transact a business in securities with or for customers and does not carry margin accounts, credit balances or securities for any person defined as a "customer" pursuant to Rule 17a-5(c)(4). Accordingly, there are no amounts reportable under these sections.

# SCHULTZ & CHEZ, L.L.P.

*Certified Public Accountants*

141 West Jackson Boulevard, Suite 2900  
Chicago, Illinois 60604  
Main: (312) 332-1912  
Fax: (312) 332-3635

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL

To the Member of  
Cognitive Capital LLC  
Chicago, Illinois

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements of Cognitive Capital LLC (the "Company") for the year ended December 31, 2005, we considered its internal control, including control activities for safeguarding securities, in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the consolidated financial statements and not to provide assurance on the internal control.

Also, as required by Rule 17a-5(g)(1) of the Securities and Exchange Commission, we have made a study of the practices and procedures followed by Cognitive Capital LLC that we considered relevant to the objectives stated in Rule 17a-5(g), (1) in making the periodic computations of aggregate indebtedness (or aggregate debits) and net capital under Rule 17a-3(a)(11) and the reserve required by Rule 15c3-3(e); and (2) in making the quarterly securities examinations, counts, verifications and comparisons, and the recordation of differences required by Rule 17a-13. We did not review the practices and procedures followed by the Company in complying with the requirements for prompt payment for securities under Section 8(b) of Regulation T of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System because the Company does not carry security accounts for customers or perform custodial functions relating to customer securities.

The management of the Company is responsible for establishing and maintaining internal control and the practices and procedures referred to in the preceding paragraph. In fulfilling this responsibility, estimates and judgments by management are required to assess the expected benefits and related costs of internal control policies and procedures and of the practices and procedures referred to in the preceding paragraph and to assess whether those practices and procedures can be expected to achieve the Commission's above-mentioned objectives. Two of the objectives of internal control and the practices and procedures are to provide management with reasonable, but not absolute, assurance that assets for which the Company has responsibility are safeguarded against loss from unauthorized use or disposition and that transactions are executed in accordance with management's authorization and recorded properly to permit the preparation of financial statements in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles. Rule 17a-5(g) lists additional objectives of the practices and procedures listed in the preceding paragraph.

Because of inherent limitations in any internal control or the practices and procedures referred to above, errors or fraud may occur and not be detected. Also, projection of any evaluation of them to future periods is subject to the risk that they may become inadequate because of changes in conditions or that the effectiveness of their design and operation may deteriorate.

Our consideration of the internal control would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control that might be material weaknesses under standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. A material weakness is a condition in which the design or operation of the specific internal control components does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that errors or fraud in amounts that would be material in relation to the financial statements being audited may occur and not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions. However, we noted no matters involving the internal control, including procedures for safeguarding securities, that we consider to be material weaknesses as defined above.

Our review indicated that Cognitive Capital LLC, although not exempt from Rule 15c3-3, had no reporting requirements because it did not transact a business in securities directly with or for other than members of a national securities

exchange and did not carry margin accounts, credit balances or securities for any person defined as a "customer" pursuant to Rule 17a-5(c)(4) and that, as of December 31, 2005, no facts came to our attention to indicate that such conditions were not complied with during the period.

We understand that practices and procedures that accomplish the objectives referred to in the second paragraph of this report are considered by the Commission to be adequate for its purposes in accordance with the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and related regulations, and that practices and procedures that do not accomplish such objectives in all material respects indicate a material inadequacy for such purposes. Based on this understanding and our study, we believe that the Company's practices and procedures were adequate at December 31, 2005, to meet the Commission's objectives.

This report is intended solely for the use of management, the Chicago Board Options Exchange, the Securities and Exchange Commission and other regulatory authorities who rely on Rule 17a-5(g) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 in their regulation of registered brokers and dealers, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Chicago, Illinois  
January 18, 2006

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Schullz" followed by a stylized flourish and the initials "CJ, LLP".