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UNITED STATES

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL	
OMB Number:	3235-0123
Expires:	April 30, 2013
Estimated average burden hours per response . . . . .	12.00

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

SEC  
Mail Processing  
Section  
FEB 29 2012

SEC FILE NUMBER
8-68398

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 01/01/11 AND ENDING 12/31/11  
MM/DD/YY MM/DD/YY

**A. REGISTRANT IDENTIFICATION**

NAME OF BROKER-DEALER: ABN AMRO Securities (USA) LLC

OFFICIAL USE ONLY
FIRM ID. NO.

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

100 Park Avenue, 17<sup>th</sup> Floor

New York (City) New York (No. and Street) 07656 (State) 07656 (Zip Code)

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

Matthew Levinson 917-284-6812

(Area Code - Telephone No.)

**B. ACCOUNTANT IDENTIFICATION**

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

KPMG LLP

345 Park Avenue (Address) New York (City) NY (State) 10154 (Zip Code)

CHECK ONE:

- Certified Public Accountant
- Public Accountant
- Accountant not resident in United States or any of its possessions. **CHECK ONE:**

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).

SEC 1410 (06-02)

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OATH OR AFFIRMATION

I, Matthew Levinson, swear (or affirm) that, to the best of my knowledge and belief the accompanying financial statements and supporting schedules pertaining to the firm of ABN AMRO Securities (USA) LLC, as of December 31, 2011, are true and correct. I further swear (or affirm) that neither the company nor any partner, proprietor, principal officer or director has any proprietary interest in any account classified solely as that of a customer, except as follows:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

*ML*

Signature

CFO

Title

*Paul J. May*

Notary Public

PAUL J. MAY, Notary Public, State of New York, No. 014,004,034, Qualified, Nassau County, Commission Expires April 3, 2015

This report \*\* contains (check all applicable boxes):

- (a) Facing Page.
- (b) Statement of Financial Condition.
- (c) Statement of Operations.
- (d) Statement of Cash Flows.
- (e) Statement of Changes in Member's Equity.
- (f) Statement of Changes in Subordinated Borrowings.
- (g) Notes to Financial Statements.
- (h) Computation of Net Capital Pursuant to Rule 15c3-1.
- (i) Computation for Determination of Reserve Requirements Pursuant to Rule 15c3-3.
- (j) Information Relating to the Possession or Control Requirements Under Rule 15c3-3.
- (k) A Reconciliation, including appropriate explanation of the Computation of Net Capital Under Rule 15c3-1 and the Computation for Determination of the Reserve Requirements Under Exhibit A of Rule 15c3-3.
- (l) A Reconciliation between the audited and unaudited Statements of Financial Condition with respect to methods of consolidation.
- (m) An Oath or Affirmation.
- (n) A copy of the SIPC Supplemental Report.
- (o) A report describing any material inadequacies found to exist or found to have existed since the date of the previous audit.
- (p) Schedule of Segregation Requirements and Funds in Segregation for Customers Trading on U.S. Commodity Exchanges.
- (q) Statement of Secured Amount and Funds Held in Separate Accounts for Foreign Futures and Options Customers Pursuant to Commission Regulation 30.7.
- (r) Supplementary Report of Independent Auditors on Internal Control.

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



**ABN AMRO SECURITIES (USA) LLC**  
(An Indirect Wholly Owned Subsidiary of ABN AMRO Bank N.V.)

**Statement of Financial Condition**

**December 31, 2011**

**(With Report and Supplementary Report of Independent  
Registered Public Accounting Firm Thereon)**

**ABN AMRO SECURITIES (USA) LLC**  
(An Indirect Wholly Owned Subsidiary of ABN AMRO Bank N.V.)

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Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm on Internal Control Required by SEC  
Rule 17a-5

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**KPMG LLP**  
345 Park Avenue  
New York, NY 10154-0102

## **Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm**

Board of Directors  
ABN AMRO Securities (USA) LLC:

We have audited the accompanying statement of financial condition of ABN AMRO Securities (USA) LLC (the Company), an indirect wholly owned subsidiary of ABN AMRO Bank N.V., as of December 31, 2011, that are filed pursuant to Rule 17a-5 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and Regulation 1.10 of the Commodity Exchange Act. This 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 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 statement of financial condition is free of material misstatement. An audit includes consideration of internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit of a statement of financial condition also includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in that statement of financial condition, assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall statement of financial condition presentation. We believe that our audit of the statement of financial condition provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the statement of financial condition referred to above presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of ABN AMRO Securities (USA) LLC as of December 31, 2011, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

**KPMG LLP**

February 27, 2012

**ABN AMRO SECURITIES (USA) LLC**  
(An Indirect Wholly Owned Subsidiary of ABN AMRO Bank N.V.)

Statement of Financial Condition

December 31, 2011

(In thousands)

<b>Assets</b>		
Cash		\$ 776
Collateralized agreements:		
Securities borrowed		14,562,225
Securities purchased under agreements to resell		6,774,833
Receivables from brokers/dealers and clearing organizations		52,805
Deferred tax asset		8,187
Receivables from related parties		2,342
Other assets		3,979
		<hr/>
Total assets		\$ 21,405,147
		<hr/> <hr/>
<b>Liabilities and Member's Equity</b>		
Collateralized agreements:		
Securities sold under agreements to repurchase		\$ 16,611,016
Securities loaned		3,942,558
Payables to related parties		701,751
Payables to brokers/dealers and clearing organizations		5,931
Accrued and other liabilities		2,760
		<hr/>
		21,264,016
Commitments, contingencies, and guarantees:		
Subordinated borrowings		50,000
Member's equity		91,131
		<hr/>
Total liabilities and member's equity		\$ 21,405,147
		<hr/> <hr/>

See accompanying notes to statement of financial condition.

**ABN AMRO SECURITIES (USA) LLC**  
(An Indirect Wholly Owned Subsidiary of ABN AMRO Bank N.V.)

Notes to Statement of Financial Condition

December 31, 2011

(In thousands)

**(1) Organization and Description of Business**

ABN AMRO Securities (USA) LLC (the Company) is a wholly owned subsidiary of ABN AMRO Holdings USA LLC (ABNH), which in turn is wholly owned by ABN AMRO Bank N.V. (AAB). The Company's primary business line is that of securities financing.

The Company is registered as a broker-dealer with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and as an Introducing Broker with the U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC) and is approved as a member of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA) and the National Futures Association (NFA). Additionally, the Company is a member of the Securities Investor Protection Corporation (SIPC).

**(2) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

**(a) Basis of Presentation**

The Company maintains its financial records in U.S. dollars. The statement of financial condition is presented in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP).

**(b) Use of Estimates**

The preparation of the statement of financial condition in conformity with GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the statement of financial condition and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Current market conditions increase the risks and complexities in the judgment of these estimates. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

**(c) Cash**

Cash in the statement of financial condition at December 31, 2011 was held at a large major banking institution not related to AAB or any of the Company's affiliates.

**(d) Collateralized Agreements**

The Company's collateralized agreements include securities purchased under agreements to resell (resale agreements), securities sold under agreements to repurchase (repurchase agreements), and securities lending and borrowing transactions.

Resale and repurchase agreements are accounted for as financing transactions where the Company has an agreement to sell (or purchase) the same or substantially the same securities before maturity at a fixed or determinable price. It is the policy of the Company to take possession of securities collateralizing resale agreements at the time such agreements are made. In the same manner, the Company provides securities to counterparties in order to collateralize repurchase agreements. These agreements are collateralized primarily by U.S. Treasury and federal agency securities, with a fair value equal to or in excess of the principal amount loaned. The market value of the underlying

**ABN AMRO SECURITIES (USA) LLC**  
(An Indirect Wholly Owned Subsidiary of ABN AMRO Bank N.V.)

Notes to Statement of Financial Condition

December 31, 2011

(In thousands)

collateral is reviewed daily and additional cash or other collateral is obtained or returned as necessary. The Company records resale and repurchase agreements at contract price, plus accrued interest, which approximates fair value.

Securities borrowed transactions require the Company to deposit cash or other collateral with lenders. In securities lending transactions, the Company receives collateral in the form of cash or securities in an amount generally in excess of the market value of securities loaned. The Company monitors the market value of securities borrowed and loaned on a daily basis, and obtains or returns additional collateral as necessary. Securities borrowed and securities loaned are recorded at the amount of cash or other collateral advanced or received by the Company, plus accrued interest, which approximates fair value.

During the year, the Company has elected to net certain repurchase agreements and resale agreements with the same counterparty in the statement of financial condition when requirements of ASC 210-20, *Balance Sheet – Offsetting*, are met.

At December 31, 2011, the Company had obtained securities as collateral that could be repledged, delivered, or otherwise transferred with a fair value of approximately \$22,065,201. This collateral was received under resale agreements and securities borrowed transactions. Of these securities, approximately \$20,857,605 was repledged, delivered, or otherwise transferred, as collateral under repurchase agreements, securities lending agreements, or to satisfy the Company's margin requirements with its clearing organizations.

**(e) Receivables from Brokers/Dealers and Clearing Organizations**

The Company is a member of various clearing organizations at which it maintains cash and/or securities required for the conduct of its day-to-day clearance activities. At December 31, 2011, securities consisting of U.S. Treasuries with a fair value of \$37,860 were on deposit with one of these clearing organizations.

**(f) Income Taxes**

The Company accounts for income taxes in accordance with ASC 740, *Income Taxes*. It recognizes the current and deferred tax consequences of all transactions in the financial statements using the provisions of the currently enacted tax laws. The effects of tax rate changes on deferred tax liabilities or assets, as well as other changes in income tax laws, are recognized in earnings in the period in which such changes are enacted. Valuation allowances will be established when necessary to reduce deferred tax assets to the amounts that will likely be realized.

The Company accounts for uncertain tax provisions according to ASC 740, which prescribes the method of applying a "more-likely than-not" (MLTN) criteria as to whether a tax position will be sustained upon examination, based on the technical merits of the position. Accordingly, the Company assesses this likelihood based on the facts, circumstances, and information available at the end of each period. A tax position that meets the MLTN recognition threshold will be initially and subsequently measured at the largest amount of tax benefit that is greater than 50% likely of being

**ABN AMRO SECURITIES (USA) LLC**  
(An Indirect Wholly Owned Subsidiary of ABN AMRO Bank N.V.)

Notes to Statement of Financial Condition

December 31, 2011

(In thousands)

realized upon settlement with a taxing authority that has full knowledge of all relevant information. The measurement of unrecognized tax benefits will be adjusted when new information is available, or when an event occurs that requires a change.

**(g) Translation of Foreign Currencies**

Assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated at the rate of exchange on the statement of financial condition date.

**(3) Receivables from and Payables to Brokers/Dealers and Clearing Organizations**

Receivables from and payables to brokers/dealers and clearing organizations at December 31, 2011 consist of the following:

	<u>Receivables</u>	<u>Payables</u>
Clearing organizations	\$ 52,805	3,684
Broker/Dealers	—	2,247
Total	\$ <u>52,805</u>	<u>5,931</u>

Amounts receivable from and payable to clearing organizations represents end of day cash clearing balances and cash clearing deposits held with various clearing organizations. Amounts payable to broker/dealers represent an end-of-day balance with a related party foreign broker-dealer for which the Company clears its trades.

**(4) Subordinated Borrowings**

Subordinated borrowings are carried at contracted amounts, which approximate fair value. These borrowings are subordinated to claims of general creditors, are covered by agreements approved by FINRA, and are included by the Company for the purposes of computing net capital under the SEC's Uniform Net Capital Rule. To the extent that these borrowings are required for the Company's continued compliance with minimum net capital requirements, they may not be repaid.

The Company has one subordinated note payable to ABNH of \$50,000, maturing on May 31, 2013. The interest rate, which will reset periodically, is based on U.S. dollar three-month LIBOR, plus a spread.

**(5) Related-Party Transactions**

In the normal course of business, the Company enters into arm's-length transactions with affiliated companies as part of its financing and general operations.

**ABN AMRO SECURITIES (USA) LLC**  
(An Indirect Wholly Owned Subsidiary of ABN AMRO Bank N.V.)

Notes to Statement of Financial Condition

December 31, 2011

(In thousands)

At December 31, 2011, the statement of financial condition included the following balances with affiliates:

Assets:	
Securities borrowed	\$ 1,050,397
Securities purchased under agreements to resell	5,531,100
Receivables from related parties	2,342
Receivables from brokers/dealers and clearing organizations	9,979
Other assets	1,750
Liabilities:	
Securities sold under agreements to repurchase	\$ 12,452,808
Securities loaned	2,850,283
Payables to related parties	701,751
Payables to brokers/dealers and clearing organizations	2,247
Accrued and other liabilities	807
Subordinated borrowings	50,000

Material items contained in the above balances are discussed below.

**(a) Financing Transactions**

The Company enters into collateralized financing transactions with affiliates under comparable financing rates and terms as with unaffiliated parties. At December 31, 2011, the financing transaction balances, inclusive of resale and repurchase agreements, securities borrowed, and loaned agreements, were with AAB and other affiliates.

The Company either charges or is charged interest or fees at contracted rates that are stipulated in the resale, repurchase, securities borrowed, or securities loaned agreements.

**(b) Borrowing from Affiliates**

At December 31, 2011, the Company has \$50,000 in subordinated notes payable to ABNH, with accrued interest payable in the amount of \$113 included in payables to related parties in the statement of financial condition.

At December 31, 2011, the Company has borrowed funds from AAB and an affiliate, ABN AMRO Funding USA LLC (ABNF), in the amounts of \$629,700 and \$66,000, respectively. Total interest payable on these borrowings as of December 31, 2011 amounts to \$217. These amounts are included in payables to related parties in the statement of financial condition. These borrowings, which

**ABN AMRO SECURITIES (USA) LLC**  
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Notes to Statement of Financial Condition

December 31, 2011

(In thousands)

approximate fair value, are generally short term in nature and bear interest based on the appropriate spreads to benchmark rates depending on the terms and currency of such borrowings.

**(c) Support and Services**

The Company and its affiliates share various resources for which they also share the associated costs. Costs allocated to the Company, as well as costs the Company allocated to its affiliates, for support, services, rent, utilities, information technology, and amortization and depreciation of fixed assets and leasehold improvements. The related unpaid balances at December 31, 2011 were \$2,342 and \$5,721 and are included as receivables and payables to related parties in the statement of financial condition, respectively.

**(6) Employee Benefit Plans**

Substantially, all employees of the Company are covered by ABNH's defined contribution benefit plan. ABNH's contribution is determined under provisions of the plan. The Company is charged for ABNH's contribution through its allocated charges.

**(7) Income Taxes**

The Company is treated as a disregarded entity for federal income tax purposes and the results of its operations are included in ABNH's U.S. federal income tax return. The Company's U.S. federal, and certain state and local income taxes are provided on a separate-entity basis and are subject to the utilization of tax attributes in ABNH's consolidated income tax provision. At December 31, 2011, the tax related balance owed to ABNH was \$111 and was included in accrued and other liabilities in the statement of financial condition.

As of December 31, 2011, the Company has recorded a deferred tax asset (DTA) of \$8,187 in its statement of financial condition. The DTA consists primarily of net operating loss (NOL) generated from current year operations, as well as NOL carryforwards from the prior tax year. The NOL will expire at the end of calendar years 2029 to 2031.

The Company has taken the position that it is more likely than not that the NOL will be realized in the future years. Therefore, no valuation allowance against the associated DTA has been provided.

The Company has no unrecognized tax benefits and related interest or penalties at December 31, 2011. Management does not believe that there is any tax position for which it is reasonably possible that will result in unrecognized tax benefits within the next 12 months. ABNH's returns for tax period ended December 31, 2009 and 2010 are subject to examination by the Internal Revenue Service for U.S. federal tax purposes, and by the state and local tax authorities. As of December 31, 2011, ABNH has no outstanding audits in any tax jurisdiction.

**ABN AMRO SECURITIES (USA) LLC**  
(An Indirect Wholly Owned Subsidiary of ABN AMRO Bank N.V.)

Notes to Statement of Financial Condition

December 31, 2011

(In thousands)

**(8) Financial Instruments**

**(a) *Financial Instruments with Off-Balance-Sheet Risk***

The Company provides securities as collateral to counterparties under repurchase agreements and securities lending transactions. In the event the counterparty is unable to meet its contractual obligation to return securities pledged as collateral, the Company may be exposed to the risk of acquiring the securities at prevailing market prices in order to satisfy its obligations.

The Company manages this risk by monitoring the market value of financial instruments pledged on a daily basis, by requiring adjustments of collateral levels in the event of excess market exposure and by maintaining a diverse number of counterparties.

From time to time, the Company enters into forward currency contracts with an affiliate. The fair values of these derivative financial instruments are \$657 on a notional of \$253,017 at December 31 2011, and are included in other assets in the statement of financial condition. These instruments are considered level 2 under the US GAAP fair value hierarchy since the inputs used in determining fair value are observable in active markets.

**(b) *Concentrations of Credit Risk***

The Company enters into transactions that involve varying degrees of credit risk. The Company monitors its exposure to this risk on a daily basis through a variety of credit exposure control procedures.

Credit risk is the potential loss due to uncertainty in a counterparty's ability to meet its obligations. Counterparties primarily include brokers/dealers, banks, and other institutions. In the event counterparties do not fulfill their obligations, the Company may be exposed to credit risk. The risk of default depends on the creditworthiness of the counterparty or issuer of the instrument. It is the Company's policy to review the credit standing of each counterparty on a periodic basis. With respect to collateralized financing transactions, the Company continually monitors the value and adequacy of the collateral pledged by its counterparties. Consequently, management believes the risk of credit loss from counterparties' failure to perform in connection with collateralized lending activities is remote.

**ABN AMRO SECURITIES (USA) LLC**  
(An Indirect Wholly Owned Subsidiary of ABN AMRO Bank N.V.)

Notes to Statement of Financial Condition

December 31, 2011

(In thousands)

**(9) Net Capital Requirements**

The Company is subject to the SEC's Uniform Net Capital Rule (Rule 15c3-1) and the CFTC's minimum financial requirements for futures commission merchants and introducing brokers (Regulation 1.17), which requires the maintenance of minimum net capital. The Company computes its net capital under the alternative method permitted by Rule 15c3-1. This method requires that the Company maintain minimum net capital, as defined, equivalent to the greater of \$250 or 2% of aggregate debit items arising from customer transactions pursuant to SEC Rule 15c3-3, plus excess margin collected on securities received on resale agreements, as defined.

At December 31, 2011, the Company's net capital of \$118,233 was \$117,983 in excess of the required amount. Advances to affiliates, repayment of subordinated liabilities, dividend payments, and other equity withdrawals are subject to certain limitations and other provisions of the capital rules of the SEC and other regulators.

**SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT**



**KPMG LLP**  
345 Park Avenue  
New York, NY 10154-0102

**Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm  
on Internal Control Required by SEC Rule 17a-5 and CFTC Regulation 1.16**

The Board of Directors  
ABN AMRO Securities (USA) LLC:

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements of ABN AMRO Securities (USA) LLC (the Company) an indirect wholly owned subsidiary of ABN AMRO Bank N.V. as of and for the year ended December 31, 2011, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, we considered the Company's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control.

Also, as required by Rule 17a-5(g)(1) of the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), we have made a study of the practices and procedures followed by the Company, including consideration of control activities for safeguarding securities. This study included tests of compliance with such practices and procedures that we considered relevant to the objectives stated in Rule 17a-5(g), in the following:

1. 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);
2. Making the quarterly securities examinations, counts, verifications, and comparisons, and the recordation of differences required by Rule 17a-13;
3. Complying with the requirements for prompt payment for securities under Section 8 of Federal Reserve Regulation T of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System; and
4. Obtaining and maintaining physical possession or control of all fully paid and excess margin securities of customers as required by Rule 15c3-3.

In addition, as required by Regulation 1.16 of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC), we have made a study of practices and procedures followed by the Company including consideration of control activities for safeguarding customer and firm assets. This study included tests of such practices and procedures that we considered relevant to the objectives stated in Regulation 1.6 in making the following:

1. The periodic computations of minimum financial requirements pursuant to Regulation 1.17.

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 controls, 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 SEC's and the CFTC's previously 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 conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles. Rule 17a-5(g) and Regulation 1.16(d)(2) lists additional objectives of the practices and procedures listed in the preceding paragraphs.

Because of inherent limitations in internal control and the practices and procedures referred to above, error 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.

A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent or detect and correct misstatements on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

A material weakness is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first, second, and third paragraphs and would not necessarily identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control and control activities for safeguarding securities that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined previously.

We understand that practices and procedures that accomplish the objectives referred to in the second and third paragraphs of this report are considered by the SEC and CFTC to be adequate for their purposes in accordance with the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Commodity Exchange Act, 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 on our study, we believe that the Company's practices and procedures, as described in the second and third paragraphs of this report, were adequate at December 31, 2011, to meet the SEC's and CFTC's objectives.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Board of Directors, management, the SEC, the CFTC, the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA), and other regulatory agencies that rely on Rule 17a-5(g) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Regulation 1.16 of the CFTC or both 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.

**KPMG LLP**

February 27, 2012