	FUR OFFICIAL USE	VILI	
LI Accountant not residen	t in United States or any of its positive for OFFICIAL USE (······
Public Accountant			
Certified Public Accou	ntant		
CHECK ONE:			
(Address)	(City)	(State)	(Zip Code)
529 Fifth Avenue	New York	New York	10017
	(Name – if individual, state last	first, middle name)	- Thinnest
Citrin Cooperman & Company, LLP			
NDEPENDENT PUBLIC ACCOUN	TANT whose opinion is contained	in this Report*	
B	3. ACCOUNTANT IDENTIF	ICATION	
			Code – Telephone Number
NAME AND TELEPHONE NUMBE	K OF PERSON TO CONTACT IN		541-8400
	· ,		
City)	New Jersey (State)	0709	
0	(No. and Street)		
755 Secaucus Road			
ADDRESS OF PRINCIPAL PLACE	OF BUSINESS: (Do not use P.O.	Box No.)	FIRM I.D. NO.
JAME OF BROKER-DEALER:-H	rdoustle Trading US	SA, LLC	OFFICIAL USE ONLY
	A. REGISTRANT IDENTIF	ICATION	
	MM/DD/YY		MM/DD/YY
REPORT FOR THE PERIOD BEGIN		AND ENDING06/30/12	2
Securities	Exchange Act of 1934 and l	Rule 17a-5 Thereunder	
—	ired of Brokers and Dealer	s Pursuant to \$95 tion 17	of the
	FACING PAGE	Washington DC	
	PART III		SEC FILE NUMBEI
	FORM X-17A	-5 AUG 2 9 2012	r
	ANNUAL AUDITED	BEPORT Section hours	ated average burden per response12.0
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	SI		OMB APPROVAL Number: 3235-012

*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)

Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.



SEC 1410 (06-02)

OATH OR AFFIRMATION

Brent Hippert , swear (or affirm) that, to the best of I, my knowledge and belief the accompanying financial statement and supporting schedules pertaining to the firm of Hardcastle Trading USA, LLC , as of June 30 20 12 , 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: None Signature President Title **GEORGE MUMFORD** otary Public NOTARY PUBLIC BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD This report ****** contains (check all applicable boxes): My Commission Expires 2/18/2015 (a) Facing Page. (b) Statement of Financial Condition. X (c) Statement of Income (Loss). \boxtimes (d) Statement of Changes in Financial Condition. X (e) Statement of Changes in Stockholders' Equity or Partners' or Sole Proprietors' Capital. (f) Statement of Changes in Liabilities Subordinated to Claims of Creditors. X (g) Computation of Net Capital. (h) Computation for Determination of Reserve Requirements Pursuant to Rule 15c3-3. X

(i) Information Relating to the Possession or Control Requirements 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 Under Exhibit A of Rule 15c3-3.

(k) A Reconciliation between the audited and unaudited Statements of Financial Condition with respect to methods of consolidation.

- (1) 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 accounting control.

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

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HARDCASTLE TRADING USA, LLC (A Limited Liability Company) STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL CONDITION

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JUNE 30, 2012

HARDCASTLE TRADING USA, LLC (A Limited Liability Company) JUNE 30, 2012

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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Member Hardcastle Trading USA, LLC

We have audited the accompanying statement of financial condition of Hardcastle Trading USA, LLC (a limited liability company) (the "Company") as of June 30, 2012, that is filed pursuant to Rule 17a-5 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. 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 also includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the 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 Hardcastle Trading USA, LLC as of June 30, 2012, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

August 24, 2012

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ASSETS

Cash Dividends receivable Due from clearing broker-dealer Securities owned, at fair value Property and equipment, less accumulated depreciation of \$1,333,782 Security deposits Other assets TOTAL ASSETS	6.	258,232 173,608 62,242,501 58,103,169 748,472 6,470 92,168 21,624,620			
LIABILITIES AND MEMBER'S EQUITY					
Liabilities: Securities sold, not yet purchased, at fair value Licensing fee payable to Parent Accounts payable and accrued expenses Dividends payable Notes payable to Parent Total liabilities		62,563,580 1,881,370 354,792 401,728 35,100,000 00,301,470			
Commitments and contingencies (Notes 5, 6, and 7)	-	,,,			
Member's equity TOTAL LIABILITIES AND MEMBER'S EQUITY		<u>21,323,150</u> 21,624,620			

See accompanying notes to statement of financial condition.

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NOTE 1. ORGANIZATION AND SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Organization

Hardcastle Trading USA, LLC (the "Company") was formed as a limited liability company on January 16, 2003, under the laws of the state of Delaware to manage and operate as a registered securities broker-dealer and to engage in the securities and brokerage business. The Company is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Hardcastle Trading AG (the "Parent"), a Swiss company, and is registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") as a broker-dealer. Additionally, the Company is a member of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc. ("FINRA") and a participant and market maker on the Boston Options Exchange; and various other exchanges. The Company clears its securities transactions on a fully disclosed basis through another broker-dealer.

Since the Company is a limited liability company, the member is not liable for the debts, obligations, or liabilities of the Company, whether arising in contract, tort, or otherwise, unless the member has signed a specific guarantee.

Use of estimates

The preparation of a statement of financial condition in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("GAAP") requires the Company's management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosures of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the statement of financial condition. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Securities transactions

Principal transactions are recorded on a trade-date basis.

Amounts receivable and payable for securities transactions that have not reached their contractual settlement date are recorded net on the statement of financial condition.

Marketable securities are stated at fair value as determined by quoted market prices. Securities not readily marketable are valued at fair value as determined by management.

Property and equipment

Property and equipment are carried at cost. Expenditures for maintenance and repairs are expensed currently, while renewals and betterments that materially extend the life of an asset are capitalized. The cost of assets sold, retired, or otherwise disposed of, and the related allowance for depreciation, are eliminated from the accounts, and any resulting gain or loss is recognized. Depreciation is provided using accelerated methods over the estimated useful lives of the assets, which are as follows:

Furniture and equipment	7 years
Computer equipment	5 years
Computer software	3 years

NOTE 1. ORGANIZATION AND SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Concentrations of credit risk

The Company maintains its cash at a major financial institution in accounts that at times may exceed federally-insured limits. The Company has not experienced any losses on such accounts.

The Company is engaged in various trading and brokerage activities in which counterparties primarily include broker-dealers, banks, and other financial institutions. In the event counterparties do not fulfill their obligations, the Company may be exposed to 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, as necessary, the credit standing of each counterparty.

Investments in securities consist of securities of companies that are located primarily in the United States of America.

Fair value measurements

In January 2010, the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") issued Accounting Standards Update ("ASU") No. 2010-06, *Improving Disclosures about Fair Value Measurements*. This update amends FASB Accounting Standards Codification ("ASC") 820, *Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures*, to require new disclosures for significant transfers in and out of Level 1 and Level 2 fair value measurements, disaggregation regarding classes of assets and liabilities, valuation techniques, and inputs used to measure fair value for both recurring and nonrecurring fair value measurements for Level 2 or Level 3. These disclosures are effective for reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2009. Additional new disclosures regarding the purchases, sales, issuances, and settlements in the roll forward of activity in Level 3 fair value measurements are effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2010. The Company adopted certain of the relevant disclosure provisions of ASU 2010-06 on July 1, 2010, and certain other provisions on July 1, 2011.

FASB ASC 820 establishes a framework for measuring fair value. That framework provides a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value. The hierarchy gives the highest priority to unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (Level 1 measurements) and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs (Level 3 measurements). Categorization within the valuation hierarchy is based upon the lowest level of input that is significant to the fair value measurement. Valuation techniques used need to maximize the use of observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs. Under the new standard, fair value is defined as the exit price, or the amount that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants as of the measurement date.

NOTE 1. ORGANIZATION AND SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Fair value measurements (continued)

The three levels of the fair value hierarchy under FASB ASC 820 are described as follows:

Level 1 inputs to the valuation methodology are unadjusted quoted prices for identical assets or liabilities in active markets that the Company has the ability to access.

Level 2 inputs to the valuation methodology include: quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets; quoted prices for identical assets or liabilities in inactive markets; inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset or liability; and, inputs that are derived principally from or corroborated by observable market data by correlation or other means. If the asset or liability has a specified (contractual) term, the Level 2 input must be observable for substantially the full term of the asset or liability.

Level 3 inputs to the valuation methodology are unobservable and significant to the fair value measurement.

On July 1, 2011, the Company adopted, prospectively, new accounting guidance found in FASB ASC 820 for nonfinancial assets and liabilities, except for items that are recognized or disclosed at fair value in the statement of financial condition on a recurring basis (at least annually). Adoption of the new guidance did not have a material impact on the Company's statement of financial condition.

Income taxes

The Company is a limited liability company that has elected to be taxed as a C corporation. A C corporation is taxed as a separate entity under relevant tax laws.

The Company recognizes and measures its unrecognized tax benefits in accordance with FASB ASC 740, *Income Taxes*. Under that guidance, the Company assesses the likelihood, based on their technical merit, that tax positions will be sustained upon examination based on the facts, circumstances and information available at the end of each period. The measurement of unrecognized tax benefits is adjusted when new information is available, or when an event occurs that requires a change. With few exceptions, the Company is no longer subject to U.S. federal, state and local examinations by taxing authorities for years ended on or before June 30, 2008.

The Company uses the asset and liability method of accounting for income taxes pursuant to FASB ASC 740. Under the asset and liability method of FASB ASC 740, deferred tax assets and liabilities shall be recognized for the future tax consequences attributable to differences between the financial statement carrying amounts of existing assets and liabilities and their respective tax bases. Deferred tax assets, including tax loss and credit carryforwards, and liabilities are measured using enacted tax rates expected to apply to taxable income in the years in which those temporary differences are expected to be recovered or settled. The effect on deferred tax assets and liabilities of a change in tax rates is recognized in income in the period that includes the enactment date. Deferred income tax expense represents the change during the period in the deferred

NOTE 1. ORGANIZATION AND SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Income taxes (continued)

tax assets and deferred tax liabilities. The components of the deferred tax assets and liabilities are individually classified as current and non-current based on their characteristics. Deferred tax assets are reduced by a valuation allowance when, in the opinion of management, it is more likely than not that some portion or all of the deferred tax assets will not be realized.

Subsequent events

In accordance with FASB ASC 855, *Subsequent Events*, the Company has evaluated subsequent events through August 24, 2012, the date on which the statement of financial condition was available to be issued. There were no material subsequent events that required recognition or additional disclosure in the statement of financial condition.

NOTE 2. PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT

Property and equipment at June 30, 2012, consisted of the following:

Furniture and equipment	\$ 118,198
Computer equipment	1,856,035
Software	45,956
Leasehold improvements	 62,065
•	2,082,254
Less: accumulated depreciation	 <u>(1,333,782</u>)
Property and equipment, net	\$ 748,472

NOTE 3. <u>NET CAPITAL REQUIREMENTS</u>

The Company is subject to the SEC's Uniform Net Capital Rule 15c3-1 (the "Rule") and has elected to compute its net capital in accordance with the Alternative Method permitted by the Rule. Under this alternative, the Company's minimum net capital requirement is equal to the greater of 2% of aggregate debit items, as defined, or \$250,000. At June 30, 2012, the Company had net capital of approximately \$20,466,000, which exceeds the Company's minimum net capital requirement of \$250,000.

The Company has elected, and Goldman Sachs Execution & Clearing, L.P. ("GSEC"), as the Company's clearing-broker dealer, has permitted the Company to use SEC Rule 15c3-1(a)(6). Pursuant to this rule, GSEC is responsible for absorbing the haircuts on the securities owned by the Company.

NOTE 4. RELATED-PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Effective February 1, 2004, the Company entered into a licensing agreement with its Parent. On July 1, 2009, the Company and the Parent agreed to extend the agreement through June 30, 2014. The agreement provides the Company with access to certain software and know-how developed by the Parent, as well as to certain administrative and management services provided by the Parent with respect to the Company's trading, risk management, and back office operations. The agreement states that the Company is to pay the Parent under the agreement based upon its return on utilized capital, as defined in the agreement. At June 30, 2012, \$1,881,370 is payable and is included in the liabilities section in the accompanying statement of financial condition.

In addition, as more fully described in Note 6, the Company has received financing from its Parent.

NOTE 5. <u>COMMITMENTS</u>

Effective April 16, 2008, the Company has entered into a master service agreement with an unrelated entity. Under the agreement, the Company receives access to electronic communications systems and facilities. In addition, the Company also occupies office space within the service center. As of June 30, 2011, future minimum annual commitments under the master service agreement are as follows:

Year ending June 30:	
2013	\$ 324,060

NOTE 6. <u>NOTES PAYABLE</u>

The Company has entered into various non-collateralized promissory note agreements with the Parent to fund trading activities. The terms of these notes range between three and six years. The notes require annual interest-only payments. The interest rate for these loans is 130% of the monthly Applicable Federal Rate for mid-term loans, as published by the Internal Revenue Service.

As of June 30, 2012, future principal payments required under the notes are as follows:

Year ending June 30:		
2013	\$	6,700,000
2014		-
2015		-
2016		9,900,000
2017	<u> </u>	18,500,000
	\$	35,100,000

NOTE 7. <u>FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS WITH OFF-BALANCE-SHEET RISK AND</u> CREDIT RISK

The Company enters into various transactions involving derivatives and other offbalance-sheet financial instruments. These financial instruments include futures and exchange-traded options. These derivative financial instruments are used for trading activities and to manage market risk and are, therefore, subject to varying degrees of market and credit risk. Derivative transactions are entered into for trading purposes or to economically hedge other positions or transactions. The Company has elected to use the disclosure option codified in FASB ASC 815, *Derivatives Instruments and Hedging*, as set forth to its derivative activities.

The Company records all derivative contracts at fair value. For this reason, the Company does not monitor its risk exposure to derivative contracts based on derivative notional amounts; rather, the Company manages its risk exposure on a fair value basis. Aggregate market risk limits have been established, and market risk measures are routinely monitored against these limits. The Company also manages its exposure to these derivative contracts through a variety of risk mitigation strategies, including, but not limited to, entering into offsetting economic hedge positions. The Company believes that the notional amounts of the derivative contracts generally overstate its exposure.

The Company does not apply hedge accounting as defined in FASB ASC 815 as all financial instruments are marked to market, with changes in fair values reflected in earnings. Therefore, the disclosures required in FASB ASC 815 are generally not applicable with respect to these financial instruments.

In addition, the Company has sold securities that it does not currently own; therefore, it will be obligated to purchase such securities at a future date. The Company has recorded these obligations in the statement of financial condition at June 30, 2012, at the market values of the related securities and will incur a loss if the market value of the securities increases subsequent to June 30, 2012, prior to the Company "closing" its position.

Fair values of options contracts are recorded in securities owned or securities sold, not yet purchased, as appropriate.

Substantially all of the Company's amounts due from broker and dealer and securities owned are held at its clearing broker and are, therefore, subject to the credit risk of the clearing broker.

NOTE 7. <u>FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS WITH OFF-BALANCE-SHEET RISK AND</u> <u>CREDIT RISK (CONTINUED)</u>

The following tables present additional information about derivatives held by the Company, including the volume of the Company's derivative activities based on the number of contracts, categorized by primary risk exposure, and reflected on the statement of financial condition as of June 30, 2012:

		Ass	Assets		
	Classification in Statement of		Number of		
Primary Risk Exposure	Financial Condition	Fair Value	Contracts		
Equity option contracts	Securities owned, at fair value (Notional amount - \$4,530,031,227)	\$ <u>326.147.642</u>	1,085,188		
		Liabi	lities		
Primary Risk Exposure	Classification in Statement of Financial Condition	Fair Value	Number of <u>Contracts</u>		
	Securities sold, not yet purchased, at fair value (Notional amount -				

Market risk is the potential change in an instrument's value caused by fluctuations in interest rates, equity prices, credit spreads, or other risks. Exposure to market risk is influenced by a number of factors, including the relationships between financial instruments and the volatility and liquidity in the markets in which the financial instruments are traded. Derivative financial instruments involve varying degrees of offbalance-sheet market risk. Changes in the market values of the underlying financial instruments may result in changes in the value of the derivative financial instruments. In many cases, the use of derivative financial instruments serves to modify or offset market risk associated with other transactions and, accordingly, serves to decrease the Company's overall exposure to market risk. The Company utilizes various analytical monitoring techniques to control its exposure to market risk.

Fair values of derivative contracts in an asset position are included in "Securities owned, at fair value" in the statement of financial condition. Fair values of derivative contracts in a liability position are included in "Securities sold, not yet purchased, at fair value" in the statement of financial condition.

NOTE 8. <u>EMPLOYEE BENEFIT PLANS</u>

The Company adopted a 401(k) retirement plan (the "Plan") to provide retirement benefits for its employees. Employees may contribute a percentage of their annual compensation to the Plan, limited to a maximum annual amount as set periodically by the Internal Revenue Service. In addition, the Plan provides for discretionary contributions as determined by management.

NOTE 9. JOINT BACK OFFICE

The Company has a Joint Back Office ("JBO") clearing agreement with GSEC. The agreement allows JBO clearing agreement participants to receive favorable margin treatment as compared to the full customer margin requirements of Federal Reserve Regulation T of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System. As part of this agreement, the Company is required to maintain a minimum liquidating equity (as defined) with GSEC.

NOTE 10. FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS

Assets and liabilities measured at fair value are based on one or more of three valuation techniques. The valuation techniques are as follows:

- (a) Market approach. Prices and other relevant information generated by market transactions involving identical or comparable assets or liabilities;
- (b) Cost approach. Amount that would be required to replace the service capacity of an asset (replacement cost); and
- (c) Income approach. Techniques to convert future amounts to a single present amount based on market expectations (including present value techniques, option-pricing and excess earnings models).

The following table presents the Company's fair value hierarchy for those assets and liabilities measured at fair value on a recurring basis as of June 30, 2012:

	Level 1		Level 2]	Level 3	Total	Valuation <u>Technique</u>
Assets:							
Securities owned, at fair value:							
Equity securities, long	\$331,945,527	\$	-	\$	-	\$331,945,527	(a)
Options, long	326,147,642	-	-		-	326,147,642	(a)
Not readily marketable securities					10,000	10.000	(b)
Total	\$ <u>658,093,169</u>	\$_		\$	10,000	\$ <u>658,103,169</u>	
Liabilities: Securities sold, not yet purchased, at fair value:							
Equity securities, short Options, short	\$409,895,835 <u>352,667,745</u>	\$	-	\$	-	\$409,895,835 <u>352,667,745</u>	(a) (a)
Total	\$ <u>762,563,580</u>	\$_		\$		\$ <u>762,563,580</u>	

NOTE 10. FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS (CONTINUED)

Equity securities are included in Level 1 as they are valued at quoted market prices (the market approach). Not readily marketable securities are stated at cost which approximates fair value.

The following table presents a reconciliation of beginning and ending balances of the fair value measurements using significant unobservable inputs (Level 3):

	Other	
	Inv	<u>restments</u>
Balance - beginning	\$	10,000
Purchases		-
Sales		-
Settlements		
Balance - ending	\$	10,000