



# RealLimit™ Futures

*Select Your Margin — Define Your Risk*

## The Concept\*

A novel futures contract design providing limited risk to market participants ("RealLimit futures"). In industry parlance, the contracts are said to be "fully collateralized."

## The Purpose

RealLimit futures were created to reduce the risk to traders and eliminate the systemic risks to exchanges, clearing firms, and futures commission merchants.

## The Exchange

RealLimit futures are expected to be listed on the RealDemand Board of Trade ("RealBOT™") and cleared through RealDemand Clearing ("RealClear™"). These entities are in the process of applying to be a Designated Contract Market and a Designated Clearing Organization with the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC).

## Select Desired Margin

Posted margin amounts will be selected by the trader within guidelines set by the exchange. The more margin a market participant posts, the higher the potential return, but also the higher potential loss.

## Boundaries

The price of the futures contract is unconstrained; only the individual contracts have limits (i.e., upper and lower "Boundary Prices").

## Maximum Loss

The margin (i.e., collateral) covers the maximum selected loss for the trade.

## Maximum Gain

Because RealLimit positions are matched with a counterparty who has equal and opposite exposure, the maximum gain is equal to the margin level chosen. For example, if the trader posts \$2,000 margin, both the maximum loss and maximum gain are \$2,000.

## Early Expiration

A standard futures contract expires only at the official contract expiration. With RealLimit, an expiration may also occur when a Boundary Price is touched (called "Early Expiration").

## Daily Settlement

The RealLimit daily settlement price is expected to be fixed to the same settlement price of the futures contract on the primary market.

## Rolling

A trader is not resigned to the established Boundary Prices permanently. The trader can execute a RealRoll™ order, which "re-centers" the Boundary Prices to the then current market price. If the trader is diligent about rolling up or down before a Boundary Price is touched, the exposure created with RealLimit futures contracts can be theoretically "unlimited" as well.

"The only way to discover the limits of the possible is to go beyond them into the impossible."  
— Arthur C. Clarke

Brochure updated: 1 January 2021

\*The Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC) has yet to approve the RealLimit concept. RealLimit is a product of RealLimit LLC, a subsidiary of Demand Derivatives Corp. RealLimit™ is a trademark of RealLimit LLC.

## Examples<sup>1</sup>

### Assumptions:

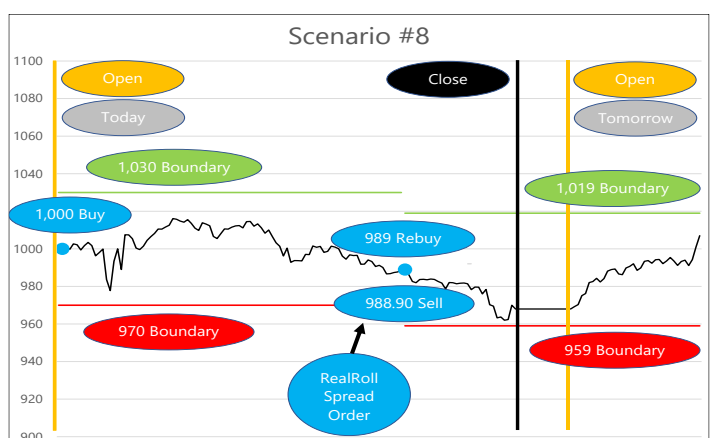
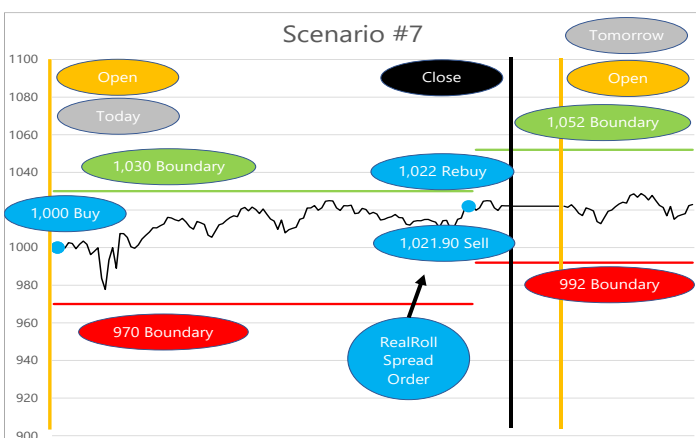
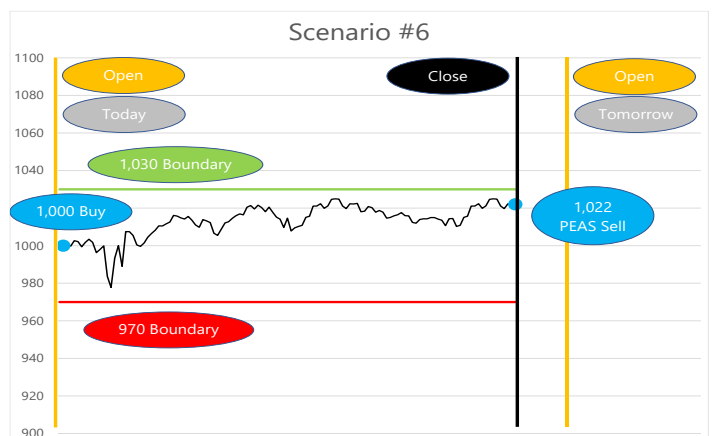
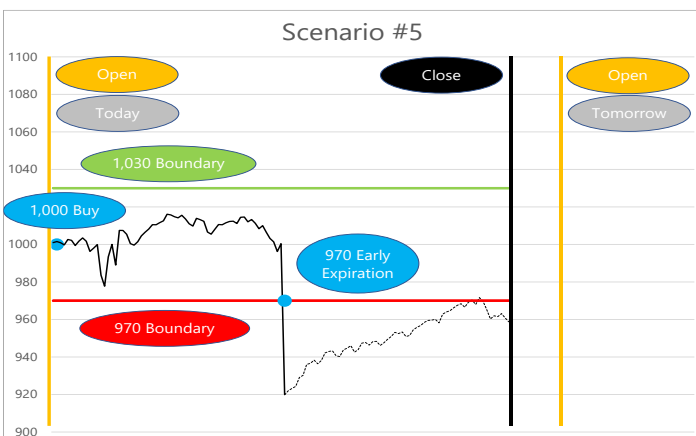
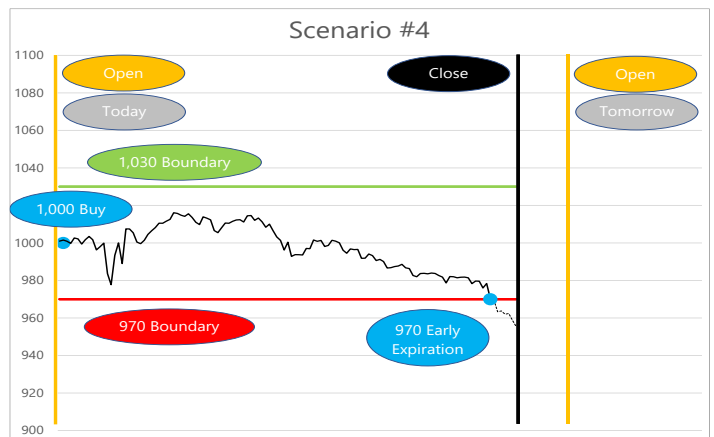
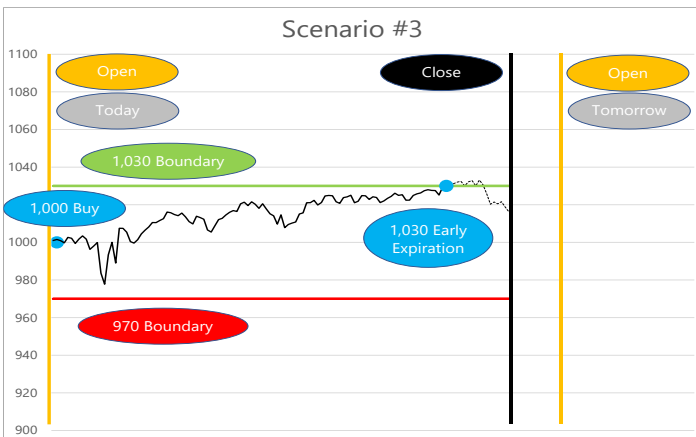
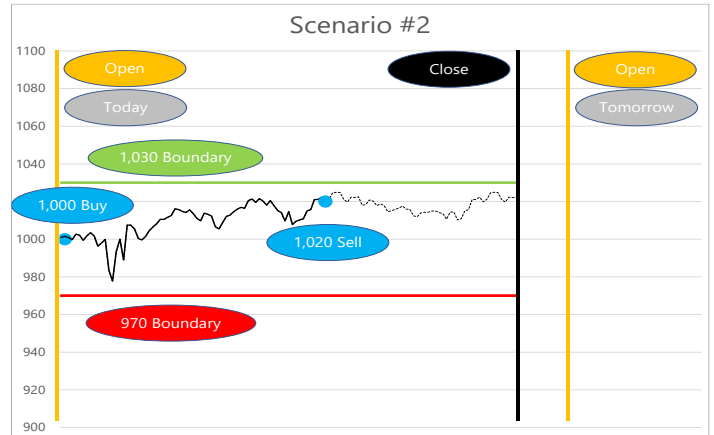
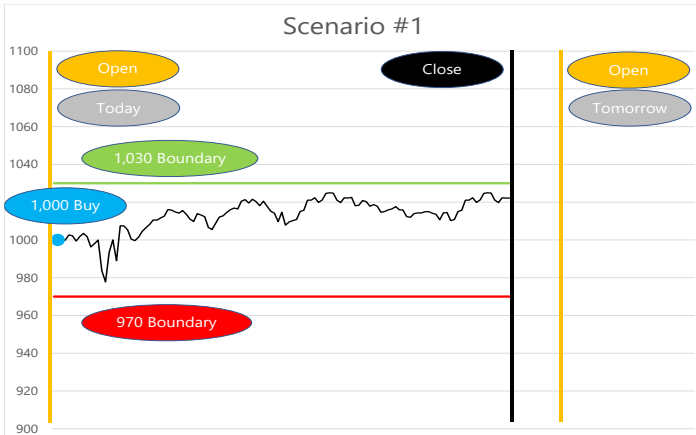
- Today's futures price is 1,000. The trader places an order to buy one contract and decides to post \$3,000 margin. This market participant is indeed filled at 1,000.
- The multiplier is \$100. Therefore, the notional value of the futures contract is \$100,000.
- The tick value is 0.10 or \$10.
- The trader's selected Margin Points are +/- 30 points (\$3,000) with Boundary Prices of 970 and 1,030 and, therefore, a Boundary Range of 60 points.

- Scenario #1: The futures price remains within the 60-point Boundary Range.  
Result #1: Nothing unique happens. The contract behaves similarly to a standard futures contract with gains or losses accruing until the position is liquidated or the expiration of the contract (i.e., the final settlement).
- Scenario #2: The trader wants to exit while the market is currently trading at 1,020.  
Result #2: The trader enters a sell order at 1,020, and when filled, receives 20 points or \$2,000 in profits.<sup>2</sup>
- Scenario #3: The futures price rises from 1,000 to a Last of 1,030.  
Result #3: The position is immediately and automatically liquidated at the Boundary Price of 1,030, providing the trader with the maximum gain of \$3,000.<sup>2</sup>
- Scenario #4: The futures price falls from 1,000 to a Last of 970.  
Result #4: The position is immediately and automatically liquidated at the lower Boundary Price of 970, limiting the loss to posted collateral of \$3,000.<sup>2</sup>
- Scenario #5: On news of an extreme event, the futures price gaps from 1,000 to 920 with no intervening trades.  
Result #5: The position is immediately and automatically liquidated at the lower Boundary Price of 970, limiting the loss to posted collateral of \$3,000. (The market participant on the other side of this trade receives \$3,000 maximum.)<sup>2</sup>
- Scenario #6: The trader desires to liquidate at the day's settlement price.  
Result #6: The trader places a "Perfect Execution at Settlement" (PEAS™) sell order that should be pre-matched prior to the close and executed at the day's settlement price. It should be noted that if the Boundary Price had been touched before the day's close (and hence, the RealLimit contract expired early), the PEAS order would have been automatically canceled. For more information on PEAS orders and Customer Order Executions, please see the separate brochure on the [demandderivatives.com](http://demandderivatives.com) website.
- Scenario #7: After a move in the market participant's favor (but not yet to the upper Boundary Price), the trader desires to raise the upside potential. The trader places a RealRoll™ order, which liquidates the original position and reestablishes another with all the same specifications. On the surface, it appears that liquidating and reentering the exact same position has no effect. However, with RealLimit futures contracts, this process allows the position to be "re-centered."  
Result #7: Suppose that the trader with the original long position at 1,000 desires to roll Boundary Prices when the futures contract rises to 1,021.90. The trader enters a RealRoll order with a limit price at 1,021.90 and gets filled at that price, for a gain of \$2,190. Immediately, the trader also gets filled on a new long position at 1,022.<sup>3</sup> New Boundary Prices are established at 992 and 1,052. The net effect is that the trader essentially maintains the original long position, realizes a profit, and "re-centers" upside potential and downside risk.
- Scenario #8: Similar to Scenario #7, however, this time the market moves against the trader and the desire is to roll down the Boundary Prices in order to give the market more downside room. In addition to re-centering the position, the trader will need to post more margin.  
Result #8: Suppose the current price is 988.90. The trader enters a RealRoll position with a sell price of 988.90, and gets filled at that price for a \$1,110 loss. The trader must post an additional \$1,110 and reenters the trade at 989.00,<sup>3</sup> re-centering the Boundary Prices at 1,019 and 959.

<sup>1</sup> The underlying prices, margin amounts, etc., are all fictitious and do not represent a specific underlying asset. Contract specifications are unique to each asset. Please review the website [demandderivatives.com](http://demandderivatives.com) for more information.

<sup>2</sup> Less Exchange and Clearing fees.

<sup>3</sup> There is no bid/ask spread on RealRoll orders. The total cost for the entire RealRoll transaction is pre-defined at one tick plus a single charge for Exchange and Clearing fees (not two fees for two legs).



## Detailed Information\*

### Overview of Contract Specifications

Key contract specifications are expected to be the same as standard futures contracts listed on the competitor exchange ("Standard Futures"). However, there are exceptions.

#### Contract Similarities to Standard Futures

#### Notional Size

Same

#### Tick Size

Same

#### Trading Hours

Same

#### Expiration

Same

#### Daily Settlement Price

The RealLimit daily settlement price is fixed to the same settlement price as the primary market.<sup>1</sup>

#### Contract Differences to Standard Futures

#### Settlement Style

Settlement will be to cash regardless if Standard Futures are cash settled or physically settled. If Standard Futures are physically settled, the expiration of RealLimit Futures will be the last trading day prior to the first notice day.

#### Position Liquidation

Standard Futures remain open until offset or final expiration, whichever occurs first. RealLimit futures will remain open until offset, final expiration, or Early Expiration (i.e., if a Boundary Price is touched), whichever occurs first.

<sup>1</sup>In the rare event that a settlement price at the competing exchange is delayed or determined not to be representative of a final or closing price, RealBOT may independently determine the settlement price for that day.

### Maintaining Exposure

With Standard Futures, exposure can be carried from day to day (as long as margin requirements are met). Maintaining exposure with RealLimit futures continues unless the contract is liquidated intentionally or unintentionally (no margin calls can, or will, occur).

### Margin Style

Standard Futures have two levels of margin — one level for initiating a position (initial margin) and one level to maintain the position (maintenance margin). Because all RealLimit futures contracts are fully collateralized at all times, there is no need for two margin levels.

### Margin Amounts

Standard Futures margin levels are set by the exchange. In contrast, traders of RealLimit futures select the amount of margin within guidelines set by the RealBOT. The margin amount selected quantifies the amount of maximum loss and the amount of maximum gain. There is a minimum increment and a maximum amount — both specific to each asset.

### Margin Example

Suppose the minimum margin increment is \$1,000 and a maximum margin amount is \$5,000. Traders, therefore, would be able to select a margin at \$1,000, \$2,000, \$3,000, \$4,000, or \$5,000. Note: upon launch, only two margin levels are expected to be available. Others may be added over time.

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### Adjusting Limits

#### RealRoll™

A RealRoll is a special type of spread order allowing the trader to adjust Boundary Prices. Costs are drastically reduced. There is no bid/ask slippage for RealRoll, only a pre-defined cost of one tick plus a single charge for Exchange and Clearing fees (not double fees for the two legs of the trade).

To take advantage of the reduced cost, five criteria must be met:

1. Available for RealLimit futures only
2. Same underlying asset
3. Same expiration
4. Same margin amount
5. Same direction

This process allows the trader to "re-center" the Boundary Range. If a roll is executed at a profit, the gain will be realized and flow immediately to the trader's account balance. If the roll is at a loss, additional margin will be required.

### Assets

#### Underlying Assets

RealLimit futures are expected to be available corresponding to the highly liquid Standard Futures contracts in each of six major asset classes:

Asset Class	Asset
Commodities	Corn
Metals	Gold
Energy	Crude Oil
Rates	10yr T-Note
FX	EUR/USD
Equity Indices	TBD