

Micro WTI Crude Oil Futures

Fact Sheet

New for July 2021

The CME have just launched 'micro' futures in crude.

Micro futures are simply futures with smaller tick sizes than their parent contracts. Micros started in FX futures in 2009, then in the S&P500 and other indices. Now we have them in crude oil.

CME NYMEX WTI Crude Contracts			
Contract	Micro Crude	Emini Crude	Regular Crude
Size	100 barrels	500 barrels	1,000 barrels
Compared to CL	10%	50%	-
Tick	\$0.01 per barrel	\$0.025 per barrel	\$0.01 per barrel
Tick Value	\$1 per contract	\$12.50 per contract	\$10 per contract
Product Code	MCL	QM	CL
CQG Code	MCLE	QME	CLE
Settlement	Financial	Financial	Physical
Margin	\$583		\$5,830
Spread Market	Yes		Yes
Hours	CME Globex: Sun-Fri: 5 p.m. to 4 p.m. Central Time (CT) Mon-Fri: 60-minute daily trading halt beginning at 4 p.m. CT		

So they are essentially the same as the CL contract but for the tick size. It's \$1 versus \$10 per cent.

A few tips for trading:

- Watch the full contract – both charts and DOM. Micro for execution only.
- Work limit orders. There's no need to pay up on the spread, but if you do it doesn't matter given \$1 per tick.
- Watch deferred contracts as they develop (for spreading).
- Make sure your broker has reduced commissions for micros and SPAN margins.

The DOM Bootcamp Course:

Like the micros in the indices (S&P and Russell), this will be good for market making and active scalping drills in our DOM course.

The Advanced Spread Course:

We will find these very useful for low-risk long-term position trades as long as the deferred contracts develop with a tight enough bid/ask spread.

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