Anexo 4 – Contrato de Futuros – *Crude Oil Brent*

Crude Oil Brent

Contract Specifications HELP

Symbol	**CB**
Name	Brent Crude Oil (BRN)
Exchange	ICE
Trading Months	January, February, March, April, May, June, July, August, September, October, November, December (F, G, H, J, K, M, N, Q, U, V, X, Z)
Trading Unit	42,000 US Gallons
Tick Size	1 cent per barrel ($10)
Daily Limit	No limit
Trading Hours	22:00p.m. - 18:00p.m. (EST)
Last Trading Day	Trading terminates the business day before the 15th to last calendar day of the month prior to the delivery month
Value of one futures unit	$1,000
Value of one options unit	$1,000

CRB Yearbook Description

Crude oil is petroleum that is acquired directly from the ground. Crude oil was formed millions of years ago from the remains of tiny aquatic plants and animals that lived in ancient seas. Ancient societies such as the Persians, 10th century Sumatrans, and pre-Columbian Indians believed that crude oil had medicinal benefits. Around 4,000 BC in Mesopotamia, bitumen, a tarry crude, was used as caulking for ships, as a setting for jewels and mosaics, and as an adhesive to secure weapon handles. The walls of Babylon and the famed pyramids were held together with bitumen, and Egyptians used it for embalming. During the 19th century in America, an oil find was often met with dismay. Pioneers who dug wells to find water or brine, were disappointed when they struck oil. It wasn't until 1854, with the invention of the kerosene lamp, that the first large-scale demand for petroleum emerged. Crude oil is a relatively abundant commodity. The world has produced approximately 650 billion barrels of oil, but another trillion barrels of proved reserves have yet to be extracted. Crude oil was the world's first trillion-dollar industry and accounts for the single largest product in world trade.

Futures and options on crude oil trade at the New York Mercantile Exchange (NYMEX) and at the International Petroleum Exchange in London (IPE). The NYMEX trades two main types of crude oil: light sweet crude oil and Brent crude oil. The light sweet futures contract calls for the delivery of 1,000

barrels of crude oil in Cushing, Oklahoma. Light sweet crude is preferred by refiners because of its low sulfur content and relatively high yield of high-value products such as gasoline, diesel fuel, heating oil, and jet fuel. The Brent blend crude is based on a light, sweet North Sea crude oil. Brent blend crude production is approximately 500,000 barrels per day, and is shipped from Sullom Voe in the Shetland Islands.

Prices - NYMEX crude oil prices on a nearest-futures basis, after posting a record high of $147 per barrel in July 2008, plunged in the latter half of 2008 on a combination of the commodity bubble bursting and the global financial crisis. Crude oil prices bottomed out at a 6-year low of $32 in December 2008 and then recovered sharply to the $70 per barrel area in the first half of 2009. Oil prices then traded sideways in the range of $70-84 per barrel in the second half of 2009. The recovery in oil prices in early 2009 was due to a sharp cut in OPEC production in the latter half of 2008 and renewed demand from China in particular. World oil demand strengthened by 3.6% from mid-2009 from the 6-year low posted in May 2009 to the 20-month high posted in December 2009. However, that improved demand did not boost oil prices because OPEC members slowly raised their production during 2009. Specifically, OPEC members slowly boosted their production by 5.3% to a 1-year high from the low seen in March 2009. For their part, non-OPEC members boosted their production by 7.3% from the trough seen in September 2008. The rising demand for oil was sufficient to absorb supplies and push inventories lower. U.S. oil inventories, which were 10.5% above their 5-year seasonal average in April 2009, progressively fell and by early 2010 were only 2% above their 5-year seasonal average.

Supply - World crude oil production in 2008 (latest data) rose +1.2% yr/yr to 73.885 million barrels per day, which was a new record high. The world's largest oil producers in 2008 were Russia (with 12.7% of world production in 2006), Saudi Arabia (12.6%), the United States (6.7%), Iran (5.5%), China (5.1%), and Mexico (3.8%). U.S. crude oil production in 2008 fell 2.2% yr/yr to 4.955 million barrels per day, which was the lowest level in over 30 years. Alaskan production in 2008 fell -5.4% yr/yr to 683,000 barrels per day, the lowest level since 1977 and only 34% of the peak level of 2.017 million barrels per day seen in 1988.

Demand - U.S. demand for crude oil in 2008 (latest data available) fell -3.4% yr/yr to 14.645 million barrels per day, below the 2004 record high of 15.475. Most of that demand went for U.S. refinery production of products such as gasoline fuel, diesel fuel, aviation fuel, heating oil, kerosene, asphalt, and lubricants.

Trade - The U.S. is highly dependent on imports of crude oil to meet its energy needs. U.S. imports in 2008 (latest data available) fell 2.7% yr/yr to 9.756 million barrels per day, down from the 2005 record high of 10.126. U.S. imports of petroleum products in 2008 fell -7.4% to 2.557 million barrels per day, imports of distillate fuel oil fell -30.6% yr/yr to 211,000 barrels per day,

and imports of residual fuel oil fell -6.5% yr/yr to 348,000 barrels per day.

Articles from the Commodity Research Bureau (CRB) Commodity Yearbook. The single most comprehensive source of commodity and futures market information available, the Yearbook is the book of record of the Commodity Research Bureau, which is, in turn, the organization of record for the commodity industry itself. Its sources - reports from governments, private industries, and trade and industrial associations - are authoritative, and its historical scope is second to none. Additional information can be found at www.crbyearbook.com.

More commodity data from Commodity Research Bureau.