FILED

	•	
1	W. Derek Shakabpa, pro hac vice	
_	Email: wshakabpa@cftc.gov	2009 MAY 14 AM 10= 07
2	David Acevedo, pro hac vice	CLERK U.S. DISTRICT COURT
3	Email: dacevedo@cftc.gov	CENTRAL DIST. C. CALIF." LOS ANGELES
4	Michael Berlowitz, pro hac vice	84
	Email: mberlowitz@cftc.gov Attorneys for Plaintiff	51
5	Commodity Futures Trading Commission	
6	Lenel Hickson, Jr., Acting Regional Coun	
7	Division of Enforcement	
'	140 Broadway, 19th Floor	
8	New York, NY 10005	
9	Telephone: (646) 746-9748	
10	Facsimile: (646) 746-9940	
10	KENIT KAWAKANAK CA Dan Na 14090	3
11	KENT KAWAKAMI, CA Bar No. 14980 United States Attorney's Office	
12	Civil Division	
13	300 North Los Angeles Street, Room 751	6
13	Email: Kent Kawakami@usdoj.gov	
14	Telephone: (213) 894-4858	·
15	Facsimile: (213) 894-2380	
16	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT	
1	CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA	
17	CENTRAL DISTRIC	TOP CALIFORNIA
18		Case No.: SACV09-0578 JVS (RNE
19	·	Case No.:
ļ	U.S. Commodity Futures Trading	
20	Commission,	COMPLAINT FOR INJUNCTIVE
21	Plaintiff,	AND OTHER EQUITABLE RELIEF
22		AND FOR CIVIL MONETARY PENALITES PURSUANT TO THE
	VS.	COMMODITY EXCHANGE ACT, AS AMENDED, 7 U.S.C. §§ 1-et seq.
23		AS AMENDED, 7 U.S.C. §§ 1-et seq.
24	Gordon A. Driver, Axcess Automation	
25	LLC, and Axcess Fund Management	
	LLC,	
26	Defendants.	
27	·	DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

4

11

9

12 13

14

15 16

17

18 19

21

20

22 23

24 25

26

27 28

SUMMARY I.

- 1. From at least in or about February 2006 through the present ("Relevant Period"), Defendant Gordon A. Driver ("Driver"), from at least in or about October 2007 through the present Defendant Axcess Automation LLC ("Axcess Automation"), and from at least in or about July 2008 through the present Defendant Axcess Fund Management LLC ("Axcess Fund Management") (collectively "Defendants") engaged in a fraudulent Ponzi scheme in which they solicited or caused to be solicited at least \$13.5 million from over 100 participants in the United States and Canada to participate in commodity pools to trade commodity futures and options, including S&P 500 e-Minis.
- To induce participation in the pools operated by Driver, Axcess 2. Automation and Axcess Fund Management, Driver told prospective participants that he had successfully traded commodity futures and could obtain for them returns of 10-20% per month.
- Instead of trading all of the pool participants' funds, Defendants only 3. traded a portion of the pool funds, misappropriated some of them, and returned some to pool participants as purported profits, in a manner typical of a Ponzi scheme. The pool funds that Defendants traded were nearly all lost trading but none of the trading losses were disclosed to pool participants.
- To conceal the trading losses and the misappropriation, Defendants 4. issued or caused to be issued false periodic statements. These statements falsely reflected both highly profitable returns from trading commodity futures on behalf of the pool and that the pool was increasing in value and assets.
- In addition, from at least in or about February 2006 to in or about September 2008 Defendant Driver, and from at least October 2007 through the present Defendant Axcess Automation each acted as an unregistered commodity pool operator.

1710 768 EIZ

- 6. Defendant Axcess Fund Management also failed to produce books and records requested by the Commodity Futures Trading Commission ("Commission" or "CFTC").
- 7. By virtue of this conduct and the further conduct described herein, Defendants have engaged, are engaging, and/or are about to engage in fraudulent acts and practices that violate the anti-fraud provisions of Section4o(1) of the Commodity Exchange Act (the "Act"), 7 U.S.C. § 6o(1) (2006), Sections 4b(a)(2)(i)-(iii) of the Act, 7 U.S.C. § 6b(a)(2)(i)-(iii) for conduct before June 18, 2008, and for acts on or after June 18, 2008, Section 4b(a)(1) of the Act, as amended by the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008, Pub. L. No. 110-246, Title XIII (the CFTC Reauthorization Act ("CRA")), § 13102, 122 Stat. 1651 (effective June 18, 2008), to be codified at 7 U.S.C. § 6b(a)(1).
- 8. By failing to register with the Commission while acting as a commodity pool operator, Defendants Driver and Axcess Automation violated Section 4m(1) of the Act, 7 U.S.C. § 6m(1).
- 9. By virtue of the conduct described herein, Defendants Driver, Axcess Automation and Axcess Fund Management commingled, are commingling, and are about to commingle pool property with non-pool property in violation of Commission Regulation ("Regulation") 4.20(c), 17 C.F.R. § 4.20(c) (2008).
- 10. By refusing to produce books and records requested by the Commission, Defendant Axcess Fund Management violated Section 4n(3)(A) of the Act, 7 U.S.C. § 6n(3)(A), and Regulations 1.31(a) and 4.23, 17 C.F.R. §§ 1.31(a) and 4.23.
- 11. As the controlling person of Axcess Automation and Axcess Fund Management, Defendant Driver is liable for their violations, pursuant to Section 13(b) of the Act, 7 U.S.C. § 13c(b), because he did not act in good faith or knowingly induced, directly or indirectly, the acts constituting Axcess Automation's and Axcess Fund Management's violations.

- 12. Defendants Axcess Automation and Axcess Fund Management are liable for Defendant Driver's violations pursuant to Section 2(a)(1)(B) of the Act, 7 U.S.C. § 2(a)(1)(B), because he was acting within the scope of his employment or office with these entities.
- 13. Accordingly, the Commission brings this action pursuant to Section 6c of the Act, 7 U.S.C. § 13a-1, to enjoin Defendants' unlawful acts and practices and to compel Defendants' compliance with the Act and the Regulations. In addition, the Commission seeks civil monetary penalties and remedial ancillary relief, including, but not limited to, preliminary and permanent injunctions, trading and registration bans, restitution, pre-judgment and post-judgment interest, and such other relief as the Court may deem necessary and appropriate.
- 14. Unless restrained and enjoined by the Court, Defendants are likely to continue to engage in the acts and practices alleged in this Complaint and in similar acts and practices as more fully described below.

II. JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 15. The Court has jurisdiction over this action pursuant to Section 6c(a) of the Act, 7 U.S.C. § 13a-1, which authorizes the Commission to seek injunctive relief against any person whenever it shall appear to the Commission that such person has engaged, is engaging, or is about to engage in any act or practice constituting a violation of the Act or any rule, regulation, or order thereunder.
- 16. Venue properly lies with the Court pursuant to Section 6c(e) of the Act, 7 U.S.C. § 13a-1(e), in that Defendants transact business in this District, and acts and practices in violation of the Act have occurred, are occurring, or are about to occur within this District.

III. THE PARTIES

17. Plaintiff U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission is an independent federal regulatory agency charged with the responsibility for administering and enforcing the provisions of the Act, 7 U.S.C. §§ 1 et seq.

- 18. **Defendant Gordon A. Driver** is a resident of Las Vegas, Nevada and has been registered with the Commission as an Associated Person ("AP") of Axcess Fund Management since September 2008 and is listed as its principal. Driver is also the founder and owner of Axcess Automation, and Axcess Fund Management. Prior to 2007, Driver was a resident of Oxnard, California.
- 19. Defendant Axcess Automation LLC is a Nevada limited liability company with its principal place of business in Las Vegas, Nevada. Axcess Automation has previously used mailing addresses in Niagara Falls, New York and Mission Viejo, California. Axcess Automation has never been registered with the Commission in any capacity.
- 20. Defendant Axcess Fund Management LLC is a Nevada limited liability company with its principal place of business in Las Vegas, Nevada. Axcess Fund Management has been registered with the Commission as a Commodity Pool Operator ("CPO") since July 2008. Axcess Fund Management operates a commodity pool called Axcess Fund LP.

IV.

FACTS

A. Axcess Automation

- 21. Section 1a(5) of the Act, 7 U.S.C. § 1a(5), defines a "commodity pool operator" as any person engaged in a business that is of the nature of an investment trust, syndicate, or similar form of enterprise and in connection therewith, has solicited, accepted or received funds, securities or property from others for the purpose of trading in any commodity for future delivery on or subject to the rules of any contract market or derivatives transaction execution facility.
- 22. From at least April 2006 through the present, Driver and Axcess Automation solicited, or caused to be solicited, over 100 pool participants in Canada and the United States for the purpose of trading in commodity futures on or subject to the rules of a contract market.

8

11

14

15 16 17

19 20

21

18

22 23

25

24

26 27

- Driver is the sole owner and principal of Axcess Automation. 23.
- Driver is in sole control over Axcess Automation's commodity futures 24: and bank accounts.
- Driver falsely told or caused to be told to pool participants that he had 25. proprietary trading software that he had used to successfully trade commodity futures for himself, when, in fact, his personal trading track record was unsuccessful.
- Driver promised participants that he could obtain profitable returns of 26. 10-20% per month trading commodity futures on their behalf.
- Driver falsely or misleadingly told or caused to be told to prospective 27. Axcess Automation pool participants that by using his futures trading software he was able to obtain profits in seven or eight out of ten trades, when, in fact, his personal track record trading futures was predominantly unprofitable.
- The funds that Driver and Axcess Automation received from participants were pooled into bank accounts in the name of Axcess Automation. Driver told or caused to be told to participants that their funds would be pooled to trade commodity futures.
- Driver falsely told or caused to be told to pool participants that he 29. would use all of their funds to trade commodity futures on their behalf when, in fact, he only used a portion of the pool funds to trade futures.
- Several pool participants were recruited by Driver to solicit others and to be point people in communicating with other pool participants.
- The point people then solicited their friends and family to invest with Axcess Automation and Driver. The information they provided their friends and family about Axcess Automation and the investment came directly or indirectly from Driver.

32.

5

8

15

22

23

20

28

26

- received commissions from Driver and/or Axcess Automation. In some cases, these commissions greatly exceeded their principal investment.
- Over 100 people invested with Axcess Automation. At least 15 of the Axcess Automation investors were from the United States.

Some of the point people who solicited their friends and family

- Driver and Axcess Automation obtained at least \$13.5 million from pool participants.
- 35. Initially, Driver deposited pool participants' funds in a d/b/a bank account at M&T Bank in Niagara Falls, New York in the name of Axcess Automation. Driver has been using this account for his fraudulent scheme from at least April 2006 through the present. Driver listed Niagara Falls, New York as the mailing address for his d/b/a account at M&T Bank.
- In October 2007, Driver organized Axcess Automation LLC in Nevada as a limited liability company.
- 37. From at least December 2007 through the present, Driver has been depositing pool participants' funds in an Axcess Automation account at Citibank in Las Vegas, Nevada. When Driver opened the Citibank account in the name of Axcess Automation, he listed its mailing address as Mission Viejo, California.
- Driver also accepted pool participant funds in bank accounts in his 38. own name at HSBC Bank, M&T Bank, and in one instance, his Citibank account in Canada.
- 39. Driver used at least \$3 million of the pool participants' funds to trade commodity futures in accounts at three separate registered futures commission merchants ("FCMs"). FCMs are individuals, associations, partnerships, corporations, and trusts that solicit or accept orders for the purchase or sale of any commodity for future delivery on or subject to the rules of any exchange and that accept payment from or extend credit to those whose orders are accepted. Driver mostly traded S&P 500 e-Mini futures contracts on the Chicago Mercantile

Exchange's ("CME") Globex electronic trading platform (hereinafter "CME Globex").

- 40. From at least February 2006 through May 2008, Driver controlled a futures trading account in his own name at Transact Futures ("Transact"), a registered FCM.
- Driver used pool participant funds to trade futures in his account at 41. Transact. From at least February 2006 through May 2008, Driver deposited approximately \$2.7 million of pool participants' funds in his Transact account and lost over \$2.3 million trading S&P 500 e-Mini futures on CME Globex. Driver never had a profitable month in his Transact account.
- 42. Driver wired pool funds from the Axcess Automation bank accounts to his personal futures trading account at Transact. Driver falsely represented to Transact that all of the funds he was sending from the Axcess Automation bank accounts were his own personal funds. When Transact demanded that Driver produce documentation verifying that all funds in Axcess Automation were solely his personal funds, Driver closed his account at Transact in May 2008.
- From at least August 2007 through March 2009, Driver controlled a 43. futures trading account in his own name at Dorman Trading LLC ("Dorman Trading"), a registered FCM, which was used to trade commodity futures on behalf of the Axcess Automation pool participants. Driver deposited approximately \$640,000 of pool funds in his Dorman Trading account and lost approximately \$629,000 trading commodity futures. Driver never had a profitable month in his Dorman Trading account. Once again, Driver almost exclusively traded S&P 500 e-Mini futures on CME's Globex.
- In March 2009, Driver opened a futures trading account at Advantage Futures LLC, a registered FCM, in his own name using approximately \$50,000 of pool funds.

213 884 0141

- 45. During the Relevant Period, Driver sent, or caused others to send, false periodic account statements to the Axcess Automation pool participants. These periodic account statements falsely stated that pool participants were receiving profitable returns of 10to 20% per month. In fact, Driver had unprofitable futures trading results nearly every month he was trading during the Relevant Period.
- 46. In addition, Driver sent, or caused to be sent, statements to Axcess Automation pool participants that reported large account balances in their accounts. For example, for the period ending February 2009, Driver sent statements to one group of Axcess Automation pool participants which showed their cumulative accounts to be worth approximately \$9,647,700. These reports were false because as of the end of February 2009, Axcess Automation only had approximately \$63,000 in all of its bank and trading accounts.
- 47. The aforementioned account balance statements were also false in that they showed consistently profitable returns nearly every week that the investor was a participant in the Axcess Automation pool. In fact, the vast majority of Driver's futures trading was consistently unprofitable.
- 48. On or about October 3, 2008, Driver sent at least one pool participant a false trading account statement from Dorman Trading purporting to show over \$34 million as of August 29, 2008 in a Dorman Trading account in Driver's name. This document was false. In fact, as of August 29, 2008, Driver's actual balance at his Dorman Trading account was less than \$11,000.
- 49. Moreover, Driver and Axcess Automation failed to disclose to pool participants that only a portion of their funds were actually being used to trade futures.
- 50. Driver used some pool participants' funds to pay purported profits and commissions to other pool participants and point people, respectively, in a manner typical of a Ponzi scheme.

- 51. In fact, the purported profits that Driver sent to pool participants were not actual profits but money obtained from other pool participants.
- 52. Driver misappropriated some of the pool's funds. For example, in or about 2007 and 2008, Driver gambled at Las Vegas casinos and withdrew pool funds at one or more of these casinos.
- 53. Some pool participants decided to increase their participation on the basis of alleged profits reported to those participants by Driver and Axcess Automation.
- 54. Despite the fact that Driver and Axcess Automation combined had over 100 pool participants and used the mails or instrumentalities of interstate commerce in their CPO business, they never registered as a CPO with the Commission, nor did they ever obtain an exemption from CPO registration with the Commission.
- 55. On or about April 15, 2009, the CFTC subpoenaed documents from Driver related to Axcess Automation, returnable on April 23, 2009.
- 56. On or about April 28, 2009, counsel for Driver informed the CFTC by letter that Driver "will be unable to produce true and correct records evidencing actual trading activity and corresponding financial records, all of which are encompassed by the subpoena."

B. Axcess Fund Management

- 57. In June 2008, Driver applied to register Axcess Fund Management as a CPO and to list himself as its principal, and to register himself as an AP of Axcess Fund Management.
- 58. Axcess Fund Management's registration as a CPO became effective on July 25, 2008.
 - 59. Driver's registration as an AP became effective on September 3, 2008.
 - 60. Driver is the sole owner and principal of Axcess Fund Management.

T710 768 E17

.11

- 61. After Driver registered Axcess Fund Management as a CPO, he began to solicit the Axcess Automation pool participants to transfer their accounts to Axcess Fund LP, a commodity pool operated by Axcess Fund Management.
- 62. At least 90% of the unregistered Axcess Automation pool participants signed subscription agreements to join the Axcess Fund LP commodity pool.
- 63. Driver told, or caused to be told to, prospective pool participants that they could consider their account balances in Axcess Automation, which were false, in calculating their net worth to meet the minimum net worth requirements for the Axcess Fund LP commodity pool.
- 64. In soliciting pool participants for the Axcess Fund LP pool, Driver and Axcess Fund Management failed to disclose that Driver consistently lost money trading futures.
- 65. In soliciting pool participants for the Axcess Fund LP pool, Driver and Axcess Fund Management failed to disclose that profits reported to participants in the Axcess Automation pool were false.
- 66. Driver sent, or caused to be sent, to prospective Axcess Fund LP pool participants an email, dated January 20, 2009, in which they were told there were only 100 spots in the pool and those spots would be filling up soon. In this email, prospective pool participants were encouraged to act immediately and complete the subscription agreement by January 30, 2009. Prospective pool participants were also told that "time is of the essence to give yourself the best possible opportunity to secure your spot in the Axcess Fund."
- 67. On or about March 5, 2009, the Commission served a document request on Axcess Fund Management requesting books and records relating to the pool and the CPO to be produced to the Commission by March 12, 2009. Axcess Fund Management failed to produce all requested books and records, such as the investor subscription agreements.

68. On or about April 9, 2009, the Commission requested from Axcess Fund Management by April 15, 2009, a list of all persons who received offering documents for Axcess Fund LP. Axcess Fund Management never responded to the Commission's request for this list.

V. VIOLATIONS OF THE COMMODITY EXCHANGE ACT Count I

Violations of Sections 4b(a)(2)(i)-(iii) of the Act, and Sections 4b(a)(1)(A)-(C) of the Act as amended by the CRA (Fraud and Misrepresentation)

- 69. The allegations set forth in paragraphs 1 through 69 are re-alleged and incorporated herein by reference.
- 70. Sections 4b(a)(2)(i) through (iii) of the Act, 7 U.S.C. §§ 6b(a)(2)(i)-(iii), make it unlawful for any person to cheat or defraud or attempt to cheat or defraud; willfully make or cause to be made to such other person any false report or statement thereof, or willfully to enter or cause to be entered for such other reports any false record thereof; or willfully deceive or attempt to deceive by any means whatsoever other persons in or in connection with orders to make, or the making of, contracts of sale of commodities, for future delivery, made, or to be made, for or on behalf of such other persons where such contracts for future delivery were or may have been used for (a) hedging any transaction in interstate commerce in such commodity, or the produce or byproducts thereof, or (b) determining the price basis of any transaction in interstate commerce in such commodity, or (c) delivering any such commodity sold, shipped or received in interstate commerce for the fulfillment thereof.
- 71. Sections 4b(a)(1)(A) through (C) of the Act as amended by the CRA, to be codified at 7 U.S.C. §§ 6b(a)(1)(A)-(C), make it unlawful for any person, in or in connection with any order to make, or the making of, any contract of sale of any commodity in interstate commerce or for future delivery that is made, or to be made, on or subject to the rules of a designated contract market, for or on behalf of

2

26

27

28

any other person - (A) to cheat or defraud or attempt to cheat or defraud the other person; (B) willfully to make or cause to be made to the other person any false report or statement or willfully to enter or cause to be entered for the other person any false record; or (C) willfully to deceive or attempt to deceive the other person by any means whatsoever in regard to any order or contract or the disposition or execution of any order or contract, or in regard to any act of agency performed, with respect to any order or contract for the other person.

- As set forth above, in or in connection with futures contracts, made, or 72. to be made, for or on behalf of other persons, Defendants cheated or defrauded or attempted to cheat or defraud clients or prospective pool participants, willfully made or caused to be made false reports, and willfully deceived or attempted to deceive clients or prospective clients by, among other things, soliciting funds from investors for the purpose of trading commodity futures by misrepresenting the profit potential in trading futures using Driver's proprietary trading software and failing to disclose that Driver had a losing track record with respect to trading futures.
- In addition, as set forth above, Defendants sent or caused to be sent to pool participants false reports claiming large profits when, in fact, Defendants had lost money trading commodity futures and misappropriated pool participants' funds.
- 74. Driver sent at least one pool participant a false account statement from Dorman Trading purporting to show over \$34 million in Driver's account, when in fact, Driver had less than \$11,000 in that account.
- Defendants engaged in the acts and practices described above 75. knowingly or with reckless disregard for the truth.
- By this conduct before June 18, 2008, Defendants violated Sections 4b(a)(2)(i)-(iii) of the Act, 7 U.S.C. § 6b(a)(2)(i)-(iii), and with respect to acts on

or after June 18, 2008, Sections 4b(a)(1)(A)-(C) of the Act as amended by the CRA, to be codified at 7 U.S.C. § 6b(a)(1)(A)-(C).

- 77. Each misrepresentation or omission of a material fact, including but not limited to those specifically alleged herein, is alleged as a separate and distinct violation of Sections 4b(a)(2)(i)-(iii) of the Act, 7 U.S.C. § 6b(a)(2)(i)-(iii), with respect to acts before June 18, 2008, and with respect to acts on or after June 18, 2008, Sections 4b(a)(1)(A)-(C) of the Act as amended by the CRA, to be codified at 7 U.S.C. § 6b(a)(1)(A)-(C).
- 78. Pursuant to Section 2(a)(1)(B) of the Act, 7 U.S.C. § 2(a)(1)(B), and Regulation 1.2, 17 C.F.R. § 1.2, Axcess Automation and Axcess Fund Management are liable for Driver's violations of the Act in that Driver acted within the scope of his employment or office with Axcess Automation and Axcess Fund Management.
- 79. During the Relevant Period, Driver controlled Axcess Automation and Axcess Fund Management, directly or indirectly, and did not act in good faith or knowingly induced, directly or indirectly, Axcess Automation's and Axcess Fund Management's acts constituting the violations alleged in this Count. Therefore, pursuant to Section 13(b) of the Act, 7 U.S.C. § 13c(b), Driver is liable for Axcess Automation's and Axcess Fund Management's violations of Sections 4b(a)(2)(i)-(iii) of the Act, 7 U.S.C. § 6b(a)(2)(i)-(iii), with respect to acts before June 18, 2008, and with respect to acts on or after June 18, 2008, Sections 4b(a)(1)(A)-(C) of the Act as amended by the CRA, to be codified at 7 U.S.C. § 6b(a)(1)(A)-(C).

Count II

Violations of Sections 40(1)(A) and (B) of the Act (Fraud by CPO and AP of CPO)

80. The allegations set forth in paragraphs 1 through 80 are re-alleged and incorporated herein by reference.

- During the Relevant Period, Defendants Driver, Axcess Automation, 81. and Axcess Fund Management acted as CPOs, and Driver also acted as an AP of both Axcess Automation and Axcess Fund Management, and have used the mails or other means of instrumentality of interstate commerce directly or indirectly a) to employ a scheme or artifice to defraud pool participants, or b) engaged in transactions, practices or courses of business which operated as a fraud or deceit upon pool participants, all in violation of Sections 40(1)(A) and (B) of the Act, 7 U.S.C. \S 60(1)(A) and (B).
- Each scheme or artifice to defraud and each transaction, practice or 82. course of business which operated as a fraud or deceit, including but not limited to those specifically alleged herein, is alleged as a separate and distinct violation of Sections 4o(1)(A) and (B) of the Act, 7 U.S.C. § 6o(1)(A) and (B).
- Pursuant to Section 2(a)(1)(B) of the Act, 7 U.S.C. § 2(a)(1)(B), and Regulation 1.2, 17 C.F.R. § 1.2, Axcess Automation and Axcess Fund Management are liable for Driver's violations of the Act in that Driver acted within the scope of his employment or office with Axcess Automation and Axcess Fund Management.
- 84. During the Relevant Period, Driver controlled Axcess Automation and Axcess Fund Management, directly or indirectly, and did not act in good faith or knowingly induced, directly or indirectly, Axcess Automation's and Axcess Fund Management's acts constituting the violations alleged in this Count. Therefore, pursuant to Section 13(b) of the Act, 7 U.S.C. § 13c(b), Driver is liable for Axcess Automation's and Axcess Fund Management's violations of Sections 40(1)(A) and (B) of the Act, 7 U.S.C. § 60(1)(A) and (B).

Count III

Violations of Section 4m(1) of the Act (Failure to Register as a CPO)

85. The allegations set forth in paragraphs 1 through 85 are re-alleged and incorporated herein by reference.

1710 768 817

26

27

- 86. During the Relevant Period, Driver and Axcess Automation engaged in a business that was of the nature of an investment trust, syndicate, or similar form of enterprise, and, in connection therewith, solicited, accepted, or received from others, funds, securities, or property, either directly or indirectly or through capital contributions, the sale of stock or other forms of securities, or otherwise, for the purpose of trading a commodity for future delivery on or subject to the rules of any contract market or derivatives transaction execution facility, thus making them commodity pool operators as defined by Section 1a(5) of the Act, 7 U.S.C. § 1a(5).
- 87. During the Relevant Period, Driver and Axcess Automation were not exempt from registration as a CPO under Regulation 4.13, 17 C.F.R. § 4.13.
- 88. During the Relevant Period, Driver and Axcess Automation each made use of the mails or any means or instrumentality of interstate commerce in connection with its business as a CPO, while failing to register with the Commission as a CPO, in violation of Section 4m(1) of the Act, 7 U.S.C. § 6m(1).
- 89. During the Relevant Period, Driver controlled Axcess Automation, directly or indirectly, and did not act in good faith or knowingly induced, directly or indirectly, Axcess Automation's acts constituting the violations alleged in this Count. Therefore, pursuant to Section 13(b) of the Act, 7 U.S.C. § 13c(b), Driver is liable for Axcess Automation's violations of Section 4m(1) of the Act, 7 U.S.C. § 6m(1).

Count IV

Violations of Regulation 4.20(c) (Commingling Pool Funds)

- 90. The allegations set forth in paragraphs 1 through 90 are re-alleged and incorporated herein by reference.
- 91. Regulation 4.20(c) prohibits CPOs from commingling pool property with non-pool property.
- 92. Driver and Axcess Automation each commingled pool funds with non-pool property in bank accounts.

16 17

18

19

20

22

23

21

24 25

26 27

28

- 93. Driver and Axcess Automation each commingled pool funds with nonpool property in futures trading accounts.
- Axcess Fund Management accepted pool funds in the name of Axcess 94. Fund LP and commingled those funds with non-pool property in bank accounts.
- 95. During the Relevant Period, Driver, Axcess Automation and Axcess Fund Management commingled pool property with non-pool property in violation of Regulation 4.20(c), 17 C.F.R. § 4.20(c).
- Each instance or act of commingling of pool funds with non-pool property by Driver, Axcess Automation and Axcess Fund Management, including but not limited to the acts alleged herein, is alleged as separate and distinct violation of Regulation 4.20(c), 17 C.F.R. § 4.20(c).
- During the Relevant Period, Driver controlled Axcess Automation and Axcess Fund Management, directly or indirectly, and did not act in good faith or knowingly induced, directly or indirectly, Axcess Automation and Axcess Fund Management's acts constituting the violations, alleged in this Count. Therefore, pursuant to Section 13(b) of the Act, 7 U.S.C. § 13c(b), Driver is liable for Axcess Automation's and Axcess Fund Management's violations of Regulation 4.20(c), 17 C.F.R. § 4.20(c).

Count V

Violations of Section 4n(3)(A) of the Act and Regulations 1.31(a) and 4.23 (Failure to Produce Books & Records)

- 98. The allegations set forth in paragraphs 1 through 98 are re-alleged and incorporated herein by reference.
- 99. Section 4n of the Act and Regulation 1.31(a)(1) require that every registered CPO maintain books and records in such form and manner as may be prescribed by the Commission. All such books and records shall be kept for a period of five years and shall be readily accessible during the first two years.

15

16

12

18

19

Under Regulation 1.31(a)(2), a copy of such books and records shall be provided to a representative of the Commission upon the representative's request.

- 100. Regulation 4.23 provides, in relevant part, that all registered CPOs must make and keep, in accordance with Regulation 1.31, certain books and records including, but not limited to, literature distributed to existing or prospective participants in the pool and itemized records of commodity interest transactions of the pool.
- Since July 2008, Axcess Fund Management has been a registered 101. CPO.
- 102. On or about March 5, 2009, the Commission served a request for documents to Axcess Fund Management returnable on March 12, 2009, but the company failed to produce all of the requested books and records, such as the signed subscription agreements.
- 103. On or about April 9, 2009, the Commission requested that Axcess Fund Management produce by April 15, 2009, a list of all persons who received offering documents for the Axcess Fund LP commodity pool. Axcess Fund Management failed to comply with that request.
- 104. As set forth above, Axcess Fund Management failed to maintain and/or produce books and records requested by the Commission in violation of Section 4n(3)(A) of the Act, 7 U.S.C. § 6n(3)(A), and Regulations 1.31(a) and 4.23, 17 C.F.R. §§ 1.31(a) and 4.23.
- 105. During the Relevant Period, Driver controlled Axcess Fund Management, directly or indirectly, and did not act in good faith or knowingly induced, directly or indirectly, Axcess Fund Management's acts constituting the violations alleged in this Count. Therefore, pursuant to Section 13(b) of the Act, 7 U.S.C. § 13c(b), Driver is liable for Axcess Fund Management's violations of Section 4n(3)(A) of the Act, 7 U.S.C. § 6n(3)(A), and Regulations 1.31(a) and 4.23, 17 C.F.R. §§ 1.31(a) and 4.23.

1710 768 817

8

13

11

16

24

22

27 28

V. RELIEF REQUESTED

Wherefore, the Commission respectfully requests that the Court, as authorized by Section 6c of the Act, 7 U.S.C. § 13a-1, and pursuant to its own equitable powers, enter:

- An order finding that Defendants violated Sections 4b(a)(2)(i)-(iii) of the Act, 7 U.S.C. §§ 6b(a)(2)(i)-(iii), and Sections 4b(a)(1)(A)-(C) of the Act as amended by the CRA, to be codified at 7 U.S.C. § 6b(a)(1)(A)-(C);
- An order finding that Defendants Driver, Access Automation and B. Axcess Fund Management violated Section 40(1) of the Act, 7 U.S.C. § 60(1);
- C. An order finding that Defendants Driver and Axcess Automation violated Section 4m(1) of the Act, 7 U.S.C. § 6m(1);
- D. An order finding that Defendants Driver, Axcess Automation and Axcess Fund Management violated Regulation 4.20(c), 17 C.F.R. § 4.20(c);
- An order finding that Defendant Axcess Fund Management violated E. Section 4n(3)(A) of the Act, 7 U.S.C. § 6n(3)(A), and Regulations 1.31(a) and 4.23, 17 C.F.R. §§ 1.31(a) and 4.23;
- An order of preliminary and permanent injunction prohibiting F. Defendants and any of their agents, servants, employees, assigns, attorneys, and persons in active concert or participation with any Defendants, including any successor thereof, from engaging, directly or indirectly, in any violation of Sections 4b(a)(1)(A)-(C) of the Act as amended by the CRA, to be codified at 7 U.S.C. § 6b(a)(1)(A)-(C), Section 4o(1) of the Act, 7 U.S.C. § 6o(1), and Regulation 4.20(c), 17 C.F.R. § 4.20(c);
- An order of preliminary and permanent injunction prohibiting G. Defendants Driver and Axcess Automation and any of their agents, servants, employees, assigns, attorneys, and persons in active concert or participation with Defendants Driver and Axcess Automation, including any successor thereof, from

engaging, directly or indirectly, in any violation of Section 4m(1) of the Act, 7 U.S.C. §§ 6m(1);

- H. An order of preliminary and permanent injunction prohibiting Defendants Axcess Fund Management and Driver and any of their agents, servants, employees, assigns, attorneys, and persons in active concert or participation with Defendants Axcess Fund Management and Driver, including any successor thereof, from engaging, directly or indirectly, in any violation of Section 4n(3)(A) of the Act, 7 U.S.C. §§ 6n(3)(A), and Regulations 1.31(a) and 4.23, 17 C.F.R. §§ 1.31(a) and 4.23;
- I. An order of preliminary and permanent injunction prohibiting Defendants and any of their agents, servants, employees, assigns, attorneys, and persons in active concert or participation with any Defendants, including any successor thereof, from:
 - 1) Trading on or subject to the rules of any registered entity, as that term is defined in Section 1a(29) of the Act, 7 U.S.C. § 1a(29);
 - 2) Engaging in, controlling or directing the trading for any commodity interest account for or on behalf of any other person or entity, whether by power of attorney or otherwise;
 - Soliciting or accepting funds from any person in connection with the purchase or sale of any commodity interest;
 - Applying for registration or claiming exemption from registration with the Commission in any capacity, and engaging in any activity requiring such registration or exemption from registration with the Commission, except as provided for in Regulation 4.14(a)(9), 17 C.F.R. § 4.14(a)(9), or acting as principal, agent or any other officer or employee of any person registered, exempted from registration or required to be

- registered with the Commission, except as provided for in Regulation 4.14(a)(9), 17 C.F.R. § 4.14(a)(9);
- 5) Entering into any commodity interest transactions for their own personal accounts, for any account in which they have a direct or indirect interest and/or having any commodity interests traded on their behalf; and/or
- 6) Engaging in any business activities related to commodity interest trading;
- J. Enter an order directing each Defendant to pay a civil monetary penalty in an amount provided pursuant to Section 6c(d)(1) of the Act, 7 U.S.C. § 13a-1 (2006), and Regulation 143.8, 17 C.F.R. § 143.8 (2008), for each violation of the Act or Regulations, plus post-judgment interest;
- K. Enter an order providing for such other and further equitable and ancillary relief as this Court may deem necessary and appropriate, including but not limited to restitution and disgorgement and interest thereon from the date of such violations; and
- L. Enter an order requiring Defendants to pay costs and fees as permitted by 28 U.S.C. § 1920 and 2412(a)(2).
 - M. Such other and further relief as the Court deems proper.

Dated: May 13, 2009

New York, New York

Respectfully submitted,

ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF U.S. COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION

Lenel Hickson, Jr. Acting Regional Counsel

By: Michael R. Berlowitz
W. Derek Shakabpa
David Acevedo
140 Broadway, 19th Floor
New York, N.Y. 10005
(646) 746-9754 (Acevedo)
(646) 746-9940 (facsimile)
dacevedo@cftc.gov

DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

Pursuant to Local Rule 38-1, Plaintiff respectfully requests a jury trial.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: May 13, 2009 New York, New York

> ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF U.S. COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION

Lenel Hickson, Jr. Acting Regional Counsel

Michael R. Berlowitz
W. Derek Shakabpa
David Acevedo
140 Broadway, 19th Floor
New York, N.Y. 10005
(646) 746-9754 (Acevedo)
(646) 746-9940 (facsimile)
dacevedo@cftc.gov