

BANK OF NOVA SCOTIA

Form 424B2

October 01, 2018

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Registration Statement No. 333-215597

(To Prospectus dated February 1, 2017,

Prospectus Supplement dated February 13, 2017, and

Product Prospectus Supplement EQUITY SUN-1 dated July 24, 2018)

2,700,000 Units September 27, 2018

\$ Settlement Date October 4, 2018

Principal Maturity Date September 29, 2023

amount

per

unit

CUSIP

No.

06417P702

Market-Linked Step Up Notes Linked
to the S&P 500® Index

§ Maturity of approximately five years

§ If the Index is flat or increases up to
the Step Up Value, a return of 25.81%

§ If the Index increases above the Step
Up Value, a return equal to the
percentage increase in the Index

§ 1-to-1 downside exposure to
decreases in the Index beyond a 15%
decline, with up to 85% of your
principal at risk

§ All payments occur at maturity and
are subject to the credit risk of The
Bank of Nova Scotia

§ No periodic interest payments

§ In addition to the underwriting
discount set forth below, the notes
include a hedging-related charge of
\$0.075 per unit. See "Structuring the
Notes"

§ Limited secondary market liquidity,
with no exchange listing

§ The notes are unsecured debt
securities and are not savings accounts
or insured deposits of a bank. The
notes are not insured or guaranteed by
the Canada Deposit Insurance
Corporation (the "CDIC"), the U.S.

Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation
(the "FDIC"), or any other governmental
agency of Canada, the United States or
any other jurisdiction

The notes are being issued by The Bank of Nova Scotia ("BNS"). There are important differences between the notes and a conventional debt security, including different investment risks and certain additional costs. See "Risk Factors" beginning on page TS-7 of this term sheet and beginning on page PS-7 of product prospectus supplement EQUITY SUN-1.

The initial estimated value of the notes as of the pricing date is \$9.55 per unit, which is less than the public offering price listed below. See "Summary" on the following page, "Risk Factors" beginning on page TS-7 of this term sheet and "Structuring the Notes" on page TS-15 of this term sheet for additional information. The actual value of your notes at any time will reflect many factors and cannot be predicted with accuracy.

None of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC"), any state securities commission, or any other regulatory body has approved or disapproved of these securities or determined if this Note Prospectus (as defined below) is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

	<u>Per Unit Total</u>	
Public offering price ⁽¹⁾	\$10.00	\$27,282,070.00
Underwriting discount ⁽¹⁾	\$0.25	\$638,176.75
Proceeds, before expenses, to BNS	\$9.75	\$26,643,893.25

For any purchase of 500,000 units or more in a single transaction by an individual investor or in combined (1) transactions with the investor's household in this offering, the public offering price and the underwriting discount will be \$9.95 per unit and \$0.20 per unit, respectively. See "Supplement to the Plan of Distribution" below.
The notes:

Are Not FDIC Insured	Are Not Bank Guaranteed	May Lose Value
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Merrill Lynch & Co.
September 27, 2018

Market-Linked Step Up Notes

Linked to the S&P 500® Index, due September 29, 2023

Summary

The Market-Linked Step Up Notes Linked to the S&P 500® Index, due September 29, 2023 (the “notes”) are our senior unsecured debt securities. The notes are not guaranteed or insured by the CDIC or the FDIC, and are not, either directly or indirectly, an obligation of any third party. The notes will rank equally with all of our other unsecured senior debt. Any payments due on the notes, including any repayment of principal, will be subject to the credit risk of BNS. The notes provide you with a Step Up Payment if the Ending Value of the Market Measure, which is the S&P 500® Index (the “Index”), is equal to or greater than the Starting Value, but is not greater than the Step Up Value. If the Ending Value is greater than the Step Up Value, you will participate on a 1-for-1 basis in the increase in the level of the Index above the Starting Value. If the Ending Value is less than the Starting Value but greater than or equal to the Threshold Value, you will receive the principal amount of your notes. If the Ending Value is less than the Threshold Value, you will lose a portion, which could be significant, of the principal amount of your notes. Any payments on the notes, will be calculated based on the \$10 principal amount per unit and will depend on the performance of the Index, subject to our credit risk. See “Terms of the Notes” below.

The economic terms of the notes (including the Step Up Payment) are based on our internal funding rate, which is the rate we would pay to borrow funds through the issuance of market-linked notes, and the economic terms of certain related hedging arrangements. Our internal funding rate is typically lower than the rate we would pay when we issue conventional fixed rate debt securities. This difference in funding rate, as well as the underwriting discount and the hedging related charge described below, reduced the economic terms of the notes to you and the initial estimated value of the notes on the pricing date. Due to these factors, the public offering price you pay to purchase the notes is greater than the initial estimated value of the notes.

On the cover page of this term sheet, we have provided the initial estimated value for the notes. This estimated value was determined by reference to our internal pricing models, which take into consideration certain factors, such as our internal funding rate on the pricing date and our assumptions about market parameters. For more information about the initial estimated value and the structuring of the notes, see “Structuring the Notes” on page TS-15.

Terms of the Notes

Redemption Amount Determination

On the maturity date, you will receive a cash payment per unit determined as follows:

Issuer: The Bank of Nova Scotia (“BNS”)

Principal Amount: \$10.00 per unit

Term: Approximately five years

Market Measure: The S&P 500® Index (Bloomberg symbol: “SPX”), a price return index

Starting Value: 2,914.00

Ending Value: The closing level of the Market Measure on the scheduled calculation day. The calculation day is subject to postponement in the event of Market Disruption Events, as described beginning on page PS-21 of product prospectus supplement EQUITY SUN-1.

Step Up Value: 3,666.10 (125.81% of the Starting Value, rounded to two decimal places).

Step Up Payment: \$2.581 per unit, which represents a return of 25.81% over the principal amount.
2,476.90 (85% of the Starting Value).

Threshold

Value:

Calculation

Day: September 22, 2023

Fees and

Charges:

The underwriting discount of \$0.25 per unit listed on the cover page and the hedging related charge of \$0.075 per unit described in “Structuring the Notes” on page TS-15.

Calculation

Agent:

Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated (“MLPF&S”).

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Market-Linked Step Up Notes

Linked to the S&P 500® Index, due September 29, 2023

The terms and risks of the notes are contained in this term sheet and in the following:

§ Product prospectus supplement EQUITY SUN-1 dated July 24, 2018:

§ <http://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/9631/000091412118001349/bn48109837-424b5.htm>

§ Prospectus supplement dated February 13, 2017:

§ https://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/9631/000110465917008642/a17-4372_1424b3.htm

§ Prospectus dated February 1, 2017:

§ <https://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/9631/000119312517027656/d338678d424b3.htm>

These documents (together, the “Note Prospectus”) have been filed as part of a registration statement with the SEC, which may, without cost, be accessed on the SEC website as indicated above or obtained from MLPF&S by calling 1-800-294-1322. Before you invest, you should read the Note Prospectus, including this term sheet, for information about us and this offering. Any prior or contemporaneous oral statements and any other written materials you may have received are superseded by the Note Prospectus. Capitalized terms used but not defined in this term sheet have the meanings set forth in product prospectus supplement EQUITY SUN-1. Unless otherwise indicated or unless the context requires otherwise, all references in this document to “we,” “us,” “our,” or similar references are to BNS.

Investor Considerations

You may wish to consider an investment in the notes if:

§ You anticipate that the Index will not decrease from the Starting Value to the Ending Value.

§ You are willing to risk a substantial loss of principal if the Index decreases from the Starting Value to an Ending Value that is less than the threshold value.

§ You are willing to forgo the interest payments that are paid on conventional interest bearing debt securities.

§ You are willing to forgo dividends or other benefits of owning the stocks included in the Index.

§ You are willing to accept a limited or no market for sales prior to maturity, and understand that the market prices for the notes, if any, will be affected by various factors, including our actual and perceived creditworthiness, our internal funding rate and fees and charges on the notes.

§ You are willing to assume our credit risk, as issuer of the notes, for all payments under the notes, including the Redemption Amount.

The notes may not be an appropriate investment for you if:

§ You believe that the Index will decrease from the Starting Value to the Ending Value.

§ You seek 100% principal repayment or preservation of capital.

§ You seek interest payments or other current income on your investment.

§ You want to receive dividends or other distributions paid on the stocks included in the Index.

§ You seek an investment for which there will be a liquid secondary market.

§ You are unwilling or are unable to take market risk on the notes or to take our credit risk as issuer of the notes.

We urge you to consult your investment, legal, tax, accounting, and other advisors before you invest in the notes.

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Market-Linked Step Up Notes

Linked to the S&P 500[®] Index, due September 29, 2023

Hypothetical Payout Profile and Examples of Payments at Maturity

This graph reflects the returns on the notes, based on the Threshold Value of 85% of the Starting Value, the Step Up Payment of \$2.581 per unit and the Step Up Value of 125.81% of the Starting Value. The green line reflects the returns on the notes, while the dotted gray line reflects the returns of a direct investment in the stocks included in the Index, excluding dividends.

This graph has been prepared for purposes of illustration only.

The following table and examples are for purposes of illustration only. They are based on hypothetical values and show hypothetical returns on the notes. They illustrate the calculation of the Redemption Amount and total rate of return based on a hypothetical Starting Value of 100, a hypothetical Threshold Value of 85, the Step Up Value of 125.81, the Step Up Payment of \$2.581 per unit and a range of hypothetical Ending Values. The actual amount you receive and the resulting total rate of return will depend on the actual Starting Value, Threshold Value, Ending Value, Step Up Value, and whether you hold the notes to maturity. The following examples do not take into account any tax consequences from investing in the notes.

For recent actual levels of the Market Measure, see “The Index” section below. The Index is a price return index and as such the Ending Value will not include any income generated by dividends paid on the stocks included in the Index, which you would otherwise be entitled to receive if you invested in those stocks directly. In addition, all payments on the notes are subject to issuer credit risk

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Market-Linked Step Up Notes

Linked to the S&P 500[®] Index, due September 29, 2023

Ending Value	Percentage Change from the Starting Value to the Ending Value	Redemption Amount per Unit	Total Rate of Return on the Notes
0.00	-100.00%	\$1.500	-85.00%
50.00	-50.00%	\$6.500	-35.00%
80.00	-20.00%	\$9.500	-5.00%
85.00 ⁽¹⁾	-15.00%	\$10.000	0.00%
90.00	-10.00%	\$10.000	0.00%
94.00	-6.00%	\$10.000	0.00%
97.00	-3.00%	\$10.000	0.00%
100.00 ⁽²⁾	0.00%	\$12.581 ⁽³⁾	25.81%
102.00	2.00%	\$12.581	25.81%
105.00	5.00%	\$12.581	25.81%
110.00	10.00%	\$12.581	25.81%
113.00	13.00%	\$12.581	25.81%
125.81 ⁽⁴⁾	25.81%	\$12.581	25.81%
130.00	30.00%	\$13.000	30.00%
132.00	32.00%	\$13.200	32.00%
140.00	40.00%	\$14.000	40.00%
150.00	50.00%	\$15.000	50.00%
160.00	60.00%	\$16.000	60.00%

(1) This is the hypothetical Threshold Value.

(2) The hypothetical Starting Value of 100 used in these examples has been chosen for illustrative purposes only. The actual Starting Value is 2,914.00, which was the closing level of the Market Measure on the pricing date.

(3) This amount represents the sum of the principal amount and the Step Up Payment of \$2.581.

(4) This is the hypothetical Step Up Value.

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Market-Linked Step Up Notes

Linked to the S&P 500[®] Index, due September 29, 2023

Redemption Amount Calculation Examples

Example 1

The Ending Value is 75.00, or 75.00% of the

Starting Value:

Starting Value: 100.00

Threshold Value: 85.00

Ending Value: 75.00

Redemption Amount per unit

Example 2

The Ending Value is

95.00, or 95.00% of the

Starting Value:

Starting Value: 100.00

Threshold Value: 85.00

Ending Value: 95.00

Redemption Amount per

unit = \$10.00, the

principal amount, since

the Ending Value is less

than the Starting Value,

but is equal to or greater

than the Threshold Value.

Example 3

The Ending Value is 110.00, or 110.00% of the Starting Value:

Starting
Value: 100.00

Step Up
Value: 125.81

Ending
Value: 110.00

Redemption Amount per unit, the principal amount plus the Step Up Payment, since the Ending Value is equal to or greater than the Starting Value, but less than the Step Up Value.

Example 4

The Ending Value is 140.00, or 140.00% of
the Starting Value:

Starting Value: 100.00

Step Up Value: 125.81

Ending Value: 140.00

Redemption Amount per unit

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Market-Linked Step Up Notes

Linked to the S&P 500® Index, due September 29, 2023

Risk Factors

There are important differences between the notes and a conventional debt security. An investment in the notes involves significant risks, including those listed below. You should carefully review the more detailed explanation of risks relating to the notes in the “Risk Factors” sections beginning on page PS-7 of product prospectus supplement EQUITY SUN-1, page S-2 of the prospectus supplement, and page 6 of the prospectus identified above. We also urge you to consult your investment, legal, tax, accounting, and other advisors before you invest in the notes.

§ Depending on the performance of the Index as measured shortly before the maturity date, your investment may result in a loss; there is no guaranteed return of principal.

§ Your return on the notes may be less than the yield you could earn by owning a conventional fixed or floating rate debt security of comparable maturity.

§ Your investment return may be less than a comparable investment directly in the stocks included in the Index.

Payments on the notes are subject to our credit risk, and actual or perceived changes in our creditworthiness are expected to affect the value of the notes. If we become insolvent or are unable to pay our obligations, you may lose your entire investment.

Our initial estimated value of the notes is lower than the public offering price of the notes. Our initial estimated value of the notes is only an estimate. The public offering price of the notes exceeds our initial estimated value because it includes costs associated with selling and structuring the notes, as well as hedging our obligations under the notes with a third party, which may include MLPF&S or one of its affiliates. These costs include the underwriting discount and an expected hedging related charge, as further described in “Structuring the Notes” on page TS-15.

Our initial estimated value of the notes does not represent future values of the notes and may differ from others’ estimates. Our initial estimated value of the notes is determined by reference to our internal pricing models when the terms of the notes are set. These pricing models consider certain factors, such as our internal funding rate on the pricing date, the expected term of the notes, market conditions and other relevant factors existing at that time, and our assumptions about market parameters, which can include volatility, dividend rates, interest rates and other factors. Different pricing models and assumptions could provide valuations for the notes that are different from our initial estimated value. In addition, market conditions and other relevant factors in the future may change, and any of our assumptions may prove to be incorrect. On future dates, the market value of the notes could change significantly based on, among other things, the performance of the Index, changes in market conditions, our creditworthiness, interest rate movements and other relevant factors. These factors, together with various credit, market and economic factors over the term of the notes, are expected to reduce the price at which you may be able to sell the notes in any secondary market and will affect the value of the notes in complex and unpredictable ways. Our initial estimated value does not represent a minimum price at which we or any agents would be willing to buy your notes in any secondary market (if any exists) at any time.

§ Our initial estimated value is not determined by reference to credit spreads or the borrowing rate we would pay for our conventional fixed-rate debt securities. The internal funding rate used in the determination of our initial estimated value of the notes generally represents a discount from the credit spreads for our conventional fixed-rate debt securities and the borrowing rate we would pay for our conventional fixed-rate debt securities. If we were to use the interest rate implied by the credit spreads for our conventional fixed-rate debt securities, or the borrowing rate we would pay for our conventional fixed-rate debt securities, we would expect the economic terms of the notes to be more favorable to you. Consequently, our use of an internal funding rate for the notes would have an adverse effect on the economic terms of the notes, the initial estimated value of the notes on the pricing date, and the price at which

you may be able to sell the notes in any secondary market.

A trading market is not expected to develop for the notes. Neither we nor MLPF&S is obligated to make a market § for, or to repurchase, the notes. There is no assurance that any party will be willing to purchase your notes at any price in any secondary market.

§ Our business, hedging and trading activities, and those of MLPF&S and our respective affiliates (including trades in shares of companies included in the Index), and any hedging and trading activities we, MLPF&S or our respective affiliates engage in for our clients' accounts, may affect the market value and return of the notes and may create conflicts of interest with you.

§ The Index sponsor may adjust the Index in a way that may adversely affect its level and your interests, and the Index sponsor has no obligation to consider your interests.

§ You will have no rights of a holder of the securities included in the Index, and you will not be entitled to receive securities or dividends or other distributions by the issuers of those securities.

§ While we, MLPF&S or our respective affiliates may from time to time own securities of companies included in the Index, except to the extent that the common stock of Bank of America Corporation (the parent company of § MLPF&S) is included in the Index, we, MLPF&S and our respective affiliates do not control any company included in the Index, and have not verified any disclosure made by any other company.

§ There may be potential conflicts of interest involving the calculation agent, which is MLPF&S. We have the right to appoint and remove the calculation agent.

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Market-Linked Step Up Notes

Linked to the S&P 500® Index, due September 29, 2023

§ The U.S. federal income tax consequences of the notes are uncertain, and may be adverse to a holder of the notes.
§ See “Summary of U.S. Federal Income Tax Consequences” below.

The conclusion that no portion of the interest paid or credited or deemed to be paid or credited on a note will be “Participating Debt Interest” subject to Canadian withholding tax is based in part on the current published administrative position of the CRA. There cannot be any assurance that CRA’s current published administrative practice will not be subject to change, including potential expansion in the current administrative interpretation of Participating Debt Interest subject to Canadian withholding tax. If, at any time, the interest paid or credited or deemed to be paid or credited on a note is subject to Canadian withholding tax, you will receive an amount that is § less than the Redemption Amount. You should consult your own adviser as to the potential for such withholding and the potential for reduction or refund of part or all of such withholding, including under any bilateral Canadian tax treaty the benefits of which you may be entitled. For a discussion of the Canadian federal income tax consequences of investing in the notes, see “Summary of Canadian Federal Income Tax Consequences” below, “Canadian Taxation—Debt Securities” on page 50 of the prospectus dated February 1, 2017, and “Supplemental Discussion of Canadian Federal Income Tax Consequences” on page PS-42 of product prospectus supplement EQUITY SUN-1.

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Market-Linked Step Up Notes

Linked to the S&P 500[®] Index, due September 29, 2023

The Index

All disclosures contained in this term sheet regarding the Index, including, without limitation, its make up, method of calculation, and changes in its components, have been derived from publicly available sources. The information reflects the policies of, and is subject to change by, S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC (the “Index sponsor”). The Index sponsor, which licenses the copyright and all other rights to the Index, has no obligation to continue to publish, and may discontinue publication of, the Index. The consequences of the Index sponsor discontinuing publication of the Index are discussed in the section entitled “Description of the Notes—Discontinuance of an Index” beginning on page PS-30 of product prospectus supplement EQUITY SUN-1. None of us, the calculation agent, or MLPF&S accepts any responsibility for the calculation, maintenance or publication of the Index or any successor index.

General

The Index includes a representative sample of 500 leading companies in leading industries of the U.S. economy. The Index is designed to provide a performance benchmark for the U.S. equity markets. The Index is calculated based on the relative value of the aggregate Market Value (as defined below) of the common stocks of 500 companies as of a particular time as compared to the aggregate average Market Value of the common stocks of 500 similar companies during the base period of the years 1941 through 1943. The “Market Value” of any index stock is the product of the market price per share times the number of the then outstanding shares of such index stock. The 500 companies are not the 500 largest companies listed on the NYSE and not all 500 companies are listed on such exchange. The Index sponsor chooses companies for inclusion in the Index with an aim of achieving a distribution by broad industry groupings that approximates the distribution of these groupings in the common stock population of the U.S. equity market.

As of August 31, 2018, the 500 companies included in the Index were divided into eleven Global Industry Classification Sectors. The Global Industry Classification Sectors include (with the approximate percentage currently included in such sectors indicated in parentheses): Information Technology (26.5%); Health Care (14.6%); Financials (13.8%); Consumer Discretionary (12.9%); Industrials (9.6%); Consumer Staples (6.7%); Energy (5.9%); Utilities (2.8%); Real Estate (2.7%); Materials (2.5%) and Telecommunication Services (1.9%). (Sector designations are determined by the Index sponsor using criteria it has selected or developed. Different index sponsors may use very different standards for determining sector designations. In addition, many companies operate in a number of sectors, but are listed in only one sector and the basis on which that sector is selected may also differ. As a result, sector comparisons between indices with different index sponsors may reflect differences in methodology as well as actual differences in the sector composition of the indices.)

Calculation of the Index

The Index is calculated using a base-weighted aggregate methodology. The Index is a price return index. The value of the Index on any day for which an index value is published is determined by a fraction, the numerator of which is the aggregate of the market price of each stock in the Index multiplied by the float-adjusted number of shares of such stock included in the Index, and the denominator of which is the divisor, which is described more fully below.

The Index is also sometimes called a “base-weighted index” because of its use of a divisor. The “divisor” is a value calculated by the Index sponsor that is intended to maintain conformity in index values over time and is adjusted for all changes in the index stocks’ share capital after the “base date.” The level of the Index reflects the total market value of all index stocks relative to the index’s base date of 1941-43. The Index sponsor set the base value of the Index on the base date at 10.

Maintenance of the Index

In order to keep the Index comparable over time, the Index sponsor engages in an index maintenance process. The Index maintenance process involves changing the constituents, adjusting the number of shares used to calculate the Index, monitoring and completing the adjustments for company additions and deletions, adjusting for stock splits and stock dividends and adjusting for other corporate actions.

Divisor Adjustments

The two types of adjustments primarily used by the Index sponsor are divisor adjustments and adjustments to the number of shares (including float adjustments) used to calculate the Index. Set forth below is a table of certain corporate events and their resulting effect on the divisor and the share count. If a corporate event requires an

adjustment to the divisor, that event has the effect of altering the market value of the affected index stock and consequently of altering the aggregate market value of the index stocks following the event. In order that the level of the Index not be affected by the altered market value (which could be an increase or decrease) of the affected index stock, the Index sponsor derives a new divisor by dividing the post-event market value of the index stocks by the pre-event index value, which has the effect of reducing the Index's post-event value to the pre-event level.

Constituent Changes

Constituent changes are made on an as-needed basis and there is no schedule for constituent reviews. Constituent changes are generally announced one to five business days prior to the change. Relevant criteria for additions to the Index that are employed by the Index sponsor include an unadjusted market capitalization of \$6.1 billion or more (as of March 10, 2017), adequate liquidity, reasonable price, U.S. domicile, listing on a major exchange, public float of 50% or more, industry sector, financial viability and, for IPOs, a seasoning period of six to twelve months. Stocks are deleted from the Index when they are involved in mergers, acquisitions or significant restructurings such that they no longer meet the inclusion criteria, and when they violate one or more of the inclusion criteria. Companies that experience a trading halt may be retained or deleted in the Index sponsor's discretion. The Index sponsor evaluates additions and deletions with a view to maintaining Index continuity.

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Market-Linked Step Up Notes

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Changes to the Number of Shares of a Constituent

The index maintenance process also involves tracking the changes in the number of shares included for each of the index companies. The timing of adjustments to the number of shares depends on the type of event causing the change, public availability of data, local market practice, and whether the change represents more than 5% of the float-adjusted share count. Changes as a result of mergers or acquisitions are implemented as soon as reasonably possible, regardless of the size of the change to the number of shares. At the Index sponsor's discretion, however, de minimis merger and acquisition changes may be accumulated and implemented with the updates made at the quarterly share updates as described below.

Changes that result from other corporate actions will be implemented as soon as practicable if the change to the float-adjusted share count is more than 5%. For smaller changes, on the third Friday of the last month in each calendar quarter, the Index sponsor updates the share totals of companies in the Index as required by any changes in the float-adjusted number of shares outstanding. The Index sponsor implements a share freeze the week leading up to the effective date of the quarterly share count updates. During this frozen period, shares are not changed except for certain corporate action events (merger activity, stock splits, rights offerings and certain share dividend payable events). After the float-adjusted share count totals are updated, the divisor is adjusted to compensate for the net change in the total market value of the Index. In addition, any changes over 5% in the current common shares outstanding for the index companies are carefully reviewed by the Index sponsor on a weekly basis, and when appropriate, an immediate adjustment is made to the divisor.

In addition, the Index is float-adjusted, meaning that the share counts used in calculating the Index reflect only those shares available to investors rather than all of a company's outstanding shares. To this end, the Index sponsor defines three groups of shareholders whose holdings are presumed to be for control, rather than investment purposes. The groups are:

- holdings by other publicly traded corporations, venture capital firms, private equity firms, or strategic partners or leveraged buyout groups;
- holdings by government entities, including all levels of government within the United States or foreign countries, except for pension and retirement funds; and