

SFE NOTICE NO. 142/05

Date of Issue: 17th October 2005

SFE MARKET HALT – 13 October 2005

Market users are advised that on 13 October 2005 the SFE market experienced a period of unavailability totaling 84 minutes for the main products.

The main products are defined as Three and Ten Year Bonds, Bank Bills, SPI and Interbank Future and Option contracts.

Early indication is that the pause was the result of a Remote Procedure Call (RPC) (a Microsoft operating system function) becoming unresponsive on one of the servers used to run SYCOM's 10 services.

The period of unavailability is not considered to be a SYCOM core application issue. The trading system was recovered within the standard one hour but opening the market was slightly delayed due to issues experienced with Participant reconnection associated with download and bandwidth requirements. The Participant Network Upgrade, incorporating increases in bandwidth, and due for completion prior to the December 2005 roll will significantly reduce if not eliminate these bandwidth/ download reconnection issues.

Event	Time	Down Time
Market halted	12:01:20	
System Recovered	12:34:00	
Reopening times announced	13:03:00	
Main product pre open	13:20:00	
Main product open	13:25:00	84 minutes
Non main product pre open (Electricity)	13:35:00	
Non main product open	13:45:00	104 minutes
Non main product pre open (ISF's, Commodity, Currency and Bond Spread)	13:50:00	
Non main product open	14:00:00	119 minutes

NZ Dollar denominated products were not re-opened in the trade date of 13th October 2005 due to the limited availability of standard trading hours to resume and close the product range.

SFE apologises for the inconvenience whilst continuing to refine its recovery management procedures to minimize the downtime associated with such events.

The SYCOM system is now fully functional. SFE technical staff, software providers and other related infrastructure providers are performing a thorough investigation of the incident. An application change has been identified to reduce the likelihood of a Microsoft operating system error interrupting the SYCOM application. The viability of the application change is currently being assessed within the standard SFE application testing and release process.

In the event of a SYCOM disruption, clear instructions and information on opening time, order status and Workstation recovery can be received in real time using the SYCOM status facility on the SFE website and is available at <http://www.sfe.com.au/site/status/status.htm?sycom>

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