

# **Index Rules and Methodology**

Index Name	Ticker
S-Network Sector Dividend Dogs	SDOGX
S-Network International Sector Dividend Dogs	IDOGX
S-Network Emerging Sector Dividend Dogs	EDOGX
S-Network REIT Dividend Dogs Index	RDOGX

## **Table of Contents**

Index Objective	3
Highlights	
Dates	
Supporting Documents	
Index Construction	
Universe	
Selection	
Weighting	
Rebalancing and Reconstitution	
Index Maintenance	
Corporate Actions:	
Index Calculation	
Index Governance	
Index Policies	
Index Information	
Contact Information	

## Index Objective

The Dividend Dogs family of indexes are high yielding regional and REIT portfolios whose universes correspond to S-NET regional and REIT market indexes. For each index in the family, the portfolio consists of five stocks in each of the sectors or segments which offer the highest dividend yields. Both the sectors or segments and their components are equally weighted.

## Highlights

The Benchmarks include the following indexes:

## **Regional:**

S-Network Sector Dividend Dogs (SDOGX)

S-Network International Sector Dividend Dogs (IDOGX)

S-Network Emerging Sector Dividend Dogs (EDOGX):

Each index is equally weighted and include 50 stocks composed of the five stocks in each of its universe's sectors with the highest dividend yield. The indexes exclude the Real Estate Sector and REITS.

#### **REITS:**

S-Network REIT Dividend Dogs Index (RDOGX)

The index is equally weighted and includes 45 stocks composed of the five stocks in each of its universe's REIT segments with the highest dividend yield.

#### **Dates**

Snapshot Dates: The last trading day of the second month of each calendar quarter.

Ranking Date: Last trading Date of Nov.

Reconstitution Date: Indexes reconstituted annually on the third Friday of December.

Record Date: 2nd Friday of Rebalance Month.

Rebalance Dates: Indexes are rebalanced quarterly on the third Friday of the last month of each calendar quarter.

## **Supporting Documents**

This methodology is meant to be read in conjunction with supporting documents providing greater detail with respect to the policies, procedures and calculations described herein. References throughout the methodology direct the reader to the relevant supporting document for further information on a specific topic. The list of the main supplemental documents for this methodology and the hyperlinks to those documents are as follows:

Supporting Documents	URL
Index Maintenance Policy	Index Maintenance Policy
Index Governance	<u>Index Governance</u>

Index Policies	<u>Index Policies</u>
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## Index Construction

#### Universe

## S-Network Sector Dividend Dogs (SDOGX)

Universe: S-Network US Equity WR Large-Cap 500 Index (SNR500)

#### S-Network International Sector Dividend Dogs (IDOGX)

Universe: 500 largest constituents of S-Network Developed International Equity 1000 Index (SND1000)

## S-Network Emerging Sector Dividend Dogs (EDOGX):

Universe: S-Network Emerging Markets Liquid 500 Index (SNX500)

## S-Network REIT Dividend Dogs Index (RDOGX)

Universe: S-Network US Composite REIT Index (SNREIT)

#### Selection

All constituents must be constituents of their corresponding universes as of the Snapshot Date. Securities included are selected based on a ranking system within each sector that selects the five stocks in each universe sector or segment with the highest dividend yield.

If there are less than 5 eligible securities represented in any sector or segment as of the snapshot date the index will include only those securities which qualify.

#### <u>Sectors</u>

The regional indexes use ten of the eleven GICS sectors excluding the Real Estate Sector (Sector 60) and REITS.

- Energy
- Materials
- Industrials
- Communication Services
- Consumer Discretionary
- Consumer Staples
- Health Care
- Utilities

- Financials
- Information Technology

#### **REIT Segments**

The REIT index uses nine REIT segments. Eight are based on GICS Sub-Industries (excluding REITs involved in certain technologies) and one is based on S-Network's research. RDOGX excludes all operating companies within the Real Estate sector (Sector 60) as well as Mortgage REITs. The Technology REITs segment comprises REITs that are principally engaged in communication towers and/or data centers.

- Diversified REITs
- Health Care REITs
- Industrial REITs

- Retail REITs
- Technology REITs
- Office REITs

- Hotel & Resort REITs
- Residential REITs
- Specialized REITs

#### SDOGX, IDOGX, EDOGX

The dividend yield of a stock is computed based on the regular cash dividends paid by the company over the previous twelve-month period, divided by the share price as of the Ranking Date. (Special Dividends are not included).

If a company eligible for inclusion in the index has cut or will cut its dividend within six months of the annual reconstitution, an adjusted dividend yield will be used as a substitute for the trailing-12-month yield in the reconstitution. The adjusted dividend yield shall be calculated by multiplying the latest known regular dividend amount by the regular dividend's annual frequency and dividing that product by the stock's share price as of the Snapshot Date.

#### SDOGX, RDOGX

Constituents must have paid a dividend in each of the previous four calendar quarters.

## **IDOGX, EDOGX**

Constituents must have paid a dividend in the trailing twelve months.

#### **IDOGX**

The countries of Canada, Korea, and Taiwan are excluded.

Country representation is capped at ten eligible securities per country.

#### **EDOGX**

Stocks that have less than USD 1 million per day in average daily trading volume (ADTV) for the previous 90 days do not qualify for inclusion.

The country of Egypt is excluded.

Country representation is capped at five eligible securities per country.

## **RDOGX**

Securities must have funds from operations per share greater than their trailing-12-month dividends per share. Dividend yield is computed based on the last regular cash dividend paid by the company multiplied by the payment frequency, divided by the share price. (Special dividends are not included). Stocks must have a 90-day average daily trading value (ADTV) greater than or equal to the minimum 90-day ADTV of its universe constituents whose company market capitalizations are in the top 95% of market capitalization.

## Weighting

All sectors/segments are equally weighted. The constituents within them are also equally weighted.

## Rebalancing and Reconstitution

The Indexes are rebalanced on the "Rebalance Date" and additionally reconstituted on the "Reconstitution Date".

Pricing used in share weights used for reconstitutions are as of the "Record Date".

Share weights for the rebalanced Indexes are computed as of the "Record Date".

Changes to the Indexes related to the rebalances are as of the "Rebalance Date".

Additions are only made on rebalance or reconstitution dates.

A constituent deleted after the record date will not be replaced at the rebalancing.

SDOGX, RDOGX - If in any sector or segment a current constituent has not paid a regular dividend in each of the previous 4 quarters, it will be replaced with the next highest yielding non-component security in said sector or segment based on closing prices and values as of the "Snapshot Date".

IDOGX, EDOGX - If in any sector or segment a current constituent has not paid a regular dividend in the previous year, it will be replaced with the next highest yielding non-component security in said sector or segment based on closing prices and values as of the "Snapshot Date".

## Index Maintenance

Deletions are made at any time, in the event a stock is liquidated, de-listed, files for bankruptcy, is acquired, or merges with another stock.

If a stock is deleted from its universe, the stock will be replaced as part of the next rebalancing.

If a stock no longer meets its eligibility requirements it will be replaced as part of the next rebalancing.

Upon deletion, the weight of the removed stock is reallocated proportionately to the remaining constituents. A replacement will be added on the next rebalancing date with the next highest yielding non-component security in said sector or segment based on closing prices and values as of the "Snapshot Date".

Please refer to the Index Maintenance Policy document for information on Data Sourcing, Pricing, Financial distress, Index Dissemination, and Data Correction Policy.

#### Corporate Actions:

Please refer to the Index Maintenance Policy document for information on Corporate Action processing.

#### Index Calculation

Please refer to the Index Maintenance Policy document for information on index calculations.

#### Index Governance

The index is governed and managed by a VettaFi Index Committee for the purpose of meeting the goals of the index. For more information, please refer to the Index Governance document.

## **Index Policies**

Please refer to the Index Policies document for information regarding Announcements, Holiday Schedules, Unexpected Exchange Closures, and Recalculation Policy.

## **Index Information**

Index	Price	Base Date	Base	Total	Base Date	Base
	Index		Value	Return		Value
				Index		
S-Network Sector Dividend Dogs	SDOGX	12/31/99	1000	SDOGXTR	12/31/99	1000
S-Network International Sector	IDOGX	12/31/99	1000	IDOGXTR	12/31/99	1000
Dividend Dogs						
S-Network Emerging Sector	EDOGX	12/31/03	1000	EDOGXTR	12/31/03	1000
Dividend Dogs						
S-Network REIT Dividend Dogs	RDOGX	06/30/06	1000	RDOGXTR	06/30/06	1000
Index						

## **Contact Information**

For any questions regarding an index, please contact: indexgovernance@vettafi.com

## Disclaimer

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