

For Immediate Release

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Evolution Markets Brokers First Illinois Basin Coal Futures Trade
-- ICE-Listed Contract Launched Yesterday Kicks Off Futures Trading in New U.S. Region --

White Plains, NY (April 05, 2016): Evolution Markets has facilitated the inaugural trade in the newly launched futures contract for coal originated in the Illinois Basin. The trade executed today is the first in the ICE-listed and financially settled contract for coal mined from the Illinois Basin and delivered on the Ohio River (ICE ticker: **ILB**).

Under the trade, which was facilitated by Evolution Markets¹ over-the-counter and given up to ICE for clearing as a block trade, the counterparties agreed to a price of \$31.00 a ton for 5,000 tons per month for the fourth quarter of 2016. The ILB futures contract settles financially against the Platt's *OTC Broker Index*.

"The market has been anticipating the launch of ICE's financially settled Illinois Basin contract, and we are very pleased to have facilitated its first trade," said Stephen Nesis, Managing Director at Evolution Markets. "We look forward to continuing to develop liquidity in this important new contract, which should provide an additional and vital outlet for hedging price risk exposure in U.S. coal markets."

Market interest in the Illinois Basin has peaked in recent years in part because of increased relative demand for coal from the region both domestically and internationally. The financially-settled ICE contract provides an opportunity for producers, end users, and other liquidity providers to hedge price risk for coal in this region through a cleared financial product.

About Evolution Markets

Using a unique approach called EvoFinance™, Evolution Markets provides strategic financial and industry-leading transactional services to participants in global environmental markets and the energy sector. Formed in 2000, the company has become the green markets leader, leveraging its unrivaled experience and knowledge on behalf of participants in the global carbon, U.S. emissions, renewable energy, weather derivative, and over-the-counter (OTC) oil, coal, natural gas, power, nuclear fuel, biomass, and biofuels markets. Based in White Plains, NY, Evolution Markets serves clients on six continents from offices in New York, Houston, San Francisco, London, and Singapore. www.evomarkets.com

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¹ When Evolution Markets acts as a broker in U.S. coal futures contracts, it is acting through its subsidiary, Evolution Markets Futures LLC. Evolution Markets Futures LLC is registered as an Introducing Broker and is a member of the National Futures Association.

