FRBNY Email from Harlow re Morgan, Goldman and Merrill

Afternoon Update

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To

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Subject

Morgan, Goldman and Merrill Afternoon Update: October 22

Summary

Close attention on Merrill's liquidity pool continues, as they further investigate their options for alternative funding, should any unexpected outflows occur on Thursday and Friday (see below for details). On a positive note, all three institutions showed gradual signs of improvement in both the secured and unsecured space, with some greater signs of interest in term funding. Intraday collateral required for certain clearing/agency banks has also been reportedly on the decline for both Morgan and Goldman.
**Morgan**

**Liquidity Pool:** Early estimate for liquidity pool is a drain of about $1 billion from yesterday’s close of $53.3 billion.

**Funding:** In NY, some positive developments in the non-traditional FI space, as Wells Fargo and Key Bank increased their O/N funding of CP incrementally (WF from $675 million to $750 million; Key from $600 million to $700 million), while Chase came back into this market with $1 billion in overnight money.

**Prime Brokerage:** Also very quite with balances stable. Wires out of about $700 million are expected today for PB and IPB combined. Yesterday’s activity was a net outflow of just over $500 million.

**Clearing Banks:** Effective tomorrow, DB will no longer require the $500 million deposit in NY to support EUR activity.

**Goldman**

**Liquidity Pool:** Increased $3 billion last night, to close at $94 billion. Treasury staff informed us that over the next few days they will be redirecting collateral from GSCo to GSI to take advantage of GSI’s significant overdured position and reduce PDCF usage in New York. GSI’s net funding position has been running $8-10 billion higher than historic levels. GSCo is overdursed by $4.5 billion and GSI is overdursed by $45 billion.

**Funding:** As expected, GSI rolled $1.7 billion with BNP and Rabobank (both v. equities, 1-3 month term); Euroclear Bank and Axa withdrew $630 million. GSCo has extremely light maturities this week; no reportable counterparty comments/concerns to add.

**Clearing Banks:** JPMC agreed to allow Goldman to withdraw its $3 billion cash balance; although noted it may request the maintenance of balances again as it deems necessary.

**Merrill**

**Liquidity Pool**

Yesterday’s pool was down by $3.9 billion to $36.8 billion. Today’s pool is expected to be up $1.6 billion to $38.4 billion.

Given the drop management is looking at a number of funding alternatives (some of which were mentioned yesterday):

- ML is registered with the new CP program which is to start on Monday 10/27 and expect to utilize $5 billion.
- Conduit facility issuers were approached to fund $3 to $5 billion of ABCP (non-US domiciled loans which are not PDCF eligible).
- Additional $2.6 billion of the BAC secured lending facility available, and most importantly ML is in daily discussions with BAC on liquidity needs and ML management stated they are finalizing a $5 to $10 billion unsecured revolver along with, if needed, BAC to purchase ML CP overnight until the revolver is in place sometime next week. According to ML management, this CP purchase plan from BAC will be implemented if operating cash drops to $20 billion before the end of this week.

**Outflows:** As has previously been reported, known large outflows through Monday include LTD maturities of $3 billion on 10/23 and $1.2 billion on 10/27.
Funding:
The repo trader reported seeing better funding conditions today with lower rates and tighter collateral spreads and noted that they did a one month term trade with UBS O’Conner for $100 million for high yield collateral, the first one month trade since the Lehman default. Tuesday, Merrill issued $382 million in CP with a WAM of 1.8 days against $444 million of maturities. Merrill was able to issue $594 million in CP today with a 5 day WAM against $343 million of maturities.
Fails: in the U.S Treasury market have decreased to $28.6 billion down from $36.5 billion on Monday.

CPC Updates
(Compiled by Craig Leiby)
Assignments: Citi reports Morgan ($256 million) and Goldman ($171 million) again among its top three counterparties.
Novations: CS noted that it turned down a novation request from a hedge fund client (Basso Capital Management) wanting to novate $250 million of MS exposure. CS emphasized that it continues to accept nearly all novation requests for MS and continues to communicate directly with MS regarding discussion of any denied novation requests.

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