

Foreign exchange product guide

Spot Contract

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Spot Contract

An agreement to exchange one currency for another at an agreed rate, usually for settlement within two working days from the trade date.

Product variables

- Notional amount
- Currency pair
- Settlement date
- Spot rate

The benefits



Provides a known rate of exchange upfront, giving certainty of cross currency cashflow

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T S Same day delivery is available, to help ensure timely payment

Simple and easy to use

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Key risks



Should the contract no longer be required, the cost of unwind will be determined by the prevailing market rate at the time and will be payable by the client

An application of a Spot Contract

UK-based company Acme Ltd has operational expenses in USD and needs to pay an invoice for USD 500,000.

To do so, Acme Ltd executes a Spot Contract:









Notional amount – The volume of the transaction (how much currency is being bought or sold).

Settlement date – The date on which the spot contract is settled, i.e. when the currency amount is delivered. Settlement of a spot contract usually occurs within 2 working days after the trade is executed, for some currency pairs it is the next working day.

Currency pair – The two currencies involved in the exchange, where the value of one currency is quoted against the other.

Spot rate – The rate available for immediate settlement of the currency.



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