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American Century U.S. Quality  
Growth Index  
(ACQGRO)

**Rules and Methodology**

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# The American Century U.S. Quality Growth Index

## Rule Book

### *I. Index Overview*

American Century Investment Management, Inc. (referred to herein as "American Century" or "we") is the index provider. We developed the American Century U.S. Quality Growth Index (ACQGRO or Index) to capture the performance of large- and mid-capitalization companies in the U.S. that possess attractive quality, growth and valuation fundamentals.

The construction process excludes lower quality stocks based on our methodology. Growth and value scoring provide additional building blocks for constructing the Stable Growth and Pure Growth subportfolios. The Final Index is a blend of the two subportfolios.

We rebalance the Index monthly and reconstitute the Index quarterly at the end of February, May, August and November. The updates are effective by the U.S. market open on the first business day of the month.

The Index calculation captures price appreciation and total return (dividends reinvested in the Index). The Index calculation utilizes primary market prices, generally in U.S. dollars.

## II. Initial Universe

American Century creates the Initial Universe (sometimes referred to as “market” in this document) from the S-Network US Equity Large/Mid-Cap 1000 Index,<sup>1</sup> excluding the bottom 2% companies ranked on market cap. From the remaining securities, we create the Pure Growth and Stable Growth subportfolios based on the quality, valuation and growth criteria described in this document. The American Century U.S. Quality Growth Index (ACQGRO) blends stocks from the subportfolios.

## III. Quality Scoring

American Century ranks the Initial Universe based on quality scores and excludes the bottom 25 percent. In addition, we exclude the bottom 25 percent within each industry group based on quality scores. The quality attributes and the method for calculating the quality scores are described below.

### A. Quality Attributes

Quality Attributes	
Category	Financial Measure
Profitability	Free Cash Flow/Assets Asset Turnover Margin Gross Profitability Return on Assets Return on Equity
Earnings Quality	Accruals Variability in Sales, Earnings, Cash Flows, Analyst Estimates over Price
Management Quality	Asset Growth Issuance Growth Capital Expenditure and Growth
Leverage	Net Debt/EBITDA Asset/Equity
Momentum	EPS estimate revision Price momentum

### B. Quality Score Calculation

Our calculation for the quality score is provided below.

- Securities are ranked by each quality attribute relative to their universe.
- Each attribute is scored by the percentile rank.
- Attribute scores are combined in a weighted quality score.

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<sup>1</sup> Reconstitute semiannually on the third Friday in June and December. Rebalance quarterly on the third Friday of March, June, September and December.

#### IV. Value Scoring

American Century ranks securities based on a value score. The value attributes vary by company type. The method for calculating the value score is shown below.

##### A. Value Attributes

Value Attributes	
Category	Financial Measure
Deep Value	Book/Price Sales/Price
Earnings Yield	Earnings/Price EBITDA/Enterprise Value
Cash Flow Yield	Operating Cash Flow/Price Free Cash Flow/Price

##### B. Value Score Calculation

American Century performs the calculations below to determine weighted value scores for each stock.

- Securities are ranked by each value attribute relative to their industry group.
- Each attribute is scored by percentile rank.
- Attribute scores are combined to create a weighted value score.

## V. *Growth Scoring*

American Century ranks securities based on a growth score and excludes the bottom 40 percent. The growth attributes and the method for calculating the growth score are shown below.

### A. **Growth Attributes**

<b>Growth Attributes</b>	
<b>Category</b>	<b>Financial Measure</b>
Historical and Expected Growth	Sales, Earnings and Cash Flow Growth
Implied Growth	Price/Earnings Price/Book

### B. **Growth Score Calculation**

American Century performs the calculations below to determine weighted growth scores for each stock.

- Securities are ranked by each growth attribute relative to their universe.
- Each attribute is scored by percentile rank.
- Attribute scores are combined to create a weighted growth score.

## VI. *Portfolio Construction*

### A. **Pure Growth Subportfolio**

The Pure Growth Subportfolio maximizes the growth score, subject to the constraints described below.

<b>Portfolio Constraints</b>	
Sector	Between 50% and 200% of the market sector weight
Quality	At least 15% above the market
Growth	At least 30% above the market
Market Capitalization	Greater than 45% of the cumulative market capitalization

<b>Security Constraints</b>	
Individual Stock Weights	At least 25 basis points
Size and Volatility	Companies are grouped with an upper weight ranging between 0.50% and 3.5%

### B. **Stable Growth Subportfolio**

The Stable Growth Subportfolio maximizes the value and profitability composite score, subject to the constraints described below.

<b>Portfolio Constraints</b>	
Sector	Between 30% and 150% of the market sector weight
Quality	At least 15% above the market
Growth	At least 15% above the market
Market Capitalization	Greater than 45% of the cumulative market capitalization

<b>Security Constraints</b>	
Individual Stock Weights	At least 25 basis points
Size and Volatility	Companies are grouped with an upper weight ranging between 0.50% and 3.5%

### **C. The Final Index**

The Final Index is a blend of the Pure Growth and Stable Growth subportfolios. We dynamically modify the subportfolio weights monthly based on their trailing returns adjusted by volatility when returns are positive; when trailing returns are negative, monthly adjustments are based solely on average trailing returns. The allocation weight for each subportfolio ranges from a minimum of 35% to a maximum of 65%. In any month the weights cannot increase or decrease by more than 15%.



## VII. Calculating the Index

### A. Index Formula

The Index value is calculated each business day based on the formula below.

$$P_t = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{x_{i,t} * p_{i,t} * f_{i,t}}{D_t}$$

With:

$x_{i,t}$  = Number of Index Shares of the Index Component  $i$  on Trading Day  $t$

$p_{i,t}$  = Price of Index Component  $i$  on Trading Day  $t$

$f_{i,t}$  = Foreign exchange rate to convert the Price of Index Component  $i$  on Trading Day  $t$  into the Index Currency

$D_t$  = Divisor on Trading Day  $t$

$n$  = Number of Components in the Index on Trading Day  $t$

The initial Divisor on the Start Date is calculated according to the following formula:

$$D_t = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{(P_{i,t} * f_{i,t} * x_{i,t})}{100}$$

After the close of trading on each Adjustment Day  $t$ , the new Divisor is calculated as follows:

$$D_{t+1} = D_t * \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (P_{i,t} * f_{i,t} * x_{i,t+1})}{\sum_{i=1}^n (P_{i,t} * f_{i,t} * x_{i,t})}$$

This Divisor is valid starting the immediately following business day.

### B. Adjustments

VettaFi LLC (the Calculation Agent) makes adjustments to the Index as necessary whenever there are extraordinary events such as liquidations, conversions, delistings, bankruptcies, mergers or takeovers involving Index components. In these cases, each event will be taken into account on its effective date. Whenever possible, the changes in the Index's components will be announced at least two business days prior to their implementation date.

### C. Dividends and other distributions

Dividend payments and other distributions are included in the total return and net total return variants of the Index as follows:

$$T_t = T_y * \frac{\left( P_t + \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n y_{i,t} * g_{i,t} * x_{i,t}}{D_t} \right)}{P_{t-1}}$$

With:

- $T_y$  = Total Return (or as applicable, Net Total Return) Index variant value as of the previous trade date TR
- $P_{t-1}$  = Price Index variant value as of the previous trade date
- $P_t$  = Price Index variant value as of the current trade date (Trading Day  $t$ )
- $x_{i,t}$  = Number of Index Shares of the Index Component  $i$  on Trading Day  $t$
- $y_{i,t}$  = Distribution of Index Component  $i$  with ex-date  $t + 1$  multiplied by the Dividend Correction Factor (which incorporates the applicable withholding tax rate when used in the Net Total Return variant calculation)
- $g_{i,t}$  = Foreign exchange rate to convert the amount of the distribution of Index Component  $i$  on Trading Day  $t$  into the Index Currency
- $D_t$  = Divisor on Trading Day  $t$
- $n$  = Number of Components in the Index on Trading Day  $t$

### D. Corporate Actions

#### i. Overview

When a company that is included in the Index announces the terms and conditions of a corporate action, the Calculation Agent assesses the action's impact on the price of the company's stock. If required, the Calculation Agent makes appropriate adjustments to the Index to account for the effect of the corporate action. The adjustments are described below.

#### ii. Capital increases

In the case of capital increases with ex-date  $t + 1$ , the Index is adjusted as follows:

$$x_{i,t+1} = x_{i,t} * \frac{1 + B}{1}$$

With:

- $p_{i,t}$  = Price of Index Component  $i$  on Trading Day  $t$

- $p_{i,t+1}$  = Hypothetical price of Index Component  $i$  on Trading Day  $t + 1$   
 $s$  = Subscription Price in the Index Component currency  
 $B$  = Shares received for every share held

$$D_{t+1} = D_t * \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (P_{i,t} * f_{i,t} * x_{i,t}) + \sum_{i=1}^n [(x_{i,t+1} * P_{i,t+1} * f_{i,t}) - (x_{i,t} * P_{i,t} * f_{i,t})]}{\sum_{i=1}^n (P_{i,t} * f_{i,t} * x_{i,t})}$$

With:

- $x_{i,t}$  = Number of Index Shares of the Index Component  $i$  on Trading Day  $t$   
 $x_{i,t+1}$  = Number of Index Shares of the Index Component  $i$  on Trading Day  $t + 1$   
 $p_{i,t}$  = Price of Index Component  $i$  on Trading Day  $t$   
 $p_{i,t+1}$  = Hypothetical price of Index Component  $i$  on Trading Day  $t + 1$   
 $f_{i,t}$  = Foreign exchange rate to convert the Price of Index Component  $i$  on Trading Day  $t$  into the Index Currency  
 $D_t$  = Divisor on Trading Day  $t$   
 $D_{t+1}$  = Divisor on Trading Day  $t + 1$

### iii. Spinoffs

In the case of a spinoff with ex-date  $t + 1$ , the Index is adjusted as follows:

$$P_{i,t+1} = P_{i,t} - s$$

With:

- $p_{i,t}$  = Price of Index Component  $i$  on Trading Day  $t$   
 $p_{i,t+1}$  = Hypothetical price of Index Component  $i$  on Trading Day  $t + 1$   
 $s$  = Price of the spun-off security in the Index Component currency

$$D_{t+1} = D_t * \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (P_{i,t} * f_{i,t} * x_{i,t}) + \sum_{i=1}^n [(x_{i,t+1} * P_{i,t+1} * f_{i,t}) - (x_{i,t} * P_{i,t} * f_{i,t})]}{\sum_{i=1}^n (P_{i,t} * f_{i,t} * x_{i,t})}$$

With:

- $x_{i,t}$  = Number of Index Shares of the Index Component  $i$  on Trading Day  $t$   
 $x_{i,t+1}$  = Number of Index Shares of the Index Component  $i$  on Trading Day  $t + 1$   
 $p_{i,t}$  = Price of Index Component  $i$  on Trading Day  $t$   
 $p_{i,t+1}$  = Hypothetical price of Index Component  $i$  on Trading Day  $t + 1$   
 $f_{i,t}$  = Foreign exchange rate to convert the Price of Index Component  $i$  on Trading Day  $t$  into the Index Currency

$D_t$  = Divisor on Trading Day  $t$   
 $D_{t+1}$  = Divisor on Trading Day  $t + 1$

#### iv. Share splits

In the case of share splits with ex-date on Trading Day  $t + 1$ , it is assumed that the prices change in ratio of the terms of the split. The new number of Index Shares is calculated as follows:

$$x_{i,t+1} = x_{i,t} * B$$

With:

$x_{i,t}$  = Number of Index Shares of the affected Index Component on Trading Day  $t$   
 $x_{i,t+1}$  = Number of Index Shares of the affected Index Component on Trading Day  $t + 1$   
 $B$  = Shares after the share split for every share held before the split

#### v. Stock distributions

In the case of stock distributions with ex-date on trading day  $t + 1$ , it is assumed that the prices change according to the terms of the distribution. The new number of Index Shares is calculated as follows:

$$x_{i,t+1} = x_{i,t} * (1 + B)$$

With:

$x_{i,t}$  = Number of Index Shares of the Index Component  $i$  on Trading Day  $t$   
 $x_{i,t+1}$  = Number of Index Shares of the Index Component  $i$  on Trading Day  $t + 1$   
 $B$  = Shares received for every share held

### E. Recalculation and Market Disruption

#### Recalculation

In the event of an error, the Calculation Agent adheres to the following correction policy:

To maintain a high standard of data integrity, a series of procedures have been implemented to ensure accuracy, timeliness and consistency. Input prices are monitored using a variety of computerized range-check warning systems for both ticker-plant and real-time index systems. Fault tolerant methods are employed in the collection of market and corporate action data. Various verification and audit tasks are performed to ensure the quality of the real-time data feeds and related market data. While every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of the

information used for the index calculation, an index error may occur due to incorrect or missing data, including trading prices, exchange rates, shares outstanding and corporate actions, due to operational errors or other reasons.

**Index-Related Data and Divisor Corrections.** Incorrect pricing and corporate action data for individual issues in the database will be corrected upon detection. In addition, an incorrect divisor of an index, if discovered within five days of its occurrence, will be fixed on the day it is discovered to prevent an error from being carried forward.

If a divisor error is discovered more than five days after occurrence, the adjustment will depend upon how significant the error is, how far back the error occurred and the feasibility of performing the adjustment.

### **Market Disruption**

During periods of high volatility and market stress, the Calculation Agent calculates the indices following procedures outlined in its publicly available Disruption Policy.

## ***VIII. Changes in calculation method***

The application by the Calculation Agent of the method described in this document is final and binding. The Calculation Agent shall apply the method described above for the composition and calculation of the Index. However, it cannot be excluded that the market environment, supervisory, legal, financial or tax reasons may require changes to be made to this method. The Calculation Agent may also make changes to the terms and conditions of the Index and the method applied to calculate the Index that it deems to be necessary and desirable to prevent obvious or demonstrable error or to remedy, correct or supplement incorrect terms and conditions. The Calculation Agent is not obliged to provide information on any such modifications or changes. Despite the modifications and changes, the Calculation Agent will take the appropriate steps to ensure a calculation method is applied that is consistent with the method described above.