

# GETCO: Snapshot

The Global Electronic Trading Company was founded in 1999 by Stephen Schuler and Daniel Tierney, former floor traders in Chicago.

GETCO, as it now is known, began as a prop trading and electronic market making operation. But in 2008, it began to push beyond that. GETCO then established GETCO Execution Services, (GES), which executes orders on behalf of other broker-dealers and institutional clients.

“Through GES, GETCO operates three distinct businesses that leverage the technology and expertise of a global market maker,” according to the company’s Web site. These services—GETMatched, GETRouted and GETAlpha—are designed to meet new demands by clients for execution, routing and algorithmic services, according to a GETCO press release. In 2010, the company said, it began expanding these offerings to European markets.

GETCO’s primary trading strategy is market making—consistently offering buy and sell orders at the same time in different stocks. GETCO trades in some 50 markets in North and South America, Europe and Asia, in equity futures, equity options, commodities, foreign exchange, stocks and bonds. The company says it is consistently among the top 5 participants by volume on many venues. It also has offices in New York City, London and Singapore.

GETCO is also an investor in electronic markets such as BATS Exchange.