

GOLDMAN SACHS GROUP INC

Form 424B2

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The information in this preliminary pricing supplement is not complete and may be changed. This preliminary pricing supplement is not an offer to sell nor does it seek an offer to buy these securities in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted.

Subject to Completion. Dated December 28, 2018.

GS Finance Corp.

\$

Buffered Basket-Linked Notes due

guaranteed by

The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc.

The notes will not bear interest. The amount that you will be paid on your notes on the stated maturity date (expected to be the third scheduled business day after the determination date) is based on the performance of a weighted basket comprised of the S&P 500[®] Index (25% weighting), the EURO STOXX 50[®] Index (22.5% weighting), the iShares[®] MSCI Emerging Markets ETF (22.5% weighting), the S&P MidCap 400[®] Index (15% weighting) and the Russell 2000[®] Index (15% weighting) as measured from the trade date to and including the determination date (expected to be approximately 18 months after the trade date).

The return on your notes is linked in part to the performance of the iShares[®] MSCI Emerging Markets ETF (ETF), and not to that of the MSCI Emerging Markets Index (underlying index) on which the ETF is based. The ETF follows a strategy of "representative sampling," which means the ETF's holdings are not the same as those of the underlying index. The performance of the ETF may significantly diverge from that of its underlying index.

The initial basket level is 100 and the final basket level will equal the sum of the products, as calculated for each basket underlier, of: (i) the final underlier level divided by the initial underlier level (set on the trade date) multiplied by (ii) the applicable initial weighted value for each basket underlier. If the final basket level on the determination date is greater than the initial basket level, the return on your notes will be positive and will equal the basket return, subject to the maximum settlement amount (expected to be between \$1,180 and \$1,200). If the final basket level declines by up to 20% from the initial basket level, you will receive the face amount of your notes. If the final basket level declines by more than 20% from the initial basket level, the return on your notes will be negative and will equal the basket return plus 20%. You could lose a significant portion of the face amount of your notes. To determine your payment at maturity, we will calculate the basket return, which is the percentage increase or decrease in the final basket level from the initial basket level. At maturity, for each \$1,000 face amount of your notes, you will receive an amount in cash equal to:

if the basket return is positive (the final basket level is greater than the initial basket level), the sum of (i) \$1,000 plus (ii) the product of (a) \$1,000 times (b) the basket return, subject to the maximum settlement amount;

if the basket return is zero or negative but not below -20% (the final basket level is equal to or less than the initial basket level but not by more than 20%), \$1,000; or

if the basket return is negative and is below -20% (the final basket level is less than the initial basket level by more than 20%), the sum of (i) \$1,000 plus (ii) the product of (a) the sum of the basket return plus 20% times (b) \$1,000.

You will receive less than the face amount of your notes.

Declines in one basket underlier may offset increases in the other basket underliers. Due to the unequal weighting of each basket underlier, the performances of the S&P 500[®] Index, the EURO STOXX 50[®] Index and the iShares[®] MSCI Emerging Markets ETF will have a significantly larger impact on your return on the notes than the performances of the S&P MidCap 400[®] Index or the Russell 2000[®] Index.

You should read the disclosure herein to better understand the terms and risks of your investment, including the credit risk of GS Finance Corp. and The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. See page PS-14.

The estimated value of your notes at the time the terms of your notes are set on the trade date is expected to be between \$950 and \$990 per \$1,000 face amount. For a discussion of the estimated value and the price at which Goldman Sachs & Co. LLC would initially buy or sell your notes, if it makes a market in the notes, see the following page.

Original issue date: , 2019 Original issue price: 100% of the face amount

Underwriting discount: % of the face amount Net proceeds to the issuer: % of the face amount

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any other regulatory body has approved or disapproved of these securities or passed upon the accuracy or adequacy of this prospectus. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense. The notes are not bank deposits and are not insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other governmental agency, nor are they obligations of, or guaranteed by, a bank.

Goldman Sachs & Co. LLC

Pricing Supplement No. dated , 2019.

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The issue price, underwriting discount and net proceeds listed above relate to the notes we sell initially. We may decide to sell additional notes after the date of this pricing supplement, at issue prices and with underwriting discounts and net proceeds that differ from the amounts set forth above. The return (whether positive or negative) on your investment in notes will depend in part on the issue price you pay for such notes.

GS Finance Corp. may use this prospectus in the initial sale of the notes. In addition, Goldman Sachs & Co. LLC or any other affiliate of GS Finance Corp. may use this prospectus in a market-making transaction in a note after its initial sale. Unless GS Finance Corp. or its agent informs the purchaser otherwise in the confirmation of sale, this prospectus is being used in a market-making transaction.

Estimated Value of Your Notes

The estimated value of your notes at the time the terms of your notes are set on the trade date (as determined by reference to pricing models used by Goldman Sachs & Co. LLC (GS&Co.) and taking into account our credit spreads) is expected to be between \$950 and \$990 per \$1,000 face amount, which is less than the original issue price. The value of your notes at any time will reflect many factors and cannot be predicted; however, the price (not including GS&Co.'s customary bid and ask spreads) at which GS&Co. would initially buy or sell notes (if it makes a market, which it is not obligated to do) and the value that GS&Co. will initially use for account statements and otherwise is equal to approximately the estimated value of your notes at the time of pricing, plus an additional amount (initially equal to \$ per \$1,000 face amount).

Prior to , the price (not including GS&Co.'s customary bid and ask spreads) at which GS&Co. would buy or sell your notes (if it makes a market, which it is not obligated to do) will equal approximately the sum of (a) the then-current estimated value of your notes (as determined by reference to GS&Co.'s pricing models) plus (b) any remaining additional amount (the additional amount will decline to zero on a straight-line basis from the time of pricing through). On and after , the price (not including GS&Co.'s customary bid and ask spreads) at which GS&Co. would buy or sell your notes (if it makes a market) will equal approximately the then-current estimated value of your notes determined by reference to such pricing models.

About Your Prospectus

The notes are part of the Medium-Term Notes, Series E program of GS Finance Corp. and are fully and unconditionally guaranteed by The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. This prospectus includes this pricing supplement and the accompanying documents listed below. This pricing supplement constitutes a supplement to the documents listed below and should be read in conjunction with such documents:

Product supplement no. 1.738 dated July 10, 2017

General terms supplement no. 1.734 dated July 10, 2017

Prospectus supplement dated July 10, 2017

Prospectus dated July 10, 2017

The information in this pricing supplement supersedes any conflicting information in the documents listed above. In addition, some of the terms or features described in the listed documents may not apply to your notes.

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SUMMARY INFORMATION

We refer to the notes we are offering by this pricing supplement as the “offered notes” or the “notes”. Each of the offered notes has the terms described below. Please note that in this pricing supplement, references to “GS Finance Corp.”, “we”, “our” and “us” mean only GS Finance Corp. and do not include its subsidiaries or affiliates, references to “The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc.”, our parent company, mean only The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. and do not include its subsidiaries or affiliates and references to “Goldman Sachs” mean The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. together with its consolidated subsidiaries and affiliates, including us. Also, references to the “accompanying prospectus” mean the accompanying prospectus, dated July 10, 2017, references to the “accompanying prospectus supplement” mean the accompanying prospectus supplement, dated July 10, 2017, for Medium-Term Notes, Series E, references to the “accompanying general terms supplement no. 1,734” mean the accompanying general terms supplement no. 1,734, dated July 10, 2017, and references to the “accompanying product supplement no. 1,738” mean the accompanying product supplement no. 1,738, dated July 10, 2017, in each case of GS Finance Corp. and The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. The notes will be issued under the senior debt indenture, dated as of October 10, 2008, as supplemented by the First Supplemental Indenture, dated as of February 20, 2015, each among us, as issuer, The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc., as guarantor, and The Bank of New York Mellon, as trustee. This indenture, as so supplemented and as further supplemented thereafter, is referred to as the “GSFC 2008 indenture” in the accompanying prospectus supplement.

This section is meant as a summary and should be read in conjunction with the section entitled “General Terms of the Underlier-Linked Notes” on page S-35 of the accompanying product supplement no. 1,738 and “Supplemental Terms of the Notes” on page S-16 of the accompanying general terms supplement no. 1,734. Please note that certain features, as noted below, described in the accompanying product supplement no. 1,738 and general terms supplement no. 1,734 are not applicable to the notes. This pricing supplement supersedes any conflicting provisions of the accompanying product supplement no. 1,738 or the accompanying general terms supplement no. 1,734.

Key Terms

Issuer: GS Finance Corp.

Guarantor: The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc.

Basket underliers: the S&P 500[®] Index (Bloomberg symbol, “SPX Index”), as published by S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC; the EURO STOXX 50[®] Index (Bloomberg symbol, “SX5E Index”), as sponsored and maintained by STOXX Limited; the iShares[®] MSCI Emerging Markets ETF (Bloomberg symbol, “EEM UP Equity”); the S&P MidCap 400 Index (Bloomberg symbol, “MID Index”), as published by S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC, and the Russell 2000 Index (Bloomberg symbol, “RTY Index”), as published by FTSE Russell; see “The Basket and the Basket Underliers” on page PS-23

Basket indices: the S&P 500[®] Index, the EURO STOXX 50[®] Index, the S&P MidCap 400[®] Index and the Russell 2000[®] Index

Basket fund: the iShares[®] MSCI Emerging Markets ETF

Underlying index of the basket fund: the MSCI Emerging Markets Index

Specified currency: U.S. dollars (“\$”)

Terms to be specified in accordance with the accompanying product supplement no. 1,738:

type of notes: notes linked to basket of underliers

exchange rates: not applicable

buffer level: yes, as described below

cap level: yes, as described below

averaging dates: not applicable

interest: not applicable

redemption right or price dependent redemption right: not applicable

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Face amount: each note will have a face amount of \$1,000; \$ in the aggregate for all the offered notes; the aggregate face amount of the offered notes may be increased if the issuer, at its sole option, decides to sell an additional amount of the offered notes on a date subsequent to the date of this pricing supplement

Purchase at amount other than face amount: the amount we will pay you at the stated maturity date for your notes will not be adjusted based on the issue price you pay for your notes, so if you acquire notes at a premium (or discount) to face amount and hold them to the stated maturity date, it could affect your investment in a number of ways. The return on your investment in such notes will be lower (or higher) than it would have been had you purchased the notes at face amount. Also, the stated buffer level would not offer the same measure of protection to your investment as would be the case if you had purchased the notes at face amount. Additionally, the cap level would be triggered at a lower (or higher) percentage return than indicated below, relative to your initial investment. See “Additional Risk Factors Specific to Your Notes — If You Purchase Your Notes at a Premium to Face Amount, the Return on Your Investment Will Be Lower Than the Return on Notes Purchased at Face Amount and the Impact of Certain Key Terms of the Notes Will Be Negatively Affected” on page PS-17 of this pricing supplement

Supplemental discussion of federal income tax consequences: you will be obligated pursuant to the terms of the notes — in the absence of a change in law, an administrative determination or a judicial ruling to the contrary — to characterize each note for all tax purposes as a pre-paid derivative contract in respect of the basket underliers, as described under “Supplemental Discussion of Federal Income Tax Consequences” on page S-41 of the accompanying product supplement no. 1,738. Pursuant to this approach, it is the opinion of Sidley Austin LLP that upon the sale, exchange or maturity of your notes, it would be reasonable for you to recognize capital gain or loss equal to the difference, if any, between the amount of cash you receive at such time and your tax basis in your notes. Pursuant to Treasury regulations, Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act (FATCA) withholding (as described in “United States Taxation—Taxation of Debt Securities—Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act (FATCA) Withholding” in the accompanying prospectus) will generally apply to obligations that are issued on or after July 1, 2014; therefore, the notes will generally be subject to the FATCA withholding rules.

Cash settlement amount: for each \$1,000 face amount of your notes, we will pay you on the stated maturity date an amount in cash equal to:

if the final basket level is greater than or equal to the cap level, the maximum settlement amount;

if the final basket level is greater than the initial basket level but less than the cap level, the sum of (1) \$1,000 plus (2) the product of (i) \$1,000 times (ii) the upside participation rate times (iii) the basket return;

if the final basket level is equal to or less than the initial basket level but greater than or equal to the buffer level, \$1,000; or

if the final basket level is less than the buffer level, the sum of (1) \$1,000 plus (2) the product of (i) \$1,000 times (ii) the buffer rate times (iii) the sum of the basket return plus the buffer amount

Initial basket level: 100

Initial weighted value: the initial weighted value for each of the basket underliers is expected to equal the product of the initial weight of such basket underlier times the initial basket level. The initial weight of each basket underlier is shown in the table below:

| Basket Underlier | Initial Weight in Basket |
|--|--------------------------|
| S&P 500 [®] Index | 25% |
| EURO STOXX 50 [®] Index | 22.5% |
| iShares [®] MSCI Emerging Markets ETF | 22.5% |
| S&P MidCap 400 [®] Index | 15% |
| Russell 2000 [®] Index | 15% |

Initial S&P 500[®] Index level (to be set on the trade date):

Initial EURO STOXX 50[®] Index level (to be set on the trade date):

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Initial iShares® MSCI Emerging Markets ETF level (to be set on the trade date):

Initial S&P MidCap 400® Index level (to be set on the trade date):

Initial Russell 2000® Index level (to be set on the trade date):

Final S&P 500® Index level: the closing level of such basket underlier on the determination date, except in the limited circumstances described under “Supplemental Terms of the Notes — Consequences of a Market Disruption Event or a Non-Trading Day” on page S-23 of the accompanying general terms supplement no. 1,734 and subject to adjustment as provided under “Supplemental Terms of the Notes — Discontinuance or Modification of an Underlier” on page S-27 of the accompanying general terms supplement no. 1,734

Final EURO STOXX 50® Index level: the closing level of such basket underlier on the determination date, except in the limited circumstances described under “Supplemental Terms of the Notes — Consequences of a Market Disruption Event or a Non-Trading Day” on page S-23 of the accompanying general terms supplement no. 1,734 and subject to adjustment as provided under “Supplemental Terms of the Notes — Discontinuance or Modification of an Underlier” on page S-27 of the accompanying general terms supplement no. 1,734

Final iShares® MSCI Emerging Markets ETF level: the closing level of such basket underlier on the determination date, except in the limited circumstances described under “Supplemental Terms of the Notes — Consequences of a Market Disruption Event or a Non-Trading Day” on page S-23 of the accompanying general terms supplement no. 1,734, subject to anti-dilution adjustments as described under “Supplemental Terms of the Notes — Anti-dilution Adjustments for Exchange-Traded Funds” on page S-28 of the accompanying general terms supplement no. 1,734 and subject to adjustment as provided under “Supplemental Terms of the Notes — Discontinuance or Modification of an Underlier” on page S-27 of the accompanying general terms supplement no. 1,734

Final S&P MidCap 400® Index level: the closing level of such basket underlier on the determination date, except in the limited circumstances described under “Supplemental Terms of the Notes — Consequences of a Market Disruption Event or a Non-Trading Day” on page S-23 of the accompanying general terms supplement no. 1,734 and subject to adjustment as provided under “Supplemental Terms of the Notes — Discontinuance or Modification of an Underlier” on page S-27 of the accompanying general terms supplement no. 1,734

Final Russell 2000® Index level: the closing level of such basket underlier on the determination date, except in the limited circumstances described under “Supplemental Terms of the Notes — Consequences of a Market Disruption Event or a Non-Trading Day” on page S-23 of the accompanying general terms supplement no. 1,734 and subject to adjustment as provided under “Supplemental Terms of the Notes — Discontinuance or Modification of an Underlier” on page S-27 of the accompanying general terms supplement no. 1,734

Final basket level: the sum of the following: (1) the final S&P 500® Index level divided by the initial S&P 500® Index level, multiplied by the initial weighted value of the S&P 500® Index plus (2) the final EURO STOXX 50® Index level divided by the initial EURO STOXX 50® Index level, multiplied by the initial weighted value of the EURO STOXX 50® Index plus (3) the final iShares® MSCI Emerging Markets ETF level divided by the initial iShares® MSCI Emerging Markets ETF level, multiplied by the initial weighted value of the iShares® MSCI Emerging Markets ETF plus (4) the final S&P MidCap 400® Index level divided by the initial S&P MidCap 400® Index level, multiplied by the initial weighted value of the S&P MidCap 400® Index plus (5) the final Russell 2000® Index level divided by the initial Russell 2000® Index level, multiplied by the initial weighted value of the Russell 2000® Index

Basket return: the quotient of (1) the final basket level minus the initial basket level divided by (2) the initial basket level, expressed as a percentage

Upside participation rate: 100%

Cap level (to be set on the trade date): expected to be between 118% and 120% of the initial basket level

Maximum settlement amount (to be set on the trade date): expected to be between \$1,180 and \$1,200

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Buffer level: 80% of the initial basket level

Buffer amount: 20%

Buffer rate: 100%

Trade date:

Original issue date (settlement date) (to be set on the trade date): expected to be the third scheduled business day following the trade date

Stated maturity date (to be set on the trade date): a specified date that is expected to be the third scheduled business day following the determination date, subject to adjustment as described under “Supplemental Terms of the Notes — Stated Maturity Date” on page S-16 of the accompanying general terms supplement no. 1,734

Determination date (to be set on the trade date): a specified date that is expected to be approximately 18 months following the trade date, subject to adjustment as described under “Supplemental Terms of the Notes — Determination Date” on page S-17 of the accompanying general terms supplement no. 1,734

No interest: the offered notes will not bear interest

No listing: the offered notes will not be listed on any securities exchange or interdealer quotation system

No redemption: the offered notes will not be subject to redemption right or price dependent redemption right

Closing level: as described under “Supplemental Terms of the Notes — Special Calculation Provisions — Closing Level” on page S-31 of the accompanying general terms supplement no. 1,734.

Business day: as described under “Supplemental Terms of the Notes — Special Calculation Provisions — Business Day” on page S-30 of the accompanying general terms supplement no. 1,734

Trading day: as described under “Supplemental Terms of the Notes ³/₄ Special Calculation Provisions ³/₄ Trading Day” on page S-31 of the accompanying general terms supplement no. 1,734

Use of proceeds and hedging: as described under “Use of Proceeds” and “Hedging” on page S-40 of the accompanying product supplement no. 1,738

ERISA: as described under “Employee Retirement Income Security Act” on page S-48 of the accompanying product supplement no. 1,738

Supplemental plan of distribution; conflicts of interest: as described under “Supplemental Plan of Distribution” on page S-49 of the accompanying product supplement no. 1,738 and “Plan of Distribution – Conflicts of Interest” on page 94 of the accompanying prospectus; GS Finance Corp. estimates that its share of the total offering expenses, excluding underwriting discounts and commissions, will be approximately \$.

GS Finance Corp. expects to agree to sell to Goldman Sachs & Co. LLC (“GS&Co.”), and GS&Co. expects to agree to purchase from GS Finance Corp., the aggregate face amount of the offered notes specified on the front cover of this pricing supplement. GS&Co. proposes initially to offer the notes to the public at the original issue price set forth on the cover page of this pricing supplement, and to certain securities dealers at such price less a concession not in excess of % of the face amount. GS&Co. is an affiliate of GS Finance Corp. and The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. and, as such, will have a “conflict of interest” in this offering of notes within the meaning of Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc. (FINRA) Rule 5121. Consequently, this offering of notes will be conducted in compliance with the provisions of FINRA Rule 5121. GS&Co. will not be permitted to sell notes in this offering to an account over which it exercises discretionary authority without the prior specific written approval of the account holder.

We expect to deliver the notes against payment therefor in New York, New York on , 2019. Under Rule 15c6-1 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, trades in the secondary market generally are required to settle in two business days, unless the parties to any such trade expressly agree otherwise. Accordingly, purchasers who wish to trade notes on any date prior to two business days before delivery will be required to specify alternative settlement arrangements to prevent a failed settlement.

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We have been advised by GS&Co. that it intends to make a market in the notes. However, neither GS&Co. nor any of our other affiliates that makes a market is obligated to do so and any of them may stop doing so at any time without notice. No assurance can be given as to the liquidity or trading market for the notes.

Calculation agent: GS&Co.

CUSIP no.: 40056EQP6

ISIN no.: US40056EQP69

FDIC: the notes are not bank deposits and are not insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other governmental agency, nor are they obligations of, or guaranteed by, a bank

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HYPOTHETICAL EXAMPLES

The following examples are provided for purposes of illustration only. They should not be taken as an indication or prediction of future investment results and are intended merely to illustrate the impact that the various hypothetical basket closing levels or hypothetical closing levels of the basket underliers, as applicable, on the determination date could have on the cash settlement amount at maturity assuming all other variables remain constant.

The examples below are based on a range of final basket levels and closing levels of the basket underliers that are entirely hypothetical; no one can predict what the level of the basket will be on any day throughout the life of your notes, and no one can predict what the final basket level will be on the determination date. The basket underliers have been highly volatile in the past — meaning that the levels of the basket underliers have changed considerably in relatively short periods — and their performances cannot be predicted for any future period.

The information in the following examples reflects hypothetical rates of return on the offered notes assuming that they are purchased on the original issue date at the face amount and held to the stated maturity date. If you sell your notes in a secondary market prior to the stated maturity date, your return will depend upon the market value of your notes at the time of sale, which may be affected by a number of factors that are not reflected in the examples below such as interest rates, the volatility of the basket underliers, the creditworthiness of GS Finance Corp., as issuer, and the creditworthiness of The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc., as guarantor. In addition, the estimated value of your notes at the time the terms of your notes are set on the trade date (as determined by reference to pricing models used by GS & Co.) is less than the original issue price of your notes. For more information on the estimated value of your notes, see “Additional Risk Factors Specific to Your Notes — The Estimated Value of Your Notes At the Time the Terms of Your Notes Are Set On the Trade Date (as Determined By Reference to Pricing Models Used By GS & Co.) Is Less Than the Original Issue Price Of Your Notes” on page PS-14 of this pricing supplement. The information in the examples also reflects the key terms and assumptions in the box below.

Key Terms and Assumptions

| | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Face amount | \$1,000 |
| Upside participation rate | 100% |
| Initial basket level | 100 |
| Cap level | 118% of the initial basket level |
| Maximum settlement amount | \$1,180 |
| Buffer level | 80% of the initial basket level |
| Buffer rate | 100% |
| Buffer amount | 20% |

Neither a market disruption event nor a non-trading day occurs on the originally scheduled determination date

No change in or affecting (i) any of the underlier stocks, (ii) the methods by which any underlier sponsor calculates the basket index or the underlying index for the basket fund or (iii) the policies of the investment advisor of the basket fund

Notes purchased on original issue date at the face amount and held to the stated maturity date

Moreover, we have not yet set the initial S&P 500® Index level, the initial EURO STOXX 50® Index level, the initial iShares® MSCI Emerging Markets ETF level, the initial S&P MidCap 400® Index level or the initial Russell 2000® Index level that will serve as the baselines for determining the basket return and the amount that we will pay on your notes at maturity. We will not do so until the trade date. As a result, the actual initial

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S&P 500[®] Index level, the actual initial EURO STOXX 50[®] Index level, the actual initial iShares[®] MSCI Emerging Markets ETF level, the actual initial S&P MidCap 400[®] Index level and the actual initial Russell 2000[®] Index level may differ substantially from the current level of such basket underlier prior to the trade date. They may also differ substantially from the level of such basket underlier at the time you purchase your notes.

For these reasons, the actual performance of the basket over the life of your notes, as well as the amount payable at maturity, may bear little relation to the hypothetical examples shown below or to the historical level of each basket underlier shown elsewhere in this pricing supplement. For information about the historical level of each basket underlier during recent periods, see “The Basket and the Basket Underliers — Historical Closing Levels of the Basket Underliers” below. Before investing in the offered notes, you should consult publicly available information to determine the level of the basket underliers between the date of this pricing supplement and the date of your purchase of the offered notes.

Also, the hypothetical examples shown below do not take into account the effects of applicable taxes. Because of the U.S. tax treatment applicable to your notes, tax liabilities could affect the after-tax rate of return on your notes to a comparatively greater extent than the after-tax return on the basket underliers.

The levels in the left column of the table below represent hypothetical final basket levels and are expressed as percentages of the initial basket level. The amounts in the right column represent the hypothetical cash settlement amounts, based on the corresponding hypothetical final basket level (expressed as a percentage of the initial basket level), and are expressed as percentages of the face amount of a note (rounded to the nearest one-thousandth of a percent). Thus, a hypothetical cash settlement amount of 100.000% means that the value of the cash payment that we would deliver for each \$1,000 of the outstanding face amount of the offered notes on the stated maturity date would equal 100.000% of the face amount of a note, based on the corresponding hypothetical final basket level (expressed as a percentage of the initial basket level) and the assumptions noted above.

| Hypothetical Final Basket Level (as Percentage of Initial Basket Level) | Hypothetical Cash Settlement Amount (as Percentage of Face Amount) |
|---|--|
| 175.000% | 118.000% |
| 150.000% | 118.000% |
| 118.000% | 118.000% |
| 115.000% | 115.000% |
| 110.000% | 110.000% |
| 100.000% | 100.000% |
| 90.000% | 100.000% |
| 80.000% | 100.000% |
| 50.000% | 70.000% |
| 25.000% | 45.000% |
| 0.000% | 20.000% |

If, for example, the final basket level were determined to be 25.000% of the initial basket level, the cash settlement amount that we would deliver on your notes at maturity would be 45.000% of the face amount of your notes, as shown in the table above. As a result, if you purchased your notes on the original issue date at the face amount and held them to the stated maturity date, you would lose 55.000% of your investment (if you purchased your notes at a premium to face amount you would lose a correspondingly higher percentage of your investment). In addition, if the final basket level were determined to be 175.000% of the initial basket level, the cash settlement amount that we would deliver on your notes at maturity would be capped at the maximum settlement amount, or 118.000% of each \$1,000 face amount of your notes, as shown in the table above. As a result, if you held your notes to the stated maturity date, you would not benefit from any increase in the final basket level over 118.000% of the initial basket level.

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The following chart also shows a graphical illustration of the hypothetical cash settlement amounts (expressed as a percentage of the face amount of your notes) that we would pay on your notes on the stated maturity date, if the final basket level (expressed as a percentage of the initial basket level) were any of the hypothetical levels shown on the horizontal axis. The chart shows that any hypothetical final basket level (expressed as a percentage of the initial basket level) of less than 80.000% (the section left of the 80.000% marker on the horizontal axis) would result in a hypothetical cash settlement amount of less than 100.000% of the face amount of your notes (the section below the 100.000% marker on the vertical axis) and, accordingly, in a loss of principal to the holder of the notes. The chart also shows that any hypothetical final basket level (expressed as a percentage of the initial basket level) of greater than or equal to 118.000% (the section right of the 118.000% marker on the horizontal axis) would result in a capped return on your investment.

The following examples illustrate the hypothetical cash settlement amount at maturity for each note based on hypothetical final levels of the basket underliers, calculated based on the key terms and assumptions above. The levels in Column A represent hypothetical initial levels for each basket underlier, and the levels in Column B represent hypothetical final levels for each basket underlier. The percentages in Column C represent hypothetical final levels for each basket underlier in Column B expressed as percentages of the corresponding hypothetical initial levels in Column A. The amounts in Column D represent the applicable initial weighted value for each basket underlier, and the amounts in Column E represent the products of the percentages in Column C times the corresponding amounts in Column D. The final basket level for each example is shown beneath each example, and will equal the sum of the products shown in Column E. The basket return for each example is shown beneath the final basket level for such example, and will equal the quotient of (i) the final basket level for such example minus the initial basket level divided by (ii) the initial basket level, expressed as a percentage. The values below have been rounded for ease of analysis.

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Example 1: The final basket level is greater than the cap level. The cash settlement amount equals the maximum settlement amount.

| | Column A | Column B | Column C | Column D | Column E |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| Basket Underlier | Hypothetical Initial Level | Hypothetical Final Level | Column B / Column A | Initial Weighted Value | Column C x Column D |
| S&P 500® Index | 2,500.00 | 3,750.00 | 150.00% | 25.00 | 37.50 |
| EURO STOXX 50® Index | 3,000.00 | 4,500.00 | 150.00% | 22.50 | 33.75 |
| iShares® MSCI Emerging Markets ETF | \$40.00 | \$60.00 | 150.00% | 22.50 | 33.75 |
| S&P MidCap 400® Index | 1,650.00 | 2,475.00 | 150.00% | 15.00 | 22.50 |
| Russell 2000® Index | 1,350.000 | 2,025.000 | 150.00% | 15.00 | 22.50 |
| | | | | Final Basket Level: | 150.00 |
| | | | | Basket Return: | 50.00% |

In this example, all of the hypothetical final levels for the basket underliers are greater than the applicable hypothetical initial levels, which results in the hypothetical final basket level being greater than the initial basket level of 100.00. Since the hypothetical final basket level was determined to be 150.00, the hypothetical cash settlement amount that we would deliver on your notes at maturity would be capped at the maximum settlement amount of \$1,180 for each \$1,000 face amount of your notes (i.e. 118.000% of each \$1,000 face amount of your notes).

Example 2: The final basket level is greater than the initial basket level but less than the cap level.

| | Column A | Column B | Column C | Column D | Column E |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| Basket Underlier | Hypothetical Initial Level | Hypothetical Final Level | Column B / Column A | Initial Weighted Value | Column C x Column D |
| S&P 500® Index | 2,500.00 | 2,625.00 | 105.00% | 25.00 | 26.25 |
| EURO STOXX 50® Index | 3,000.00 | 3,150.00 | 105.00% | 22.50 | 23.625 |
| iShares® MSCI Emerging Markets ETF | \$40.00 | \$42.00 | 105.00% | 22.50 | 23.625 |
| S&P MidCap 400® Index | 1,650.00 | 1,732.50 | 105.00% | 15.00 | 15.75 |
| Russell 2000® Index | 1,350.000 | 1,417.500 | 105.00% | 15.00 | 15.75 |
| | | | | Final Basket Level: | 105.00 |
| | | | | Basket Return: | 5.00% |

In this example, all of the hypothetical final levels for the basket underliers are greater than the applicable hypothetical initial levels, which results in the hypothetical final basket level being greater than the initial basket level of 100.00. Since the hypothetical final basket level was determined to be 105.00, the hypothetical cash settlement amount for each \$1,000 face amount of your notes will equal:

$$\text{Cash settlement amount} = \$1,000 + (\$1,000 \times 100.00\% \times 5.00\%) = \$1,050.00$$

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Example 3: The final basket level is less than the initial basket level, but greater than the buffer level. The cash settlement amount equals the \$1,000 face amount.

| | Column A | Column B | Column C | Column D | Column E |
|--|----------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| Basket Underlier | Hypothetical Initial Level | Hypothetical Final Level | Column B / Column A | Initial Weighted Value | Column C x Column D |
| S&P 500 [®] Index | 2,500.00 | 2,375.00 | 95.00% | 25.00 | 23.75 |
| EURO STOXX 50 [®] Index | 3,000.00 | 2,850.00 | 95.00% | 22.50 | 21.375 |
| iShares [®] MSCI Emerging Markets ETF | \$40.00 | \$38.00 | 95.00% | 22.50 | 21.375 |
| S&P MidCap 400 [®] Index | 1,650.00 | 1,567.50 | 95.00% | 15.00 | 14.25 |
| Russell 2000 [®] Index | 1,350.000 | 1,282.500 | 95.00% | 15.00 | 14.25 |
| | | | | Final Basket Level: | 95.000 |
| | | | | Basket Return: | -5.00% |

In this example, all of the hypothetical final levels for the basket underliers are less than the applicable hypothetical initial levels, which results in the hypothetical final basket level being less than the initial basket level of 100.00. Since the hypothetical final basket level of 95.00 is greater than the buffer level of 80.00% of the initial basket level but less than the initial basket level of 100, the hypothetical cash settlement amount for each \$1,000 face amount of your notes will equal the face amount of the note, or \$1,000.

Example 4: The final basket level is less than the buffer level. The cash settlement amount is less than the \$1,000 face amount.

| | Column A | Column B | Column C | Column D | Column E |
|--|----------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| Basket Underlier | Hypothetical Initial Level | Hypothetical Final Level | Column B / Column A | Initial Weighted Value | Column C x Column D |
| S&P 500 [®] Index | 2,500.00 | 750.00 | 30.00% | 25.00 | 7.50 |
| EURO STOXX 50 [®] Index | 3,000.00 | 900.00 | 30.00% | 22.50 | 6.75 |
| iShares [®] MSCI Emerging Markets ETF | \$40.00 | \$12.00 | 30.00% | 22.50 | 6.75 |
| S&P MidCap 400 [®] Index | 1,650.00 | 1,815.00 | 110.00% | 15.00 | 16.50 |
| Russell 2000 [®] Index | 1,350.000 | 1,485.000 | 110.00% | 15.00 | 16.50 |
| | | | | Final Basket Level: | 54.00 |
| | | | | Basket Return: | -46.00% |

In this example, the hypothetical final levels of the S&P 500[®] Index, the EURO STOXX 50[®] Index and the iShares[®] MSCI Emerging Markets ETF are less than their applicable hypothetical initial levels, while the hypothetical final levels of the S&P MidCap 400[®] Index and the Russell 2000[®] Index are greater than their applicable hypothetical initial levels.

Because the basket is unequally weighted, increases in the lower weighted basket underliers will be offset by a decrease in the more heavily weighted basket underliers. In this example, the large declines in the S&P 500[®] Index, the EURO STOXX 50[®] Index and the iShares[®] MSCI Emerging Markets ETF result in the hypothetical final basket level being less than the buffer level of 80.00% of the initial basket level even though the S&P MidCap 400[®] Index and the Russell 2000[®] Index increased.

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Since the hypothetical final basket level of 54.00 is less than the buffer level of 80.00% of the initial basket level, the hypothetical cash settlement amount for each \$1,000 face amount of your notes will equal:

Cash settlement amount = \$1,000 + (\$1,000 × 100.00% × (-46.00% + 20.00%)) = \$740.00

Example 5: The final basket level is less than the buffer level. The cash settlement amount is less than the \$1,000 face amount.

| | Column A | Column B | Column C | Column D | Column E |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| Basket Underlier | Hypothetical Initial Level | Hypothetical Final Level | Column B / Column A | Initial Weighted Value | Column C x Column D |
| S&P 500® Index | 2,500.00 | 1,250.00 | 50.00% | 25.00 | 12.50 |
| EURO STOXX 50® Index | 3,000.00 | 1,500.00 | 50.00% | 22.50 | 11.25 |
| iShares® MSCI Emerging Markets ETF | \$40.00 | \$20.00 | 50.00% | 22.50 | 11.25 |
| S&P MidCap 400® Index | 1,650.00 | 825.00 | 50.00% | 15.00 | 7.50 |
| Russell 2000® Index | 1,350.000 | 675.000 | 50.00% | 15.00 | 7.50 |
| | | | | Final Basket Level: | 50.00 |
| | | | | Basket Return: | -50.00% |

In this example, the hypothetical final levels for all of the basket underliers are less than the applicable hypothetical initial levels, which results in the hypothetical final basket level being less than the initial basket level of 100.00.

Since the hypothetical final basket level of 50.00 is less than the buffer level of 80.00% of the initial basket level, the hypothetical cash settlement amount for each \$1,000 face amount of your notes will equal:

Cash settlement amount = \$1,000 + (\$1,000 × 100.00% × (-50.00% + 20.00%)) = \$700.00

The cash settlement amounts shown above are entirely hypothetical; they are based on levels of the basket underliers that may not be achieved on the determination date and on assumptions that may prove to be erroneous. The actual market value of your notes on the stated maturity date or at any other time, including any time you may wish to sell your notes, may bear little relation to the hypothetical cash settlement amounts shown above, and these amounts should not be viewed as an indication of the financial return on an investment in the offered notes. The hypothetical cash settlement amounts on notes held to the stated maturity date in the examples above assume you purchased your notes at their face amount and have not been adjusted to reflect the actual issue price you pay for your notes. The return on your investment (whether positive or negative) in your notes will be affected by the amount you pay for your notes. If you purchase your notes for a price other than the face amount, the return on your investment will differ from, and may be significantly lower than, the hypothetical returns suggested by the above examples. Please read “Additional Risk Factors Specific to the Underlier-Linked Notes — The Market Value of Your Notes May Be Influenced by Many Unpredictable Factors” on page S-32 of the accompanying product supplement no. 1,738.

Payments on the notes are economically equivalent to the amounts that would be paid on a combination of other instruments. For example, payments on the notes are economically equivalent to a combination of an interest-bearing bond bought by the holder and one or more options entered into between the holder and us (with one or more implicit option premiums paid over time). The discussion in this paragraph does not modify or affect the terms of the notes or the U.S. federal income tax treatment of the notes, as described elsewhere in this pricing supplement.

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We cannot predict the actual final basket level on the determination date, nor can we predict the relationship between the level of each basket underlier and the market value of your notes at any time prior to the stated maturity date. The actual amount that a holder of the offered notes will receive on the stated maturity date and the rate of return on the offered notes will depend on the initial level of each basket underlier, the cap level and the maximum settlement amount, which we will set on the trade date, and the actual basket return determined by the calculation agent as described above. Moreover, the assumptions on which the hypothetical returns are based may turn out to be inaccurate. Consequently, the amount of cash to be paid in respect of your notes on the stated maturity date may be very different from the hypothetical cash settlement amounts shown in the examples above.

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ADDITIONAL RISK FACTORS SPECIFIC TO YOUR NOTES

An investment in your notes is subject to the risks described below, as well as the risks and considerations described in the accompanying prospectus, in the accompanying prospectus supplement, under “Additional Risk Factors Specific to the Notes” in the accompanying general terms supplement no. 1,734 and under “Additional Risk Factors Specific to the Underlier-Linked Notes” in the accompanying product supplement no. 1,738. You should carefully review these risks and considerations as well as the terms of the notes described herein and in the accompanying prospectus, the accompanying prospectus supplement, the accompanying general terms supplement no. 1,734 and the accompanying product supplement no. 1,738. Your notes are a riskier investment than ordinary debt securities. Also, your notes are not equivalent to investing directly in the basket underlier stocks, i.e., with respect to a basket underlier to which your notes are linked, the stocks comprising such basket underlier. You should carefully consider whether the offered notes are suited to your particular circumstances.

The Estimated Value of Your Notes At the Time the Terms of Your Notes Are Set On the Trade Date (as Determined By Reference to Pricing Models Used By GS&Co.) Is Less Than the Original Issue Price Of Your Notes

The original issue price for your notes exceeds the estimated value of your notes as of the time the terms of your notes are set on the trade date, as determined by reference to GS&Co.’s pricing models and taking into account our credit spreads. Such estimated value on the trade date is set forth above under “Estimated Value of Your Notes”; after the trade date, the estimated value as determined by reference to these models will be affected by changes in market conditions, the creditworthiness of GS Finance Corp., as issuer, and the creditworthiness of The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc., as guarantor, and other relevant factors. The price at which GS&Co. would initially buy or sell your notes (if GS&Co. makes a market, which it is not obligated to do), and the value that GS&Co. will initially use for account statements and otherwise, also exceeds the estimated value of your notes as determined by reference to these models. As agreed by GS&Co. and the distribution participants, this excess (i.e., the additional amount described under “Estimated Value of Your Notes”) will decline to zero on a straight line basis over the period from the date hereof through the applicable date set forth above under “Estimated Value of Your Notes”. Thereafter, if GS&Co. buys or sells your notes it will do so at prices that reflect the estimated value determined by reference to such pricing models at that time. The price at which GS&Co. will buy or sell your notes at any time also will reflect its then current bid and ask spread for similar sized trades of structured notes.

In estimating the value of your notes as of the time the terms of your notes are set on the trade date, as disclosed above under “Estimated Value of Your Notes”, GS&Co.’s pricing models consider certain variables, including principally our credit spreads, interest rates (forecasted, current and historical rates), volatility, price-sensitivity analysis and the time to maturity of the notes. These pricing models are proprietary and rely in part on certain assumptions about future events, which may prove to be incorrect. As a result, the actual value you would receive if you sold your notes in the secondary market, if any, to others may differ, perhaps materially, from the estimated value of your notes determined by reference to our models due to, among other things, any differences in pricing models or assumptions used by others. See “Additional Risk Factors Specific to the Underlier-Linked Notes — The Market Value of Your Notes May Be Influenced by Many Unpredictable Factors” on page S-32 of the accompanying product supplement no. 1,738. The difference between the estimated value of your notes as of the time the terms of your notes are set on the trade date and the original issue price is a result of certain factors, including principally the underwriting discount and commissions, the expenses incurred in creating, documenting and marketing the notes, and an estimate of the difference between the amounts we pay to GS&Co. and the amounts GS&Co. pays to us in connection with your notes. We pay to GS&Co. amounts based on what we would pay to holders of a non-structured note with a similar maturity. In return for such payment, GS&Co. pays to us the amounts we owe under your notes.

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In addition to the factors discussed above, the value and quoted price of your notes at any time will reflect many factors and cannot be predicted. If GS&Co. makes a market in the notes, the price quoted by GS&Co. would reflect any changes in market conditions and other relevant factors, including any deterioration in our creditworthiness or perceived creditworthiness or the creditworthiness or perceived creditworthiness of The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. These changes may adversely affect the value of your notes, including the price you may receive for your notes in any market making transaction. To the extent that GS&Co. makes a market in the notes, the quoted price will reflect the estimated value determined by reference to GS&Co.'s pricing models at that time, plus or minus its then current bid and ask spread for similar sized trades of structured notes (and subject to the declining excess amount described above).

Furthermore, if you sell your notes, you will likely be charged a commission for secondary market transactions, or the price will likely reflect a dealer discount. This commission or discount will further reduce the proceeds you would receive for your notes in a secondary market sale.

There is no assurance that GS&Co. or any other party will be willing to purchase your notes at any price and, in this regard, GS&Co. is not obligated to make a market in the notes. See "Additional Risk Factors Specific to the Underlier-Linked Notes — Your Notes May Not Have an Active Trading Market" on page S-31 of the accompanying product supplement no. 1,738.

The Notes Are Subject to the Credit Risk of the Issuer and the Guarantor

Although the return on the notes will be based on the performance of the basket underliers, the payment of any amount due on the notes is subject to the credit risk of GS Finance Corp., as issuer of the notes, and the credit risk of The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. as guarantor of the notes. The notes are our unsecured obligations. Investors are dependent on our ability to pay all amounts due on the notes, and therefore investors are subject to our credit risk and to changes in the market's view of our creditworthiness. Similarly, investors are dependent on the ability of The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc., as guarantor of the notes, to pay all amounts due on the notes, and therefore are also subject to its credit risk and to changes in the market's view of its creditworthiness. See "Description of the Notes We May Offer — Information About Our Medium-Term Notes, Series E Program — How the Notes Rank Against Other Debt" on page S-4 of the accompanying prospectus supplement and "Description of Debt Securities We May Offer — Guarantee by The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc." on page 42 of the accompanying prospectus.

The Amount Payable on Your Notes Is Not Linked to the Level of Each Basket Underlier at Any Time Other than the Determination Date

The final basket level will be based on the closing levels of the basket underliers on the determination date (subject to adjustment as described elsewhere in this pricing supplement). Therefore, if the closing levels of the basket underliers dropped precipitously on the determination date, the cash settlement amount for your notes may be significantly less than it would have been had the cash settlement amount been linked to the closing levels of the basket underliers prior to such drop in the levels of the basket underliers. Although the actual levels of the basket underliers on the stated maturity date or at other times during the life of your notes may be higher than the closing levels of the basket underliers on the determination date, you will not benefit from the closing levels of the basket underliers at any time other than on the determination date.

You May Lose a Substantial Portion of Your Investment in the Notes

You can lose a substantial portion of your investment in the notes. The cash payment on your notes on the stated maturity date will be based on the performance of a weighted basket comprised of the S&P 500[®] Index, the EURO STOXX 50[®] Index, the iShares[®] MSCI Emerging Markets ETF, the S&P MidCap 400[®] Index and the Russell 2000[®] Index as measured from the initial basket level of 100 to the final basket level on the determination date. If the final basket level for your notes is less than the buffer level, you will have a loss for each \$1,000 of the face amount of your notes equal to the product of (i) the buffer rate times (ii) the sum of the basket return plus the buffer amount times (iii) \$1,000. Thus, you may lose a substantial portion of your investment in the notes, which would include any premium to face amount you paid when you purchased the notes.

Also, the market price of your notes prior to the stated maturity date may be significantly lower than the purchase price you pay for your notes. Consequently, if you sell your notes before the stated maturity date, you may receive far less than the amount of your investment in the notes.

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Your Notes Do Not Bear Interest

You will not receive any interest payments on your notes. As a result, even if the cash settlement amount payable for your notes on the stated maturity date exceeds the face amount of your notes, the overall return you earn on your notes may be less than you would have earned by investing in a non-indexed debt security of comparable maturity that bears interest at a prevailing market rate.

The Potential for the Value of Your Notes to Increase Will Be Limited

Your ability to participate in any change in the value of the basket over the life of your notes will be limited because of the cap level. The maximum settlement amount will limit the amount in cash you may receive for each of your notes at maturity, no matter how much the level of the basket may rise beyond the cap level over the life of your notes. Accordingly, the amount payable for each of your notes may be significantly less than it would have been had you invested directly in the basket or any of the basket underliers.

The Lower Performance of One Basket Underlier May Offset an Increase in the Other Basket Underliers

Declines in the level of one basket underlier may offset increases in the levels of the other basket underliers. As a result, any return on the basket — and thus on your notes — may be reduced or eliminated, which will have the effect of reducing the amount payable in respect of your notes at maturity. In addition, because the basket underliers are not equally weighted, increases in the lower weighted basket underliers may be offset by even small decreases in the more heavily weighted basket underliers. In particular, due to the weightings of the S&P 500[®] Index, the EURO STOXX 50[®] Index and the iShares[®] MSCI Emerging Markets ETF in the basket relative to the other basket underliers, any decrease in the S&P 500[®] Index, the EURO STOXX 50[®] Index or the iShares[®] MSCI Emerging Markets ETF will have a significantly larger impact on your return on the notes than any proportional increase in the other basket underliers.

The Return on Your Notes Will Not Reflect Any Dividends Paid on the Basket Underliers or the Basket Underlier Stocks, as Applicable

The underlier sponsors of the basket indices calculate the value of applicable basket index by reference to the prices of its basket underlier stocks, without taking account of the value of dividends paid on those stocks. Therefore, the return on your notes will not reflect the return you would realize if you actually owned the basket underlier stocks and received the dividends paid on those stocks. In addition, the return on your notes will not reflect the return you would realize if you actually owned the basket fund and received the dividends paid on the shares of the basket fund. You will not receive any dividends that may be paid on any of the basket underlier stocks by the basket underlier stock issuers or on the shares of the basket fund. See “— You Have No Shareholder Rights or Rights to Receive Any Shares of a Basket Underlier or Any Basket Underlier Stocks” below for additional information.

You Have No Shareholder Rights or Rights to Receive Any Shares of a Basket Underlier or Any Basket Underlier Stocks

Investing in your notes will not make you a holder of any shares of any basket underlier or any basket underlier stocks. Neither you nor any other holder or owner of your notes will have any rights with respect to a basket underlier or its basket underlier stocks, including any voting rights, any right to receive dividends or other distributions, any rights to make a claim against the basket underlier or its basket underlier stocks or any other rights of a holder of any shares of a basket underlier or its basket underlier stocks. Your notes will be paid in cash and you will have no right to receive delivery of any basket underlier or any basket underlier stocks.

We May Sell an Additional Aggregate Face Amount of the Notes at a Different Issue Price

At our sole option, we may decide to sell an additional aggregate face amount of the notes subsequent to the date of this pricing supplement. The issue price of the notes in the subsequent sale may differ substantially (higher or lower) from the issue price you paid as provided on the cover of this pricing supplement.

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If You Purchase Your Notes at a Premium to Face Amount, the Return on Your Investment Will Be Lower Than the Return on Notes Purchased at Face Amount and the Impact of Certain Key Terms of the Notes Will Be Negatively Affected

The cash settlement amount will not be adjusted based on the issue price you pay for the notes. If you purchase notes at a price that differs from the face amount of the notes, then the return on your investment in such notes held to the stated maturity date will differ from, and may be substantially less than, the return on notes purchased at face amount. If you purchase your notes at a premium to face amount and hold them to the stated maturity date the return on your investment in the notes will be lower than it would have been had you purchased the notes at face amount or a discount to face amount. In addition, the impact of the buffer level and the cap level on the return on your investment will depend upon the price you pay for your notes relative to the face amount. For example, if you purchase your notes at a premium to face amount, the cap level will only permit a lower positive return on your investment in the notes than would have been the case for notes purchased at face amount or a discount to the face amount. Similarly, the buffer level, while still providing some protection for the return on the notes, will allow a greater percentage decrease in your investment in the notes than would have been the case for notes purchased at face amount or a discount to face amount.

The Policies of an Underlier Sponsor and Changes that Affect a Basket Index or An Underlying Index or the Underlier Stocks Comprising a Basket Underlier or an Underlying Index, Could Affect the Cash Settlement Amount on the Stated Maturity Date and the Market Value of Your Notes

The policies of an underlier sponsor concerning the calculation of the level of a basket index and each underlying index, additions, deletions or substitutions of the underlier stocks comprising such basket index or the underlying index, and the manner in which changes affecting the underlier stocks or their issuers, such as stock dividends, reorganizations or mergers, are reflected in the level of a basket index or the underlying index, could affect the level of the applicable basket index or the underlying index and, therefore, the amount payable on your notes on the stated maturity date and the market value of your notes before that date. The amount payable on your notes and their market value could also be affected if an underlier sponsor changes these policies, for example, by changing the manner in which it calculates the level of the applicable basket index or the underlying index, or if any underlier sponsor discontinues or suspends calculation or publication of the level of the applicable basket index or the underlying index, in which case it may become difficult to determine the market value of your notes. If events such as these occur on the determination date, the calculation agent — which initially will be GS&Co., our affiliate — may determine the closing level of the applicable basket index or the underlying index on the determination date — and thus the amount payable on the stated maturity date — in a manner it considers appropriate, in its sole discretion. We describe the discretion that the calculation agent will have in determining the levels of the basket underliers on the determination date and the amount payable on your notes more fully under “Supplemental Terms of the Notes — Discontinuance or Modification of a Basket Underlier” on page S-27 and “— Role of Calculation Agent” on page S-28 of the accompanying general terms supplement no. 1,734.

The Policies of the Investment Advisor of the Basket Fund, Blackrock Fund Advisors, and the Sponsor of the Underlying Index of the Basket Fund, MSCI, Could Affect the Amount Payable on Your Notes and Their Market Value

The investment advisor of the basket fund, Blackrock Fund Advisors (“BFA”), may from time to time be called upon to make certain policy decisions or judgments with respect to the implementation of policies concerning the calculation of the net asset value of the basket fund, additions, deletions or substitutions of securities in the basket fund and the manner in which changes affecting the underlying index for the basket fund are reflected in the basket fund that could affect the market price of the shares of the basket fund, and therefore, the amount payable on your notes on the stated maturity date. The amount payable on your notes and their market value could also be affected if the investment advisor changes these policies, for example, by changing the manner in which it calculates the net asset value of the basket fund, or if the investment advisor discontinues or suspends calculation or publication of the net asset value of the basket fund, in which case it may become difficult or inappropriate to determine the market value of your notes.

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If events such as these occur, the calculation agent — which initially will be GS&Co. — may determine the closing level of the basket fund on the determination date — and thus the amount payable on the stated maturity date — in a manner, in its sole discretion, it considers appropriate. We describe the discretion that the calculation agent will have in determining the levels of the basket underliers on the determination date and the amount payable on your notes more fully under “Supplemental Terms of the Notes — Discontinuance or Modification of a Basket Underlier” on page S-27 and “— Role of Calculation Agent” on page S-28 of the accompanying general terms supplement no. 1,734.

In addition, MSCI, the underlier sponsor of the underlying index of the basket fund, owns the underlying index and is responsible for the design and maintenance of the underlying index. The policies of the underlier sponsor concerning the calculation of the underlying index, including decisions regarding the addition, deletion or substitution of the equity securities included in the underlying index, could affect the level of the underlying index and, consequently, could affect the market prices of shares of the related basket fund and, therefore, the cash settlement amount payable on your notes and their market value.

There Are Risks Associated With the Basket Fund

Although the shares of the basket fund are listed for trading on the NYSE Arca, Inc. (the “NYSE Arca”), a number of similar products have been traded on the NYSE Arca or other securities exchanges for varying periods of time, and there is no assurance that an active trading market will continue for the shares of the basket fund or that there will be liquidity in the trading market.

In addition, the basket fund is subject to management risk, which is the risk that the basket fund investment advisor’s investment strategy, the implementation of which is subject to a number of constraints, may not produce the intended results. For example, the basket fund investment advisor may select a portion of the basket fund’s assets to be invested in securities that are not included in its underlying index. The basket fund is also not actively managed and may be affected by a general decline in market segments relating to the underlying index. The basket fund investment advisor invests in securities included in, or representative of, the underlying index regardless of their investment merits. The basket fund investment advisor does not attempt to take defensive positions in declining markets.

In addition, the basket fund is subject to custody risk, which refers to the risks in the process of clearing and settling trades and to the holding of securities by local banks, agents and depositories. Low trading volumes and volatile prices in less developed markets make trades harder to complete and settle, and governments or trade groups may compel local agents to hold securities in designated depositories that are not subject to independent evaluation. The less developed a country’s securities market is, the greater the likelihood of custody problems.

Further, under continuous listing standards adopted by the NYSE Arca, the basket fund will be required to confirm on an ongoing basis that the components of its underlying index satisfy the applicable listing requirements. In the event that its underlying index does not comply with the applicable listing requirements, the basket fund would be required to rectify such non-compliance by requesting that the underlying index sponsor modify such underlying index, adopting a new underlying index or obtaining relief from the Securities and Exchange Commission. There can be no assurance that the underlying index sponsor would so modify the underlying index or that relief would be obtained from the Securities and Exchange Commission and, therefore, non-compliance with the continuous listing standards may result in the basket fund being delisted by the NYSE Arca.

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The Basket Fund and its Underlying Index are Different and the Performance of the Basket Fund May Not Correlate With the Performance of its Underlying Index

The basket fund uses a representative sampling strategy (more fully described under “The Basket Underliers — iShares® MSCI Emerging Markets ETF”) to attempt to track the performance of its underlying index. The basket fund may not hold all or substantially all of the equity securities included in its underlying index and may hold securities or assets not included in its underlying index. Therefore, while the performance of the basket fund is generally linked to the performance of its underlying index, the performance of the basket fund is also linked in part to shares of equity securities not included in its underlying index and to the performance of other assets, such as futures contracts, options and swaps, as well as cash and cash equivalents, including shares of money market funds affiliated with its underlier investment advisor.

Imperfect correlation between the basket fund’s portfolio securities and those in its underlying index, rounding of prices, changes to its underlying index and regulatory requirements may cause tracking error, which is the divergence of the basket fund’s performance from that of its underlying index.

In addition, the performance of the basket fund will reflect additional transaction costs and fees that are not included in the calculation of its underlying index and this may increase the tracking error of the basket fund. Also, corporate actions with respect to the sample of equity securities (such as mergers and spin-offs) may impact the performance differential between the basket fund and its underlying index. Finally, because the shares of the basket fund are traded on the NYSE Arca and are subject to market supply and investor demand, the market value of one share of the basket fund may differ from the net asset value per share of the basket fund.

For all of the foregoing reasons, the performance of the basket fund may not correlate with the performance of its underlying index. Consequently, the cash settlement amount payable on your notes will not be the same as investing directly in the basket fund or in its underlying index or in any of the underlier stocks or in any of the underlying index stocks, and will not be the same as investing in a debt security with a payment at maturity linked to the performance of the underlying index.

An Investment in the Offered Notes Is Subject to Risks Associated with Foreign Securities

The value of your notes is linked, in part, to the EURO STOXX 50® Index, which is comprised of stocks from one or more foreign securities markets and, in part, to the iShares® MSCI Emerging Markets ETF, which holds stocks traded in the equity markets of emerging market countries. Investments linked to the value of foreign equity securities involve particular risks. Any foreign securities market may be less liquid, more volatile and affected by global or domestic market developments in a different way than are the U.S. securities market or other foreign securities markets. Both government intervention in a foreign securities market, either directly or indirectly, and cross-shareholdings in foreign companies, may affect trading prices and volumes in that market. Also, there is generally less publicly available information about foreign companies than about those U.S. companies that are subject to the reporting requirements of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission. Further, foreign companies are subject to accounting, auditing and financial reporting standards and requirements that differ from those applicable to U.S. reporting companies.

The prices of securities in a foreign country are subject to political, economic, financial and social factors that are unique to such foreign country's geographical region. These factors include: recent changes, or the possibility of future changes, in the applicable foreign government's economic and fiscal policies; the possible implementation of, or changes in, currency exchange laws or other laws or restrictions applicable to foreign companies or investments in foreign equity securities; fluctuations, or the possibility of fluctuations, in currency exchange rates; and the possibility of outbreaks of hostility, political instability, natural disaster or adverse public health developments. The United Kingdom has voted to leave the European Union (popularly known as “Brexit”). The effect of Brexit is uncertain, and Brexit has and may continue to contribute to volatility in the prices of securities of companies located in Europe and currency exchange rates, including the valuation of the euro and British pound in particular. Any one of these factors, or the combination of more than one of these factors, could negatively affect such foreign securities market and the price of securities therein. Further, geographical regions may react to global factors in different ways, which may cause the prices of securities in a foreign securities market to fluctuate in a

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way that differs from those of securities in the U.S. securities market or other foreign securities markets. Foreign economies may also differ from the U.S. economy in important respects, including growth of gross national product, rate of inflation, capital reinvestment, resources and self-sufficiency, which may have a positive or negative effect on foreign securities prices.

Because foreign exchanges may be open on days when the basket fund is not traded, the value of the securities underlying the basket fund may change on days when shareholders will not be able to purchase or sell shares of the basket fund.

In addition, the basket fund holds stocks traded in equity markets of emerging market countries. The countries whose markets are represented by the iShares[®] MSCI Emerging Markets ETF include Brazil, Chile, China, Colombia, the Czech Republic, Egypt, Greece, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Mexico, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Qatar, Russia, South Africa, South Korea, Taiwan, Thailand, Turkey and United Arab Emirates.

Countries with emerging markets may have relatively unstable governments, may present the risks of nationalization of businesses, restrictions on foreign ownership and prohibitions on the repatriation of assets, and may have less protection of property rights than more developed countries. The economies of countries with emerging markets may be based on only a few industries, may be highly vulnerable to changes in local or global trade conditions, and may suffer from extreme and volatile debt burdens or inflation rates. Local securities markets may trade a small number of securities and may be unable to respond effectively to increases in trading volume, potentially making prompt liquidation of holdings difficult or impossible at times. It will also likely be more costly and difficult for the investment advisor to enforce the laws or regulations of a foreign country or trading facility, and it is possible that the foreign country or trading facility may not have laws or regulations which adequately protect the rights and interests of investors in the stocks included in the basket fund.

Your Investment in the Notes Will Be Subject to Foreign Currency Exchange Rate Risk

The basket fund holds assets that are denominated in non-U.S. dollar currencies. The value of the assets held by the basket fund that are denominated in non-U.S. dollar currencies will be adjusted to reflect their U.S. dollar value by converting the price of such assets from the non-U.S. dollar currency to U.S. dollars. Consequently, if the value of the U.S. dollar strengthens against the non-U.S. dollar currency in which an asset is denominated, the level of the basket fund may not increase even if the non-dollar value of the asset held by such basket fund increases.

Foreign currency exchange rates vary over time, and may vary considerably during the term of your notes. Changes in a particular exchange rate result from the interaction of many factors directly or indirectly affecting economic and political conditions. Of particular importance are:

- existing and expected rates of inflation;
- existing and expected interest rate levels;
- the balance of payments among countries;
- the extent of government surpluses or deficits in the relevant foreign country and the United States; and
- other financial, economic, military and political factors.

All of these factors are, in turn, sensitive to the monetary, fiscal and trade policies pursued by the governments of the relevant foreign countries and the United States and other countries important to international trade and finance.

The market price of the notes and level of the basket fund could also be adversely affected by delays in, or refusals to grant, any required governmental approval for conversions of a local currency and remittances abroad or other de facto restrictions on the repatriation of U.S. dollars.

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It has been reported that the U.K. Financial Conduct Authority and regulators from other countries are in the process of investigating the potential manipulation of published currency exchange rates. If such manipulation has occurred or is continuing, certain published exchange rates may have been, or may be in the future, artificially lower (or higher) than they would otherwise have been. Any such manipulation could have an adverse impact on any payments on, and the value of, your notes and the trading market for your notes. In addition, we cannot predict whether any changes or reforms affecting the determination or publication of exchange rates or the supervision of currency trading will be implemented in connection with these investigations. Any such changes or reforms could also adversely impact your notes.

Your Notes May Be Subject to an Adverse Change in Tax Treatment in the Future

The tax consequences of an investment in your notes are uncertain, both as to the timing and character of any inclusion in income in respect of your notes.

The Internal Revenue Service announced on December 7, 2007 that it is considering issuing guidance regarding the proper U.S. federal income tax treatment of an instrument such as your notes, and any such guidance could adversely affect the tax treatment and the value of your notes. Among other things, the Internal Revenue Service may decide to require the holders to accrue ordinary income on a current basis and recognize ordinary income on payment at maturity, and could subject non-U.S. investors to withholding tax. Furthermore, in 2007, legislation was introduced in Congress that, if enacted, would have required holders that acquired instruments such as your notes after the bill was enacted to accrue interest income over the term of such instruments even though there will be no interest payments over the term of such instruments. It is not possible to predict whether a similar or identical bill will be enacted in the future, or whether any such bill would affect the tax treatment of your notes. We describe these developments in more detail under “Supplemental Discussion of Federal Income Tax Consequences” on page S-41 of the accompanying product supplement no. 1,738. You should consult your tax advisor about this matter. Except to the extent otherwise provided by law, GS Finance Corp. intends to continue treating the notes for U.S. federal income tax purposes in accordance with the treatment described under “Supplemental Discussion of Federal Income Tax Consequences” on page S-41 of the accompanying product supplement no. 1,738 unless and until such time as Congress, the Treasury Department or the Internal Revenue Service determine that some other treatment is more appropriate.

United States Alien Holders Should Consider the Withholding Tax Implications of Owning the Notes

The Treasury Department has issued regulations under which amounts paid or deemed paid on certain financial instruments (“871(m) financial instruments”) that are treated as attributable to U.S.-source dividends could be treated, in whole or in part depending on the circumstances, as a “dividend equivalent” payment that is subject to tax at a rate of 30% (or a lower rate under an applicable treaty), which in the case of any amounts a United States alien holder receives upon the sale, exchange or maturity of your notes, could be collected via withholding. If these regulations were to apply to the notes, we may be required to withhold such taxes if any U.S.-source dividends are paid on the basket fund or on the stocks included in the basket indices during the term of the notes. We could also require a United States alien holder to make certifications (e.g., an applicable Internal Revenue Service Form W-8) prior to the maturity of the notes in order to avoid or minimize withholding obligations, and we could withhold accordingly (subject to the United States alien holder’s potential right to claim a refund from the Internal Revenue Service) if such certifications were not received or were not satisfactory. If withholding was required, we would not be required to pay any additional amounts with respect to amounts so withheld. These regulations generally will apply to 871(m) financial instruments (or a combination of financial instruments treated as having been entered into in connection with each other) issued (or significantly modified and treated as retired and reissued) on or after January 1, 2021, but will also apply to certain 871(m) financial instruments (or a combination of financial instruments treated as having been entered into in connection with each other) that have a delta (as defined in the applicable Treasury regulations) of one and are issued (or significantly modified and treated as retired and reissued) on or after January 1, 2017. In addition, these regulations will not apply to financial instruments that reference a “qualified index” (as defined in the regulations). We have determined that, as of the issue date of your notes, your notes will not be subject to withholding under these rules. In certain limited circumstances, however, you should be aware that it is possible for United States alien holders to be liable for tax under these rules with respect to a combination of transactions treated as

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combination of transactions treated as having been entered into in connection with each other even when no withholding is required. You should consult your tax advisor concerning these regulations, subsequent official guidance and regarding any other possible alternative characterizations of your notes for U.S. federal income tax purposes.

Your Notes May Be Subject to the Constructive Ownership Rules

There exists a risk that the constructive ownership rules of Section 1260 of the Internal Revenue Code could apply to all or a portion of your notes. If all or a portion of your notes were subject to the constructive ownership rules, then all or a portion of any long-term capital gain that you realize upon the sale, exchange or maturity of your notes would be re-characterized as ordinary income (and you would be subject to an interest charge on deferred tax liability with respect to such re-characterized capital gain) to the extent that such capital gain exceeds the amount of “net underlying long-term capital gain” (as defined in Section 1260 of the Internal Revenue Code). Because the application of the constructive ownership rules is unclear you are strongly urged to consult your tax advisor with respect to the possible application of the constructive ownership rules to your investment in the notes.

Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act (FATCA) Withholding May Apply to Payments on Your Notes, Including as a Result of the Failure of the Bank or Broker Through Which You Hold the Notes to Provide Information to Tax Authorities

Please see the discussion under “United States Taxation — Taxation of Debt Securities — Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act (FATCA) Withholding” in the accompanying prospectus for a description of the applicability of FATCA to payments made on your notes.

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THE BASKET AND THE BASKET UNDERLIERS

The Basket

The basket is comprised of the following basket underliers with the following initial weights within the basket: the S&P 500[®] Index (25% weighting), the EURO STOXX 50[®] Index (22.5% weighting), the iShares[®] MSCI Emerging Markets ETF (22.5% weighting), the S&P MidCap 400[®] Index (15% weighting) and the Russell 2000[®] Index (15% weighting).

The S&P 500[®] Index

The S&P 500[®] Index includes a representative sample of 500 leading companies in leading industries of the U.S. economy. The S&P 500[®] Index is calculated, maintained and published by S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC (“S&P”). As of July 31, 2017, companies with multiple share class lines are no longer eligible for inclusion in the S&P 500[®] Index. Constituents of the S&P 500[®] Index prior to July 31, 2017 with multiple share class lines will be grandfathered in and continue to be included in the S&P 500[®] Index. If an S&P 500[®] Index constituent reorganizes into a multiple share class line structure, that company will be reviewed for continued inclusion in the S&P 500[®] Index at the discretion of the S&P Index Committee. Also as of July 31, 2017, the criteria employed by S&P for purposes of making additions to the S&P 500[®] Index were changed as follows:

with respect to the “U.S. company” criterion, (i) the IEX was added as an “eligible exchange” for the primary listing of the relevant company’s common stock and (ii) the former “corporate governance structure consistent with U.S. practice” requirement was removed; and

with respect to constituents of the S&P MidCap 400[®] Index and the S&P SmallCap 600[®] Index that are being considered for addition to the S&P 500[®] Index, the financial viability, public float and/or liquidity eligibility criteria no longer need to be met if the S&P Index Committee decides that such an addition will enhance the representativeness of the S&P 500[®] Index as a market benchmark.

As of December 20, 2018, the 500 companies included in the S&P 500[®] Index were divided into eleven Global Industry Classification Sectors. The Global Industry Classification Sectors include (with the approximate percentage currently included in such sectors indicated in parentheses): Communication Services (10.16%), Consumer Discretionary (9.79%), Consumer Staples (7.50%), Energy (5.32%), Financials (13.27%), Health Care (15.45%), Industrials (9.20%), Information Technology (20.19%), Materials (2.64%), Real Estate (3.04%) and Utilities (3.44%). (Sector designations are determined by the underlier sponsor using criteria it has selected or developed. Index sponsors may use very different standards for determining sector designations. In addition, many companies operate in a number of sectors, but are listed in only one sector and the basis on which that sector is selected may also differ. As a result, sector comparisons between indices with different index sponsors may reflect differences in methodology as well as actual differences in the sector composition of the indices.) As of the close of business on September 21, 2018, S&P and MSCI, Inc. updated the Global Industry Classification Sector structure. Among other things, the update broadened the Telecommunications Services sector and renamed it the Communication Services sector. The renamed sector includes the previously existing Telecommunication Services Industry group, as well as the Media Industry group, which was moved from the Consumer Discretionary sector and renamed the Media & Entertainment Industry group. The Media & Entertainment Industry group contains three industries: Media, Entertainment and Interactive Media & Services. The Media industry continues to consist of the Advertising, Broadcasting, Cable & Satellite and Publishing sub-industries. The Entertainment industry contains the Movies & Entertainment sub-industry (which includes online entertainment streaming companies in addition to companies previously classified in such industry prior to September 21, 2018) and the Interactive Home Entertainment sub-industry (which includes companies previously classified in the Home Entertainment Software sub-industry prior to September 21, 2018 (when the Home Entertainment Software sub-industry was a sub-industry in the Information Technology sector)), as well as producers of interactive gaming products, including mobile gaming applications). The Interactive Media & Services industry and sub-industry includes companies engaged in content and information creation or distribution through proprietary platforms, where revenues are derived primarily through pay-per-click advertisements, and includes search engines, social media and networking platforms, online classifieds and online review companies. The Global Industry Classification Sector structure changes are effective for the S&P 500[®] Index as of the open of business on September 24, 2018 to coincide with the September 2018 quarterly rebalancing.

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The above information supplements the description of the S&P 500[®] Index found in the accompanying general terms supplement no. 1,734. This information was derived from information prepared by the underlier sponsor, however, the percentages we have listed above are approximate and may not match the information available on the underlier sponsor's website due to subsequent corporate actions or other activity relating to a particular stock. For more details about the S&P 500[®] Index, the underlier sponsor and license agreement between the underlier sponsor and the issuer, see "The Underliers — S&P 500[®] Index" on page S-40 of the accompanying general terms supplement no. 1,734.

The S&P 500[®] Index is a product of S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC, and has been licensed for use by GS Finance Corp. ("Goldman"). Standard & Poor[®] and S&P[®] are registered trademarks of Standard & Poor's Financial Services LLC; Dow Jones[®] is a registered trademark of Dow Jones Trademark Holdings LLC ("Dow Jones") and these trademarks have been licensed for use by S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC and sublicensed for certain purposes by Goldman. Goldman's notes are not sponsored, endorsed, sold or promoted by S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC, Dow Jones, Standard & Poor's Financial Services LLC or any of their respective affiliates and neither S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC, Dow Jones, Standard & Poor's Financial Services LLC or any of their respective affiliates make any representation regarding the advisability of investing in such notes.

The EURO STOXX 50[®] Index

The EURO STOXX 50[®] Index is a free-float market capitalization-weighted index of 50 European blue-chip stocks and was created by and is sponsored and maintained by STOXX Limited. Publication of the EURO STOXX 50[®] Index began on February 26, 1998, based on an initial index value of 1,000 at December 31, 1991. The level of the EURO STOXX 50[®] Index is disseminated on the STOXX Limited website. STOXX Limited is under no obligation to continue to publish the index and may discontinue publication of it at any time. Additional information regarding the EURO STOXX 50[®] Index may be obtained from the STOXX Limited website: stoxx.com. We are not incorporating by reference the website or any material it includes in this pricing supplement.

The top ten constituent stocks of the EURO STOXX 50[®] Index as of December 17, 2018, by weight, are: Total S.A. (5.87%), SAP SE (4.34%), Sanofi (3.98%), Siemens AG (3.84%), LINDE PLC (3.51%), Allianz SE (3.42%), Unilever N.V. (3.33%), LVMH Moët Hennessy Louis Vuitton SE (3.03%), Banco Santander S.A. (2.95%) and ASML Holding N.V. (2.83%); constituent weights may be found at stoxx.com/download/indices/factsheets/SX5GT.pdf under "Factsheets and Methodologies" and are updated periodically.

As of December 17, 2018, the sixteen industry sectors which comprise the EURO STOXX 50[®] Index represent the following weights in the index: Automobiles & Parts (4.21%), Banks (10.76%), Chemicals (4.53%), Construction & Materials (2.68%), Food & Beverage (4.22%), Health Care (10.25%), Industrial Goods & Services (10.43%), Insurance (6.48%), Media (0.93%), Oil & Gas (7.48%), Personal & Household Goods (10.13%), Real Estate (0.89%), Retail (3.82%), Technology (9.73%), Telecommunications (5.23%) and Utilities (4.73%); industry weightings may be found at stoxx.com/download/indices/factsheets/SX5GT.pdf under "Factsheets and Methodologies" and are updated periodically. Percentages may not sum to 100% due to rounding. Sector designations are determined by the underlier sponsor using criteria it has selected or developed. Index sponsors may use very different standards for determining sector designations. In addition, many companies operate in a number of sectors, but are listed in only one sector and the basis on which that sector is selected may also differ. As a result, sector comparisons between indices with different index sponsors may reflect differences in methodology as well as actual differences in the sector composition of the indices.

As of December 17, 2018, the eight countries which comprise the EURO STOXX 50[®] Index represent the following weights in the index: Belgium (2.36%), Finland (1.33%), France (38.38%), Germany (27.88%), Ireland (4.37%), Italy (4.83%), Netherlands (10.53%) and Spain (10.32%); country weightings may be found at stoxx.com/download/indices/factsheets/SX5GT.pdf under "Factsheets and Methodologies" and are updated periodically.

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The above information supplements the description of the EURO STOXX 50[®] Index found in the accompanying general terms supplement no. 1,734. This information was derived from information prepared by the underlier sponsor, however, the percentages we have listed above are approximate and may not match the information available on the underlier sponsor's website due to subsequent corporate actions or other activity relating to a particular stock. For more details about the EURO STOXX 50[®] Index, the underlier sponsor and license agreement between the underlier sponsor and the issuer, see “The Underliers — EURO STOXX[®] 50 Index” on page S-75 of the accompanying general terms supplement no. 1,734.

The EURO STOXX 50[®] is the intellectual property of STOXX Limited, Zurich, Switzerland and/or its licensors (“Licensors”), which is used under license. The securities or other financial instruments based on the index are in no way sponsored, endorsed, sold or promoted by STOXX and its Licensors and neither STOXX nor its Licensors shall have any liability with respect thereto.

The iShares[®] MSCI Emerging Markets ETF

The shares of the iShares[®] MSCI Emerging Markets ETF are issued by iShares, Inc., a registered investment company. The iShares[®] MSCI Emerging Markets ETF seeks investment results that correspond generally to the price and yield performance, before fees and expenses, of the MSCI Emerging Markets Index. The iShares[®] MSCI Emerging Markets ETF trades on the NYSE Arca under the ticker symbol “EEM”. BlackRock Fund Advisors (“BFA”) serves as the investment advisor to the iShares[®] MSCI Emerging Markets ETF.

The following tables display the top holdings and weighting by sector and country of the iShares[®] MSCI Emerging Markets ETF. A list of constituent stocks can be found at us.iShares.com/product_info/fund/overview/EEM.htm. We are not incorporating by reference the website or any material it includes in this pricing supplement. This information has been obtained from the iShares[®] website without independent verification.

iShares[®] MSCI Emerging Markets ETF Top Ten Holdings as of December 7, 2018

| <u>ETF Stock Issuer</u> | <u>Percentage (%)</u> |
|--|-----------------------|
| TENCENT HOLDINGS LTD | 4.64% |
| ALIBABA GROUP HOLDING ADR REPRESENTATIVE | 4.05% |
| TAIWAN SEMICONDUCTOR MANUFACTURING | 3.60% |
| SAMSUNG ELECTRONICS LTD | 3.59% |
| NASPERS LIMITED N LTD | 1.80% |
| CHINA CONSTRUCTION BANK CORP H | 1.62% |
| CHINA MOBILE LTD | 1.24% |
| BAIDU ADR REPTG INC CLASS A | 1.02% |
| PING AN INSURANCE (GROUP) CO OF CH | 1.01% |
| INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL BANK OF CHINA | 0.98% |
| Total | 23.55% |

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iShares® MSCI Emerging Markets ETF Weighting by Sector as of December 7, 2018*

| <u>Sector</u> | <u>Percentage (%)</u> |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| Financials | 24.44% |
| Information Technology | 14.24% |
| Communication | 13.97% |
| Consumer Discretionary | 10.70% |
| Energy | 8.28% |
| Materials | 7.58% |
| Consumer Staples | 6.55% |
| Industrials | 5.44% |
| Health Care | 2.88% |
| Real Estate | 2.96% |
| Utilities | 2.61% |
| Cash and/or Derivatives | 0.35% |
| Other | 0.00% |
| Total | 100.00% |

* Percentages may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

The Global Industry Classification Structure, which MSCI utilizes to classify the constituents of the MSCI Emerging Markets Index, was updated in September 2018. Please see “ The MSCI Emerging Markets Index” below for additional information about these updates.

iShares® MSCI Emerging Markets ETF Weighting by Country as of December 7, 2018*

| <u>Country</u> | <u>Percentage (%)</u> |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| China | 31.02% |
| Korea (South) | 13.84% |
| Taiwan | 11.09% |
| India | 8.91% |
| Brazil | 7.46% |
| South Africa | 6.11% |
| Russian Federation | 3.89% |
| Mexico | 2.68% |
| Thailand | 2.48% |
| Malaysia | 2.37% |
| Indonesia | 2.25% |
| Poland | 1.23% |
| Chile | 1.11% |
| Qatar | 1.09% |
| Philippines | 1.08% |
| Cash and/or Derivatives | 0.35% |
| Other | 3.06% |
| Total | 100.02% |

* Percentages may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

As of November 30, 2018, iShares® reported the following average annual returns on the market price of the ETF’s shares and the MSCI Emerging Markets Index. The market price of the ETF’s shares takes into account distributions on the shares and the returns shown account for changes in the mid-point of the bid and ask prices at 4:00 p.m., Eastern time on the relevant date. ETF shares: 1 year, -9.11%; 3 years, 8.67%; 5 years, 1.37%; 10 years, 8.05%; since inception, 10.44%; MSCI Emerging Markets Index: 1 year, -9.09%; 3 years, 9.41%; 5 years, 1.90%; 10 years, 9.13%; since ETF inception, 10.89%.

Notwithstanding the iShares® MSCI Emerging Markets ETF’s investment objective, the return on your notes will not reflect any dividends paid on the shares of the iShares® MSCI Emerging Markets ETF, on the securities purchased by the iShares® MSCI Emerging Markets ETF or on the securities that comprise the MSCI Emerging Markets Index.

As of the close on May 31, 2018, MSCI began a multi-step process to include, in the MSCI Emerging Markets Index, large cap China A shares that are not in trading suspension. As part of the first step of the inclusion process, which resulted from the May 2018 quarterly index review, MSCI added

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such large cap China A shares to the MSCI Emerging Markets Index at 2.5% of their foreign inclusion factor-adjusted market capitalization. In connection with the August 2018 quarterly index review, MSCI implemented the second step of the inclusion process by increasing the foreign inclusion factor-adjusted market capitalization of those existing China A share constituents from 2.5% to 5%. With the implementation of this second step, and the inclusion of additional China A shares in connection with the August 2018 quarterly index review, China A shares were initially expected to represent approximately 0.75% of the MSCI Emerging Markets Index.

MSCI has announced that, beginning in June 2019, it expects to include the MSCI Saudi Arabia Index in the MSCI Emerging Markets Index, representing on a pro forma basis a weight of approximately 2.6% of the MSCI Emerging Markets Index with 32 securities, following a two-step inclusion process. The first inclusion step is expected to coincide with the May 2019 semi-annual review and the second inclusion step is expected to take place as part of the August 2019 quarterly index review. In addition, MSCI has announced the reclassification of the MSCI Argentina Index from a “frontier market” to an “emerging market”, and the MSCI Argentina Index is expected to be included in the MSCI Emerging Markets Index coinciding with the May 2019 semi-annual index review. MSCI expects to continue to restrict the inclusion in the MSCI Argentina Index to only foreign listings of Argentinian companies, such as American depositary receipts.

As of the close of business on September 21, 2018, MSCI and S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC updated the Global Industry Classification Sector structure. Among other things, the update broadened the Telecommunications Services sector and renamed it the Communication Services sector. The renamed sector includes the previously existing Telecommunication Services Industry group, as well as the Media Industry group, which was moved from the Consumer Discretionary sector and renamed the Media & Entertainment Industry group. The Media & Entertainment Industry group contains three industries: Media, Entertainment and Interactive Media & Services. The Media industry continues to consist of the Advertising, Broadcasting, Cable & Satellite and Publishing sub-industries. The Entertainment industry contains the Movies & Entertainment sub-industry (which includes online entertainment streaming companies in addition to companies previously classified in such industry prior to September 21, 2018) and the Interactive Home Entertainment sub-industry (which includes companies previously classified in the Home Entertainment Software sub-industry prior to September 21, 2018 (when the Home Entertainment Software sub-industry was a sub-industry in the Information Technology sector)), as well as producers of interactive gaming products, including mobile gaming applications). The Interactive Media & Services industry and sub-industry includes companies engaged in content and information creation or distribution through proprietary platforms, where revenues are derived primarily through pay-per-click advertisements, and includes search engines, social media and networking platforms, online classifieds and online review companies. The Global Classification Sector structure changes are effective for the MSCI Emerging Markets Index as of the open of business on December 3, 2018 to coincide with the November 2018 semi-annual index review.

The above information supplements the description of the iShares® MSCI Emerging Markets ETF found in the accompanying general terms supplement no. 1,734. This information was derived from information prepared by the investment advisor, however, the percentages we have listed above are approximate and may not match the information available on the investment advisor's website due to subsequent corporate actions or other activity relating to a particular stock. For more details about the iShares® MSCI Emerging Markets ETF, the investment advisor and license agreement between the investment advisor and the issuer, see “The Underliers — The iShares® MSCI Emerging Markets ETF” on page S-91 of the accompanying general terms supplement no. 1,734.

iShares® is a registered trademark of BlackRock Institutional Trust Company, N.A. (“BITC”). The securities are not sponsored, endorsed, sold, or promoted by BITC. BITC makes no representations or warranties to the owners of the securities or any member of the public regarding the advisability of investing in the securities. BITC has no obligation or liability in connection with the operation, marketing, trading or sale of the securities.

The MSCI Indexes are the exclusive property of MSCI Inc. (“MSCI”). The securities referred to herein are not sponsored, endorsed, or promoted by MSCI, and MSCI bears no liability with respect to any such securities.

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The S&P MidCap 400® Index

The S&P MidCap 400® Index includes a sample of 400 mid-sized companies in various industries of the U.S. economy. S&P chooses companies for inclusion in the S&P MidCap 400® Index with an aim of achieving a distribution by broad industry groupings that approximates the distribution of these groupings in the population of mid-size companies in the U.S. equity market. Although the S&P MidCap 400® Index contains 400 constituent companies, at any one time it may contain greater than 400 constituent trading lines since some companies included in the index prior to July 31, 2017 may be represented by multiple share class lines in the index. The S&P MidCap 400® Index is calculated, maintained and published by S&P and is part of the S&P Dow Jones Indices family of indices. Additional information is available on the following websites: spindices.com/indices/equity/sp-400 and spdji.com/. We are not incorporating by reference the websites or any material they include in this pricing supplement. The S&P MidCap 400® Index is intended to reflect the risk and return characteristics of the broader universe of mid-sized firms in the U.S. equity markets. Constituent changes are made on an as-needed basis and there is no schedule for constituent reviews. Constituent changes are generally announced one to five business days prior to the change. Relevant criteria for additions to the S&P MidCap 400® Index that are employed by S&P include: the company proposed for addition has an unadjusted company market capitalization of between \$1.6 billion and \$6.8 billion (but the constituents are not the 400 largest companies in the NYSE in that range and not all 400 companies are listed on such exchange; for spin-offs, eligibility is determined using when-issued prices, if available); using composite pricing and volume, the ratio of annual dollar value traded in the proposed constituent to float-adjusted market capitalization of that company should be 1.00 or greater and the stock should trade a minimum of 250,000 shares in each of the six months leading up to the evaluation date; the company must be a U.S. company (characterized as a Form 10-K filer with its U.S. portion of fixed assets and revenues constituting a plurality of the total and with a primary listing of the common stock on the NYSE, NYSE Arca, NYSE American (formerly NYSE MKT), NASDAQ Global Select Market, NASDAQ Select Market, NASDAQ Capital Market, Bats BZX, Bats BYX, Bats EDGA, Bats EDGX or IEX (each, an “eligible exchange”)), the proposed constituent has a public float of 50% or more of its stock, the inclusion of the company will contribute to sector balance in the index relative to the sector balance in the market in the relevant market capitalization range; financial viability (the sum of the most recent four consecutive quarters’ Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) earnings (net income excluding discontinued operations) should be positive as should the most recent quarter; and, for IPOs, the company must be traded on an eligible exchange for at least twelve months. In addition, constituents of the S&P 500® Index and the S&P SmallCap 600® Index can be migrated to the index without meeting the financial viability, public float and/or liquidity eligibility criteria if the S&P Index Committee decides that such a move will enhance the representativeness of the S&P MidCap 400® Index as a market benchmark. Certain types of organizational structures and securities are always excluded, including business development companies (“BDCs”), limited partnerships, master limited partnerships, limited liability companies (“LLCs”) OTC bulletin board issues, closed-end funds, ETFs, ETNs, royalty trusts, tracking stocks, preferred stock and convertible preferred stock, unit trusts, equity warrants, convertible bonds, investment trusts, rights and American depositary receipts (“ADRs”). Stocks are deleted from the S&P MidCap 400® Index when they are involved in mergers, acquisitions or significant restructurings such that they no longer meet the inclusion criteria, and when they substantially violate one or more of the addition criteria. Stocks that are delisted or moved to the pink sheets or bulletin board are removed and those that experience a trading halt may be retained or removed in S&P’s discretion. S&P evaluates additions and deletions with a view to maintaining S&P MidCap 400® Index continuity. For constituents included in the index prior to July 31, 2017, all publicly listed multiple share class lines are included separately in the S&P MidCap 400® Index, subject to, in the case of any such share class line, that share class line satisfying the liquidity and float criteria discussed above and subject to certain exceptions. It is possible that one listed share class line of a company may be included in the S&P MidCap 400® Index while a second listed share class line of the same company is excluded. For companies that issue a second publicly traded share class to index share class holders, the newly issued share class line is considered for inclusion if the event is mandatory and the market capitalization of the distributed class is not considered to be de minimis.

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As of July 31, 2017, companies with multiple share class lines are no longer eligible for inclusion in the S&P MidCap 400[®] Index. Constituents of the S&P MidCap 400[®] Index prior to July 31, 2017 with multiple share class lines will be grandfathered in and continue to be included in the S&P MidCap 400[®] Index. If an S&P MidCap 400[®] Index constituent reorganizes into a multiple share class line structure, that company will be reviewed for continued inclusion in the S&P MidCap 400[®] Index at the discretion of the S&P Index Committee.

As of December 26, 2018, the top ten component stocks of the S&P MidCap 400[®] Index, by weight, were: Teleflex Inc. (0.75%), Atmos Energy Corporation (0.72%), Domino's Pizza Inc. (0.71%), IDEX Corporation (0.65%), UGI Corporation (0.62%), Alleghany Corporation (0.62%), STERIS plc (0.60%), PTC Inc. (0.59%), Reinsurance Group of America (0.59%) and NVR Inc. (0.57%).

As of December 26, 2018, the 400 companies included in the S&P MidCap 400[®] Index were divided into eleven Global Industry Classification Sectors. The Global Industry Classification Sectors include (with the approximate percentage currently included in such sectors indicated in parentheses): Communication Services (2.52%), Consumer Discretionary (11.82%), Consumer Staples (2.99%), Energy (3.85%), Financials (16.33%), Health Care (9.92%), Industrials (15.39%), Information Technology (15.14%), Materials (6.61%), Real Estate (9.81%) and Utilities (5.62%). (Sector designations are determined by the underlier sponsor using criteria it has selected or developed. Index sponsors may use very different standards for determining sector designations. In addition, many companies operate in a number of sectors, but are listed in only one sector and the basis on which that sector is selected may also differ. As a result, sector comparisons between indices with different index sponsors may reflect differences in methodology as well as actual differences in the sector composition of the indices.) As of the close of business on September 21, 2018, S&P and MSCI, Inc. updated the Global Industry Classification Sector structure. Among other things, the update broadened the Telecommunications Services sector and renamed it the Communication Services sector. The renamed sector includes the previously existing Telecommunication Services Industry group, as well as the Media Industry group, which was moved from the Consumer Discretionary sector and renamed the Media & Entertainment Industry group. The Media & Entertainment Industry group contains three industries: Media, Entertainment and Interactive Media & Services. The Media industry continues to consist of the Advertising, Broadcasting, Cable & Satellite and Publishing sub-industries. The Entertainment industry contains the Movies & Entertainment sub-industry (which includes online entertainment streaming companies in addition to companies previously classified in such industry prior to September 21, 2018) and the Interactive Home Entertainment sub-industry (which includes companies previously classified in the Home Entertainment Software sub-industry prior to September 21, 2018 (when the Home Entertainment Software sub-industry was a sub-industry in the Information Technology sector)), as well as producers of interactive gaming products, including mobile gaming applications). The Interactive Media & Services industry and sub-industry includes companies engaged in content and information creation or distribution through proprietary platforms, where revenues are derived primarily through pay-per-click advertisements, and includes search engines, social media and networking platforms, online classifieds and online review companies. The Global Industry Classification Sector structure changes are effective for the S&P MidCap 400[®] Index as of the open of business on September 24, 2018 to coincide with the September 2018 quarterly rebalancing.

Calculation of the S&P MidCap 400[®] Index

The S&P MidCap 400[®] Index is calculated using a base-weighted aggregative methodology. The value of the S&P MidCap 400[®] Index on any day for which an underlier value is published is determined by a fraction, the numerator of which is the aggregate of the market price of each stock in the S&P MidCap 400[®] Index times the number of shares of such stock included in the S&P MidCap 400[®] Index, and the denominator of which is the divisor, which is described more fully below. The "market value" of any underlier stock is the product of the market price per share of that stock times the number of the then-outstanding shares of such underlier stock that are then included in the S&P MidCap 400[®] Index.

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The S&P MidCap 400[®] Index is also sometimes called a “base-weighted aggregative index” because of its use of a divisor. The “divisor” is a value calculated by S&P that is intended to maintain conformity in underlier values over time and is adjusted for all changes in the underlier stocks’ share capital after the “base date” as described below. The level of the S&P MidCap 400[®] Index reflects the total market value of all underlier stocks relative to the underlier’s base date of June 28, 1991.

In addition, the S&P MidCap 400[®] Index is float-adjusted, meaning that the share counts used in calculating the S&P MidCap 400[®] Index reflect only those shares available to investors rather than all of a company’s outstanding shares. S&P seeks to exclude shares held by certain shareholders concerned with the control of a company, a group that generally includes the following: officers and directors and related individuals whose holdings are publicly disclosed, private equity, venture capital, special equity firms, publicly traded companies that hold shares for control in another company, strategic partners, holders of restricted shares, employee stock ownership plans, employee and family trusts, foundations associated with the company, holders of unlisted share classes of stock, government entities at all levels (except government retirement or pension funds) and any individual person listed as a 5% or greater stakeholder in a company as reported in regulatory filings (collectively, “control holders”). To this end, S&P excludes all share-holdings (other than depositary banks, pension funds, mutual funds, exchange traded fund providers, 401(k) plans of the company, government retirement and pension funds, investment funds of insurance companies, asset managers and investment funds, independent foundations, savings plans and investment plans) with a position greater than 5% of the outstanding shares of a company from the float-adjusted share count to be used in S&P MidCap 400 Index[®] calculations.

The exclusion is accomplished by calculating an Investable Weight Factor (“IWF”) for each stock that is part of the numerator of the float-adjusted underlier fraction described above:

$$\text{IWF} = (\text{available float shares}) / (\text{total shares outstanding})$$

where available float shares is defined as total shares outstanding less shares held by control holders. In most cases, an IWF is reported to the nearest one percentage point. For companies with multiple share class lines, a separate IWF is calculated for each share class line.

Maintenance of the S&P MidCap 400[®] Index

In order to keep the S&P MidCap 400[®] Index comparable over time S&P engages in an underlier maintenance process. The S&P MidCap 400[®] Index maintenance process involves changing the constituents as discussed above, and also involves maintaining quality assurance processes and procedures, adjusting the number of shares used to calculate the S&P MidCap 400[®] Index, monitoring and completing the adjustments for company additions and deletions, adjusting for stock splits and stock dividends and adjusting for other corporate actions. In addition to its daily governance of indices and maintenance of the underlier methodology, at least once within any 12 month period, the S&P Index Committee reviews the underlier methodology to ensure the S&P MidCap 400[®] Index continues to achieve the stated objective, and that the data and methodology remain effective. The S&P Index Committee may at times consult with investors, market participants, security issuers included or potentially included in the S&P MidCap 400[®] Index, or investment and financial experts.

Divisor Adjustments

The two types of adjustments primarily used by S&P are divisor adjustments and adjustments to the number of shares (including float adjustments) used to calculate the S&P MidCap 400[®] Index. Set forth below is a table of certain corporate events and their resulting effect on the divisor and the share count. If a corporate event requires an adjustment to the divisor, that event has the effect of altering the market value of the affected underlier stock and consequently of altering the aggregate market value of the underlier stocks following the event. In order that the level of the S&P MidCap 400[®] Index not be affected by the altered market value (which could be an increase or decrease) of the affected underlier stock, S&P generally derives a new divisor by dividing the post-event market value of the underlier stocks by the pre-event underlier value, which has the effect of reducing the S&P MidCap 400[®] Index’s post-event value to the pre-event level.

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Changes to the Number of Shares of a Constituent

The underlier maintenance process also involves tracking the changes in the number of shares included for each of the underlier companies. The timing of adjustments to the number of shares depends on the type of event causing the change, and whether the change represents 5% or more of the total share count (for companies with multiple share class lines, the 5% threshold is based on each individual share class line rather than total company shares). Changes as a result of mergers or acquisitions are implemented when the transaction occurs. At S&P's discretion, however, de minimis merger and acquisition changes may be accumulated and implemented with the updates made at the quarterly share updates as described below. Changes in a constituent's total shares of 5% or more due to public offerings (which must be underwritten, have a publicly available prospectus or prospectus summary filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission and include a public confirmation that the offering has been completed) are implemented as soon as reasonably possible. Other changes of 5% or more are made weekly and are announced on Fridays for implementation after the close of trading on the following Friday. For changes of less than 5%, on the third Friday of the last month in each calendar quarter, S&P updates the share totals of companies in the S&P MidCap 400® Index as required by any changes in the number of shares outstanding. S&P implements a share / IWF freeze beginning after the market close on the Tuesday preceding the second Friday of each quarterly rebalancing month and ending after the market close on the third Friday of the quarterly rebalancing month. During this frozen period, shares and IWFs are not changed except for certain corporate action events (merger activity, stock splits and rights offerings).

Adjustments for Corporate Actions

There is a large range of corporate actions that may affect companies included in the S&P MidCap 400® Index. Certain corporate actions require S&P to recalculate the share count or the float adjustment or to make an adjustment to the divisor to prevent the value of the S&P MidCap 400® Index from changing as a result of the corporate action. This helps ensure that the movement of the S&P MidCap 400® Index does not reflect the corporate actions of individual companies in the S&P MidCap 400® Index.

Spin-Offs

As a general policy, a spin-off security is added to the S&P MidCap 400® Index at a zero price at the market close of the day before the ex-date (with no divisor adjustment). The spin-off security will remain in the S&P MidCap 400® Index if it meets all eligibility criteria. If the spin-off security is determined ineligible to remain in the S&P MidCap 400® Index, it will generally be removed after at least one day of regular way trading (with a divisor adjustment). If there is a gap between the ex-date and distribution date (or payable date), or if the spin-off security does not trade regular way on the ex-date, the spin-off security is kept in the S&P MidCap 400® Index until the spin-off security begins trading regular way.

Several additional types of corporate actions, and their related adjustments, are listed in the table below.

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| Corporate Action | Share Count Revision Required? | Divisor Adjustment Required? |
|---|---|---|
| Stock split | Yes – share count is revised to reflect new count | No – share count and price changes are off-setting |
| Change in shares outstanding (secondary issuance, share repurchase and/or share buy-back) | Yes – share count is revised to reflect new count | Yes |
| Special dividends | No | Yes – calculation assumes that share price drops by the amount of the dividend; divisor adjustment reflects this change in underlier market value |
| Change in IWF | No | Yes – divisor change reflects the change in market value caused by the change to an IWF |
| Company added to or deleted from the S&P MidCap 400® Index | No | Yes – divisor is adjusted by the net change in market value, calculated as the shares issued multiplied by the price paid. |
| Rights Offering | No | Yes – divisor adjustment reflects increase in market capitalization (calculation assumes that offering is fully subscribed) |

Recalculation Policy

S&P reserves the right to recalculate and republish the S&P MidCap 400® Index at its discretion in the event one of the following issues has occurred: (1) incorrect or revised closing price of one or more constituent securities; (2) missed corporate event; (3) incorrect application of corporate action or index methodology; (4) late announcement of a corporate event; or (5) incorrect calculation or data entry error. The decision to recalculate the S&P MidCap 400® Index is made at the discretion of the index manager and/or index committee, as further discussed below. The potential market impact or disruption resulting from the potential recalculation is considered when making any such decision. In the event of an incorrect closing price, a missed corporate event or a misapplied corporate action, a late announcement of a corporate event, or an incorrect calculation or data entry error that is discovered within two trading days of its occurrence, the index manager may, at his or her discretion, recalculate the S&P MidCap 400® Index without involving the index committee. In the event any such event is discovered beyond the two trading day period, the index committee shall decide whether the S&P MidCap 400® Index should be recalculated. In the event of an incorrect application of the methodology that results in the incorrect composition and/or weighting of index constituents, the index committee shall determine whether or not to recalculate the S&P MidCap 400® Index following specified guidelines. In the event that the S&P MidCap 400® Index is recalculated, it shall be done within a reasonable timeframe following the detection and review of the issue.

Calculations and Pricing Disruptions

Closing levels for the S&P MidCap 400® Index are calculated by S&P based on the closing price of the individual constituents of the underlier as set by their primary exchange. Closing prices are received by S&P from one of its third party vendors and verified by comparing them with prices from an alternative vendor. The vendors receive the closing price from the primary exchanges. Real-time intraday prices are calculated similarly without a second verification. Prices used for the calculation of real time index values are based on the “Consolidated Tape”. The Consolidated Tape is an aggregation of trades for each constituent over all regional exchanges and trading venues and includes the primary exchange. If there is a failure or interruption on one or more exchanges, real-time calculations will continue as long as the “Consolidated Tape” is operational.

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If an interruption is not resolved prior to the market close, official closing prices will be determined by following the hierarchy set out in NYSE Rule 123C. A notice is published on the S&P website at spdji.com indicating any changes to the prices used in S&P MidCap 400[®] Index calculations. In extreme circumstances, S&P may decide to delay underlier adjustments or not publish the S&P MidCap 400[®] Index. Real-time indices are not restated.

Unexpected Exchange Closures

An unexpected market/exchange closure occurs when a market/exchange fully or partially fails to open or trading is temporarily halted. This can apply to a single exchange or to a market as a whole, when all of the primary exchanges are closed and/or not trading. Unexpected market/exchange closures are usually due to unforeseen circumstances, such as natural disasters, inclement weather, outages, or other events.

To a large degree, S&P is dependent on the exchanges to provide guidance in the event of an unexpected exchange closure. S&P's decision making is dependent on exchange guidance regarding pricing and mandatory corporate actions.

NYSE Rule 123C provides closing contingency procedures for determining an official closing price for listed securities if the exchange is unable to conduct a closing transaction in one or more securities due to a system or technical issue.

3:00 PM ET is the deadline for an exchange to determine its plan of action regarding an outage scenario. As such, S&P also uses 3:00 PM ET as the cutoff.

If all major exchanges fail to open or unexpectedly halt trading intraday due to unforeseen circumstances, S&P will take the following actions:

Market Disruption Prior to Open of Trading:

- If all exchanges indicate that trading will not open for a given day, S&P will treat the day as an unscheduled market holiday. The decision will be communicated to clients as soon as possible through the normal channels.
- (i) Indices containing multiple markets will be calculated as normal, provided that at least one market is open that day. Indices which only contain closed markets will not be calculated.
 - (ii) If exchanges indicate that trading, although delayed, will open for a given day, S&P will begin index calculation when the exchanges open.

Market Disruption Intraday:

- If exchanges indicate that trading will not resume for a given day, the S&P MidCap 400[®] Index level will be calculated using prices determined by the exchanges based on NYSE Rule 123C. Intraday S&P MidCap 400[®] Index values will continue to use the last traded composite price until the primary exchange publishes official closing prices.
- (i)

License Agreement between S&P and GS Finance Corp.

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the administration, marketing or trading of the notes. There is no assurance that investment products based on the S&P MidCap 400® Index will accurately track underlier performance or provide positive investment returns. S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC is not an investment advisor. Inclusion of a security within an index is not a recommendation by S&P Dow Jones Indices to buy, sell, or hold such security, nor is it considered to be investment advice.

S&P DOW JONES INDICES DOES NOT GUARANTEE THE ADEQUACY, ACCURACY, TIMELINESS AND/OR THE COMPLETENESS OF THE S&P MidCap 400® INDEX OR ANY DATA RELATED THERETO OR ANY COMMUNICATION, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO ORAL OR WRITTEN COMMUNICATION (INCLUDING ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS) WITH RESPECT THERETO. S&P DOW JONES INDICES SHALL NOT BE SUBJECT TO ANY DAMAGES OR LIABILITY FOR ANY ERRORS, OMISSIONS, OR DELAYS THEREIN. S&P DOW JONES INDICES MAKE NO EXPRESS OR IMPLIED WARRANTIES, AND EXPRESSLY DISCLAIMS ALL WARRANTIES, OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE OR USE OR AS TO RESULTS TO BE OBTAINED BY GOLDMAN, OWNERS OF THE NOTES, OR ANY OTHER PERSON OR ENTITY FROM THE USE OF THE S&P MidCap 400® INDEX OR WITH RESPECT TO ANY DATA RELATED THERETO. WITHOUT LIMITING ANY OF THE FOREGOING, IN NO EVENT WHATSOEVER SHALL S&P DOW JONES INDICES BE LIABLE FOR ANY INDIRECT, SPECIAL, INCIDENTAL, PUNITIVE, OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO LOSS OF PROFITS, TRADING LOSSES, LOST TIME OR GOODWILL, EVEN IF THEY HAVE BEEN ADVISED OF THE POSSIBILITY OF SUCH DAMAGES, WHETHER IN CONTRACT, TORT, STRICT LIABILITY, OR OTHERWISE. THERE ARE NO THIRD PARTY BENEFICIARIES OF ANY AGREEMENTS OR ARRANGEMENTS BETWEEN S&P DOW JONES INDICES AND GOLDMAN, OTHER THAN THE LICENSORS OF S&P DOW JONES INDICES.

The Russell 2000® Index

The Russell 2000® Index measures the composite price performance of stocks of 2,000 companies incorporated in the U.S., its territories and certain “benefit-driven incorporation countries.”

As of December 20, 2018, the 2,000 companies included in the Russell 2000® Index were divided into nine Russell Global Sectors. The Russell Global Sectors include (with the approximate percentage currently included in such sectors indicated in parentheses): Consumer Discretionary (14.69%), Consumer Staples (2.41%), Financial Services (24.02%), Health Care (13.66%), Materials & Processing (5.97%), Other Energy (3.45%), Producer Durables (13.27%), Technology (12.57%) and Utilities (4.96%). (Sector designations are determined by the underlier sponsor using criteria it has selected or developed. Index sponsors may use very different standards for determining sector designations. In addition, many companies operate in a number of sectors, but are listed in only one sector and the basis on which that sector is selected may also differ. As a result, sector comparisons between indices with different index sponsors may reflect differences in methodology as well as actual differences in the sector composition of the indices.)

In addition to the exclusions discussed under “Exclusions from the Russell 2000® Index” on page S-62 of the accompanying general terms supplement no. 1,734, a company with 5% or less of its voting rights in the hands of unrestricted shareholders is no longer eligible for inclusion in the Russell 2000® Index. Existing constituents of the Russell 2000® Index that do not currently have more than 5% of the company’s voting rights in the hands of unrestricted shareholders have until the September 2022 review to meet this requirement.

The above information supplements the description of the Russell 2000® Index found in the accompanying general terms supplement no. 1,734. This information was derived from information prepared by the underlier sponsor, however, the percentages we have listed above are approximate and may not match the information available on the underlier sponsor's website due to subsequent corporate actions or other activity relating to a particular stock. For more details about the Russell 2000® Index, the underlier sponsor and license agreement between the underlier sponsor and the issuer, see “Russell 2000® Index” on page S-61 of the accompanying general terms supplement no. 1,734.

The Russell 2000® Index is a trademark of Russell Investment Group (“Russell”) and has been licensed for use by GS Finance Corp. The securities are not sponsored, endorsed, sold or promoted by Russell, and Russell makes no representation regarding the advisability of investing in the securities.

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Historical Closing Levels of the Basket Underliers

The respective closing level of the basket underliers have fluctuated in the past and may, in the future, experience significant fluctuations. Any historical upward or downward trend in the level of any of the basket underliers during the period shown below is not an indication that the basket underliers are more or less likely to increase or decrease at any time during the life of your notes.

You should not take the historical levels of the basket or the basket underliers as an indication of the future performances of the basket underliers. We cannot give you any assurance that the future performance of the basket, basket underliers or the basket underlier stocks will result in your receiving an amount greater than the outstanding face amount of your notes on the stated maturity date.

Neither we nor any of our affiliates make any representation to you as to the performance of the basket or the basket underliers. Before investing in the offered notes, you should consult publicly available information to determine the level of the basket underliers between the date of this pricing supplement and the date of your purchase of the offered notes. The actual performance of the basket and the basket underliers over the life of the offered notes, as well as the cash settlement amount at maturity, may bear little relation to the historical levels shown below.

The graphs below show the daily historical closing levels of each basket underlier from December 26, 2008 through December 26, 2018. We obtained the closing levels in the graphs below from Bloomberg Financial Services, without independent verification. Although the official closing levels of the Russell 2000® Index are published to six decimal places by its underlier sponsor, Bloomberg Financial Services reports the levels of the Russell 2000® Index to fewer decimal places.

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Historical Performance of the S&P 500[®] Index

Historical Performance of the EURO STOXX 50[®] Index

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Historical Performance of iShares® MSCI Emerging Markets ETF

Historical Performance of the S&P MidCap 400® Index

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Historical Performance of the Russell 2000® Index

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Historical Basket Levels

The following graph is based on the basket closing level for the period from December 26, 2008 through December 26, 2018 assuming that the basket closing level was 100 on December 26, 2008. We derived the basket closing levels based on the method to calculate the basket closing level as described in this pricing supplement and on actual closing levels of the relevant basket underliers on the relevant date. The basket closing level has been normalized such that its hypothetical level on December 26, 2008 was 100. As noted in this pricing supplement, the initial basket level will be set at 100 on the trade date. The basket closing level can increase or decrease due to changes in the levels of the basket underliers.

Historical Performance of the Basket

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We have not authorized anyone to provide any information or to make any representations other than those contained or incorporated by reference in this pricing supplement, the accompanying product supplement no. 1,738, the accompanying general terms supplement no. 1,734, the accompanying prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus. We take no responsibility for, and can provide no assurance as to the reliability of, any other information that others may give you. This pricing supplement, the accompanying product supplement no. 1,738, the accompanying general terms supplement no. 1,734, the accompanying prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus is an offer to sell only the notes offered hereby, but only under circumstances and in jurisdictions where it is lawful to do so. The information contained in this pricing supplement, the accompanying product supplement no. 1,738, the accompanying general terms supplement no. 1,734, the accompanying prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus is current only as of the respective dates of such documents.

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GS Finance Corp.
 Buffered Basket-Linked Notes due
 guaranteed by
 The Goldman Sachs
 Group, Inc.



Goldman Sachs & Co. LLC

