

Source: Bloomberg 25-Sep-2014

S&P 500 Put options dislocated relative to Call options

Trade: A 6m 110% calls financed by 6m 90% puts in a ratio of 4 calls bought per put sold has zero net premium (spot ref: 1998)

Very high demand for SPX puts makes it possible to buy multiple calls for each call sold
Across major indices, the ratio of calls-to-puts is highest for US equities

Skew (y-axis) vs ATM vol (x-axis) is stretched
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Source: Bloomberg 24-Sep-2014

Renewed interest in Japanese equities ahead of GPIF re-allocation and policy momentum

Trade: A 6m 110% call financed by 6m 90% put has zero net premium (spot ref: 16374)

Investors are waiting for the giant Japanese pension funds to re-allocate away from bonds to equities
The Abe administration is looking for additional ways to stimulate the economy
Nikkei vols are high and skew is poor -- no easy way to get into the trade, best to do calls vs puts 1-to-1 struck around major technical levels

Chart showing NKY history with strike of 90% put highlighted
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Source: Bloomberg 25-Sep-2014

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