A standard data check reveals total return in USD index values from a leading index provider were actually reflecting total return in CAD - a less than subtle discrepancy caught by the RIMES Performance Team, and a potentially costly risk averted by the client.

**Data Performance Check**

*Our client, a global financial services company*, contacted the RIMES Client Services Team to request the addition of a new index calculation from their provider into the client’s feed. Upon this request, the Client Services team sent a ticket to our Performance Team, requesting that they add checks to the new series. This is a standard quality control check and a core service delivered by RIMES.
MANAGED DATA SERVICES SPOTLIGHT

FLAG! Incorrect Index Level Returns

The RIMES Performance Team noticed that the index returns in USD were not tying to the constituent returns in USD. Looking more closely at the data, the team determined that the total return in USD index values that we were receiving from the provider were actually reflecting total return in CAD.

The Performance Team raised the issue to the RIMES Data Team, which immediately contacted the index provider to alert them to the incorrect index level returns. The data partner, a longstanding partner of RIMES, then confirmed that there was indeed a calculation error for the index. They quickly implemented a fix, and the RIMES Performance Team ran another check to confirm that the correction had been applied properly. The Performance Team then added the relevant checks and let the Client Services team know that validation processes were running for the new index calculation.

Costly Operational Risk Averted

Because RIMES was implementing the checks and matching against constituents, we were able to catch the error and flag the incorrect index data. Had RIMES not been in place to conduct the check, the client would have just taken in the returns and might never have noticed the discrepancy, leaving them to benchmark against the CAD when they thought they were benchmarking against the USD – needless to say a very costly discrepancy!