

Required fields are shown with yellow backgrounds and asterisks.

Page 1 of * 29	SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549 Form 19b-4	File No.* SR - 2018 - * 056	Amendment No. (req. for Amendments *)
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Filing by NASDAQ BX, Inc.  
Pursuant to Rule 19b-4 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Initial * <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Amendment * <input type="checkbox"/>	Withdrawal <input type="checkbox"/>	Section 19(b)(2) * <input type="checkbox"/>	Section 19(b)(3)(A) * <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Section 19(b)(3)(B) * <input type="checkbox"/>
			Rule		
Pilot <input type="checkbox"/>	Extension of Time Period for Commission Action * <input type="checkbox"/>	Date Expires * <input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 19b-4(f)(1)	<input type="checkbox"/> 19b-4(f)(4)	
			<input type="checkbox"/> 19b-4(f)(2)	<input type="checkbox"/> 19b-4(f)(5)	
			<input type="checkbox"/> 19b-4(f)(3)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19b-4(f)(6)	

Notice of proposed change pursuant to the Payment, Clearing, and Settlement Act of 2010	Security-Based Swap Submission pursuant to the Securities Exchange Act of 1934
Section 806(e)(1) * <input type="checkbox"/>	Section 806(e)(2) * <input type="checkbox"/>
Section 3C(b)(2) * <input type="checkbox"/>	

Exhibit 2 Sent As Paper Document <input type="checkbox"/>	Exhibit 3 Sent As Paper Document <input type="checkbox"/>
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**Description**

Provide a brief description of the action (limit 250 characters, required when Initial is checked \*).

A proposal to relocate the Exchanges options exercise and delivery rules

**Contact Information**

Provide the name, telephone number, and e-mail address of the person on the staff of the self-regulatory organization prepared to respond to questions and comments on the action.

First Name * Carla	Last Name * Behnfeldt
Title * Associate General Counsel	
E-mail * carla.behnfeldt@nasdaq.com	
Telephone * (215) 496-5208	Fax <input type="text"/>

**Signature**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934,

has duly caused this filing to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.

(Title \*)

Date 11/14/2018	Global Chief Legal & Policy Officer
By Edward S. Knight	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>
(Name *)	<input type="button" value="edward.knight@nasdaq.com"/>

NOTE: Clicking the button at right will digitally sign and lock this form. A digital signature is as legally binding as a physical signature, and once signed, this form cannot be changed.

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

For complete Form 19b-4 instructions please refer to the EFFF website.

**Form 19b-4 Information \***

Add Remove View

The self-regulatory organization must provide all required information, presented in a clear and comprehensible manner, to enable the public to provide meaningful comment on the proposal and for the Commission to determine whether the proposal is consistent with the Act and applicable rules and regulations under the Act.

**Exhibit 1 - Notice of Proposed Rule Change \***

Add Remove View

The Notice section of this Form 19b-4 must comply with the guidelines for publication in the Federal Register as well as any requirements for electronic filing as published by the Commission (if applicable). The Office of the Federal Register (OFR) offers guidance on Federal Register publication requirements in the Federal Register Document Drafting Handbook, October 1998 Revision. For example, all references to the federal securities laws must include the corresponding cite to the United States Code in a footnote. All references to SEC rules must include the corresponding cite to the Code of Federal Regulations in a footnote. All references to Securities Exchange Act Releases must include the release number, release date, Federal Register cite, Federal Register date, and corresponding file number (e.g., SR-[SRO]-xx-xx). A material failure to comply with these guidelines will result in the proposed rule change being deemed not properly filed. See also Rule 0-3 under the Act (17 CFR 240.0-3)

**Exhibit 1A- Notice of Proposed Rule Change, Security-Based Swap Submission, or Advance Notice by Clearing Agencies \***

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The Notice section of this Form 19b-4 must comply with the guidelines for publication in the Federal Register as well as any requirements for electronic filing as published by the Commission (if applicable). The Office of the Federal Register (OFR) offers guidance on Federal Register publication requirements in the Federal Register Document Drafting Handbook, October 1998 Revision. For example, all references to the federal securities laws must include the corresponding cite to the United States Code in a footnote. All references to SEC rules must include the corresponding cite to the Code of Federal Regulations in a footnote. All references to Securities Exchange Act Releases must include the release number, release date, Federal Register cite, Federal Register date, and corresponding file number (e.g., SR-[SRO]-xx-xx). A material failure to comply with these guidelines will result in the proposed rule change, security-based swap submission, or advance notice being deemed not properly filed. See also Rule 0-3 under the Act (17 CFR 240.0-3)

**Exhibit 2 - Notices, Written Comments, Transcripts, Other Communications**

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Exhibit Sent As Paper Document

Copies of notices, written comments, transcripts, other communications. If such documents cannot be filed electronically in accordance with Instruction F, they shall be filed in accordance with Instruction G.

**Exhibit 3 - Form, Report, or Questionnaire**

Add Remove View

Exhibit Sent As Paper Document

Copies of any form, report, or questionnaire that the self-regulatory organization proposes to use to help implement or operate the proposed rule change, or that is referred to by the proposed rule change.

**Exhibit 4 - Marked Copies**

Add Remove View

The full text shall be marked, in any convenient manner, to indicate additions to and deletions from the immediately preceding filing. The purpose of Exhibit 4 is to permit the staff to identify immediately the changes made from the text of the rule with which it has been working.

**Exhibit 5 - Proposed Rule Text**

Add Remove View

The self-regulatory organization may choose to attach as Exhibit 5 proposed changes to rule text in place of providing it in Item I and which may otherwise be more easily readable if provided separately from Form 19b-4. Exhibit 5 shall be considered part of the proposed rule change.

**Partial Amendment**

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If the self-regulatory organization is amending only part of the text of a lengthy proposed rule change, it may, with the Commission's permission, file only those portions of the text of the proposed rule change in which changes are being made if the filing (i.e. partial amendment) is clearly understandable on its face. Such partial amendment shall be clearly identified and marked to show deletions and additions.

1. Text of the Proposed Rule Change

(a) Nasdaq BX, Inc. (“BX” or “Exchange”), pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (“Act”)<sup>1</sup> and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,<sup>2</sup> is filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC” or “Commission”) a proposal to relocate the Exchange’s options exercise and delivery rules, currently in Chapter VIII of the Exchange’ rulebook (“Rulebook”), to Options 5, Section 100 in the Rulebook’s shell structure.<sup>3</sup>

The Exchange requests that the Commission waive the 30-day operative delay period contained in Exchange Act Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii).<sup>4</sup>

A notice of the proposed rule change for publication in the Federal Register is attached as Exhibit 1. The text of the proposed rule change is attached as Exhibit 5.

(b) Not applicable.

(c) Not applicable.

2. Procedures of the Self-Regulatory Organization

The proposed rule change was approved by senior management of the Exchange pursuant to authority delegated by the Board of Directors of the Exchange (the “Board”) on September 26, 2018. Exchange staff will advise the Board of any action taken

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<sup>1</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

<sup>2</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

<sup>3</sup> In 2017 the Exchange added a shell structure to its Rulebook with the purpose of improving efficiency and readability and to align its rules closer to those of its five sister exchanges, The Nasdaq Stock Market LLC; Nasdaq PHLX LLC; Nasdaq ISE, LLC; Nasdaq GEMX, LLC; and Nasdaq MRX, LLC (“Affiliated Exchanges”). See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 82174 (November 29, 2017), 82 FR 57492 (December 5, 2017) (SR-BX-2017-054).

<sup>4</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6)(iii).

pursuant to delegated authority. No other action is necessary for the filing of the rule change.

Questions and comments on the proposed rule change may be directed to:

Carla Behnfeldt  
Associate General Counsel  
Nasdaq, Inc.  
(215) 496-5208

3. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

a. Purpose

The Exchange proposes to relocate the Exchange's options exercise and delivery rules, currently in Chapter VIII of the Rulebook, to Options 5, Section 100 in the Rulebook's shell structure. The relocation of the options exercise and delivery rules is part of the Exchange's continued effort to promote efficiency and the structural conformity of its processes with those of its Affiliated Exchanges.<sup>5</sup> The Exchange believes that the migration of the options exercise and delivery rules to their new location will facilitate the use of the Rulebook by members of the Exchange who are members of other Affiliated Exchanges. Moreover, the proposed changes are of a non-substantive nature and will not amend the relocated rules other than to update their numbers, redesignate the current "Supplementary Material" as "Commentary", and make conforming cross-reference changes.

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<sup>5</sup> See footnote 3.

b. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that its proposal is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act,<sup>6</sup> in general, and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(5) of the Act,<sup>7</sup> in particular, in that it is designed to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system, and, in general to protect investors and the public interest, by promoting efficiency and structural conformity of the Exchange's processes with those of the Affiliated Exchanges and by making the Exchange's Rulebook easier to read and more accessible to its members. The Exchange believes that the relocation of the options exercise and delivery rules and the cross-reference updates are of a non-substantive nature.

4. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on competition not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. The proposed changes do not impose a burden on competition because, as previously stated, they (i) are of a non-substantive nature, (ii) are intended to harmonize the numbering convention of the Exchange's rules with those of its Affiliated Exchanges, and (iii) are intended to organize the Rulebook in a way that it will ease the members' navigation and reading of the rules across the Affiliated Exchanges.

5. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed Rule Change Received from Members, Participants, or Others

No written comments were either solicited or received.

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<sup>6</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

<sup>7</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

6. Extension of Time Period for Commission Action

Not applicable.

7. Basis for Summary Effectiveness Pursuant to Section 19(b)(3) or for Accelerated Effectiveness Pursuant to Section 19(b)(2)

The foregoing rule change has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(iii)<sup>8</sup> of the Act and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder<sup>9</sup> in that it effects a change that: (i) does not significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest; (ii) does not impose any significant burden on competition; and (iii) by its terms, does not become operative for 30 days after the date of the filing, or such shorter time as the Commission may designate if consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest.

The Exchange does not believe that the relocation of the options exercise and delivery rules will significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest because the proposed changes are only intended to relocate the rules and update their cross-references. Moreover, the Exchange does not believe that this proposal will impose any significant burden on competition because, as explained, the changes are non-substantive, are intended to align the Exchange's Rulebook with those of the Affiliated Exchanges, and generally seek to improve the organization and readability of the Exchange's rules.

Furthermore, Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii) requires a self-regulatory organization to give the Commission written notice of its intent to file a proposed rule change under that

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<sup>8</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(iii).

<sup>9</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

subsection at least five business days prior to the date of filing, or such shorter time as designated by the Commission. The Exchange has provided such notice.

At any time within 60 days of the filing of the proposed rule change, the Commission summarily may temporarily suspend such rule change if it appears to the Commission that such action is necessary or appropriate in the public interest, for the protection of investors, or otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. If the Commission takes such action, the Commission shall institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule should be approved or disapproved.

A proposed rule change filed under Rule 19b-4(f)(6) normally does not become operative prior to 30 days after the date of filing. Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii), however, permits the Commission to designate a shorter time if such action is consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest. The Exchange requests that the Commission waive the 30-day operative delay contained in Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii) so that the Exchange can reorganize its Rulebook as already done in previous filings. The proposed rule change does not raise any regulatory issues. Waiving the operative delay would enable the Exchange, in a timelier manner, to harmonize the Rulebook placement and the numbering convention of the Exchange's rules with those of its Affiliated Exchanges with the ultimate goal of providing less burdensome and more efficient regulatory compliance for its members.

8. Proposed Rule Change Based on Rules of Another Self-Regulatory Organization or of the Commission

Not applicable.

9. Security-Based Swap Submissions Filed Pursuant to Section 3C of the Act

Not applicable.

10. Advance Notices Filed Pursuant to Section 806(e) of the Payment, Clearing and Settlement Supervision Act

Not applicable.

11. Exhibits

1. Notice of Proposed Rule Change for publication in the Federal Register.
5. Text of the proposed rule change.



**EXHIBIT 1**

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
(Release No. \_\_\_\_\_; File No. SR-BX-2018-056)

November \_\_, 2018

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Nasdaq BX, Inc.; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change to Relocate the Exchange's Options Exercise and Delivery Rules

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act"),<sup>1</sup> and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,<sup>2</sup> notice is hereby given that on November 14, 2018, Nasdaq BX, Inc. ("BX" or "Exchange") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC" or "Commission") the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II, and III, below, which Items have been prepared by the Exchange. The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

I. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed Rule Change

The Exchange proposes to relocate the Exchange's options exercise and delivery rules, currently in Chapter VIII of the Exchange' rulebook ("Rulebook"), to Options 5, Section 100 in the Rulebook's shell structure.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

<sup>2</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

<sup>3</sup> In 2017 the Exchange added a shell structure to its Rulebook with the purpose of improving efficiency and readability and to align its rules closer to those of its five sister exchanges, The Nasdaq Stock Market LLC; Nasdaq PHLX LLC; Nasdaq ISE, LLC; Nasdaq GEMX, LLC; and Nasdaq MRX, LLC ("Affiliated Exchanges"). See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 82174 (November 29, 2017), 82 FR 57492 (December 5, 2017) (SR-BX-2017-054).

The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Exchange's Website at <http://nasdaqbx.cchwallstreet.com/>, at the principal office of the Exchange, and at the Commission's Public Reference Room.

II. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

In its filing with the Commission, the Exchange included statements concerning the purpose of and basis for the proposed rule change and discussed any comments it received on the proposed rule change. The text of these statements may be examined at the places specified in Item IV below. The Exchange has prepared summaries, set forth in sections A, B, and C below, of the most significant aspects of such statements.

A. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

1. Purpose

The Exchange proposes to relocate the Exchange's options exercise and delivery rules, currently in Chapter VIII of the Rulebook, to Options 5, Section 100 in the Rulebook's shell structure. The relocation of the options exercise and delivery rules is part of the Exchange's continued effort to promote efficiency and the structural conformity of its processes with those of its Affiliated Exchanges.<sup>4</sup> The Exchange believes that the migration of the options exercise and delivery rules to their new location will facilitate the use of the Rulebook by members of the Exchange who are members of other Affiliated Exchanges. Moreover, the proposed changes are of a non-substantive nature and will not amend the relocated rules other than to update their numbers,

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<sup>4</sup> See footnote 3.

redesignate the current “Supplementary Material” as “Commentary”, and make conforming cross-reference changes.

2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that its proposal is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act,<sup>5</sup> in general, and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(5) of the Act,<sup>6</sup> in particular, in that it is designed to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system, and, in general to protect investors and the public interest, by promoting efficiency and structural conformity of the Exchange’s processes with those of the Affiliated Exchanges and by making the Exchange’s Rulebook easier to read and more accessible to its members. The Exchange believes that the relocation of the options exercise and delivery rules and the cross-reference updates are of a non-substantive nature.

B. Self-Regulatory Organization’s Statement on Burden on Competition

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on competition not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. The proposed changes do not impose a burden on competition because, as previously stated, they (i) are of a non-substantive nature, (ii) are intended to harmonize the numbering convention of the Exchange’s rules with those of its Affiliated Exchanges, and (iii) are intended to organize the Rulebook in a way that it will ease the members’ navigation and reading of the rules across the Affiliated Exchanges.

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<sup>5</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

<sup>6</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

C. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed Rule Change Received from Members, Participants, or Others

No written comments were either solicited or received.

III. Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission Action

Because the foregoing proposed rule change does not: (i) significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest; (ii) impose any significant burden on competition; and (iii) become operative for 30 days from the date on which it was filed, or such shorter time as the Commission may designate, it has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(iii) of the Act<sup>7</sup> and subparagraph (f)(6) of Rule 19b-4 thereunder.<sup>8</sup>

At any time within 60 days of the filing of the proposed rule change, the Commission summarily may temporarily suspend such rule change if it appears to the Commission that such action is necessary or appropriate in the public interest, for the protection of investors, or otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. If the Commission takes such action, the Commission shall institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule should be approved or disapproved.

IV. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views, and arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act. Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

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<sup>7</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(iii).

<sup>8</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6). In addition, Rule 19b-4(f)(6) requires a self-regulatory organization to give the Commission written notice of its intent to file the proposed rule change at least five business days prior to the date of filing of the proposed rule change, or such shorter time as designated by the Commission. The Exchange has satisfied this requirement.

Electronic comments:

- Use the Commission's Internet comment form (<http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml>); or
- Send an e-mail to [rule-comments@sec.gov](mailto:rule-comments@sec.gov). Please include File Number SR- BX-2018-056 on the subject line.

Paper comments:

- Send paper comments in triplicate to Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549-1090.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR- BX-2018-056. This file number should be included on the subject line if e-mail is used. To help the Commission process and review your comments more efficiently, please use only one method. The Commission will post all comments on the Commission's Internet Web site (<http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml>).

Copies of the submission, all subsequent amendments, all written statements with respect to the proposed rule change that are filed with the Commission, and all written communications relating to the proposed rule change between the Commission and any person, other than those that may be withheld from the public in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552, will be available for website viewing and printing in the Commission's Public Reference Room, 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549, on official business days between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Copies of the filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the Exchange. All comments received will be posted without change; the Commission does not edit personal identifying information from submissions. You should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR- BX-2018-056 and should be submitted on or before [insert date 21 days from publication in the Federal Register].

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.<sup>9</sup>

Eduardo A. Aleman  
Assistant Secretary

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<sup>9</sup> 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

**EXHIBIT 5**

Deleted text is [bracketed]. New text is underlined.

**Rules of Nasdaq BX**

\* \* \* \* \*

**Options Rules****Chapter I General Provisions****Sec. 1 Definitions**

(a) With respect to these BX Options Rules, the following terms shall have the meanings specified in this Section 1. A term defined elsewhere in the Rules of the Exchange shall have the same meaning with respect to this Chapter I, unless otherwise defined below.

(1) No change.

(2) The term "American-style option" means an options contract that, subject to the provisions of [Chapter VIII, Section 1] Options 5, Section 101 of these BX Options Rules (relating to the cutoff time for exercise instructions) and to the Rules of the Clearing Corporation, may be exercised at any time from its commencement time until its expiration.

(3) – (24) **No change.**

(25) The term "European-style option" means an options contract that, subject to the provisions of [Chapter VIII, Section 1] Options 5, Section 101 of these Rules (relating to the cutoff time for exercise instructions) and to the Rules of the Clearing Corporation, can be exercised only on the business day of expiration, or, in the case of option contracts expiring on a day that is not a business day, the last business day prior to its expiration date.

\* \* \* \* \*

**[Chapter VIII Exercises and Deliveries****Sec. 1 Exercise of Options Contracts**

(a) Subject to the restrictions set forth in Chapter III, Section 9 of these Rules (Exercise Limits) and to such restrictions as may be imposed pursuant to Chapter III, Section 12 of these Rules (Other Restrictions on Options Transactions and Exercises) or pursuant to the Rules of the Clearing Corporation, an outstanding options contract may be exercised

during the time period specified in the Rules of the Clearing Corporation by the tender to the Clearing Corporation of an exercise notice in accordance with the Rules of the Clearing Corporation. An exercise notice may be tendered to the Clearing Corporation only by the Clearing Participant in the account of which such options contract is carried with the Clearing Corporation. Participants may establish fixed procedures as to the latest time they will accept exercise instructions from customers.

**(b)** Special procedures apply to the exercise of equity options on the business day of their expiration, or in the case of option contracts expiring on a day that is not a business day, on the last business day before their expiration ("expiring options"). Unless waived by The Options Clearing Corporation (also known in this Rule as the Clearing Corporation), expiring options are subject to the Exercise-by-Exception ("Ex-by-Ex") procedure under Clearing Corporation Rule 805. This Rule provides that, unless contrary instructions are given, option contracts that are in-the-money by specified amounts shall be automatically exercised. In addition to the Rules of the Clearing Corporation, the following Exchange requirements apply with respect to expiring options. Option holders desiring to exercise or not exercise expiring options must either:

**i.** take no action and allow exercise determinations to be made in accordance with the Clearing Corporation's Ex-by-Ex procedure where applicable; or

**ii.** submit a "Contrary Exercise Advice" to the Exchange as specified in paragraph (d) below.

**(c)** Exercise cut-off time. Option holders have until 5:30 p.m. Eastern Time on the business day of expiration, or, in the case of an option contract expiring on a day that is not a business day, on the business day immediately prior to the expiration date, to make a final decision to exercise or not exercise an expiring option. Participants may not accept exercise instructions for customer or non-customer accounts after 5:30 p.m. Eastern Time.

**(d)** Submission of Contrary Exercise Advices. A Contrary Exercise Advice is a communication either: (i) to not exercise an option that would be automatically exercised under the Clearing Corporation's Ex-by-Ex procedure, or (ii) to exercise an option that would not be automatically exercised under the Clearing Corporation's Ex-by-Ex procedure.

A Contrary Exercise Advice may be submitted by a Participant by using the Clearing Corporation's ENCORE system, a Contrary Exercise Advice form of any other national securities exchange of which the firm is a Participant and where the option is listed, or such other method as the Exchange may prescribe. A Contrary Exercise Advice may be canceled by filing an Advice Cancel at any time up to the submission cut-off times specified below.

For customer accounts, Participants have until 7:30 p.m. Eastern Time to submit a Contrary Exercise Advice to the Exchange.



For noncustomer accounts, Participants have until 7:30 p.m. Eastern Time to submit a Contrary Exercise Advice to the Exchange if such Participant employs an electronic submission procedure with time stamp for the submission of exercise instructions by option holders. Participants are required to manually submit a Contrary Exercise Advice by 5:30 p.m. for non-customer accounts if such Participants do not employ an electronic submission procedure with time stamp for the submission of exercise instructions by option holders.

**(e)** If the Clearing Corporation has waived the Ex-by-Ex procedure for an options class, Participants must either:

**i.** submit to the Exchange, a Contrary Exercise Advice, in a manner specified by the Exchange, within the time limits specified in paragraph (d) above if the holder intends to exercise the option; or

**ii.** take no action and allow the option to expire without being exercised. In cases where the Ex-by-Ex procedure has been waived, the Rules of the Clearing Corporation require that Participants wishing to exercise such options must submit an affirmative Exercise Notice to the Clearing Corporation, whether or not a Contrary Exercise Advice has been filed with the Exchange.

**(f)** A Participant that has accepted the responsibility to indicate final exercise decisions on behalf of another Participant or non-Participant broker-dealer shall take the necessary steps to ensure that such decisions are properly indicated to the Exchange. Such Participant may establish a processing cut-off time prior to the Exchange's exercise cut-off time at which it will no longer accept final exercise decisions in expiring options from option holders for whom it indicates final exercise decisions. Each Participant that indicates final exercise decisions through another broker-dealer is responsible for ensuring that final exercise decisions for all of its proprietary (including market maker) and public customer account positions are indicated in a timely manner to such broker-dealer.

**(g)** Notwithstanding the foregoing, Participants may make final exercise decisions after the exercise cutoff time but prior to expiration without having submitted a Contrary Exercise Advice in the circumstances listed below. A memorandum setting forth the circumstance giving rise to instructions after the exercise cutoff time shall be maintained by the Participant and a copy thereof shall be filed with the Exchange no later than 12:00 noon Eastern Time on the first business day following the respective expiration. An exercise decision after the exercise cut-off time may be made:

**i.** in order to remedy mistakes or errors made in good faith; or

**ii.** where exceptional circumstances have restricted an option holder's ability to inform a Participant of a decision regarding exercise, or a Participant's ability to receive an option

holder's decision by the cut-off time. The burden of establishing any of the above exceptions rests solely on the Participant seeking to rely on such exceptions.

**(h)** In the event the Exchange provides advance notice on or before 5:30 p.m. Eastern Time on the business day immediately prior to the business day of their expiration, or, in the case of an option contract expiring on a day that is not a business day, the second business day immediately prior to the expiration date indicating that a modified time for the close of trading in equity options on such business day of expiration, or, in the case of an option contract expiring on a day that is not a business day, such last business day before expiration will occur, then the deadline to make a final decision to exercise or not exercise an expiring option shall be 1 hour 30 minutes following the time announced for the close of trading on that day instead of the 5:30 p.m. Eastern Time deadline found in Paragraph (c) of this Section 1. However, Participants have until 7:30 Eastern Time to deliver a Contrary Exercise Advice or Advice Cancel to the Exchange for customer accounts and noncustomer accounts where such Participant employs an electronic submission procedure with time stamp for the submission of exercise instructions. For non-customer accounts, Participants that do not employ an electronic procedure with time stamp for the submission of exercise instructions are required to deliver a Contrary Exercise Advice or Advice Cancel within 1 hour and 30 minutes following the time announced for the close of trading on that day instead of the 5:30 p.m. Eastern Time deadline found in Paragraph (d) of this Section 1.

**(i)** Modification of cut-off time.

**i.** The Exchange may establish extended cut-off times for decision to exercise or not exercise an expiring option and for the submission of Contrary Exercise Advices on a case-by-case basis due to unusual circumstances. For purposes of this subparagraph (h)(i), an "unusual circumstance" includes, but is not limited to, increased market volatility; significant order imbalances; significant volume surges and/or systems capacity constraints; significant spreads between the bid and offer in underlying securities; internal system malfunctions affecting the ability to disseminate or update market bids and offers and/or execute or route orders; or other similar occurrences.

**ii.** The Exchange with at least one (1) business day prior advance notice, by 12:00 noon on such day, may establish a reduced cut-off time for the decision to exercise or not exercise an expiring option and for the submission of Contrary Exercise Advices on a case-by-case basis due to unusual circumstances; provided, however, that under no circumstances should the exercise cut-off time and the time for submission of a Contrary Exercise Advice be before the close of trading. For purposes of this subparagraph (h) (ii), an "unusual circumstance" includes, but is not limited to, a significant news announcement concerning the underlying security of an option contract that is scheduled to be released just after the close on the business day the option contract expires, or, in the case of an option contract expiring on a day that is not a business day, the business day immediately prior to expiration.

**(j)** Submitting or preparing an exercise instruction, contrary exercise advice or advice cancel after the applicable exercise cut-off time in any expiring options on the basis of material information released after the cut-off time is activity inconsistent with just and equitable principles of trade.

**(k)** The failure of any Participant to follow the procedures in this Section 1 may result in the assessment of a fine, which may include but is not limited to disgorgement of potential economic gain obtained or loss avoided by the subject exercise, as determined by the Exchange.

**(l)** Clearing Participants must follow the procedures of the Clearing Corporation when exercising American-style cash-settled index options contracts issued or to be issued in any account at the Clearing Corporation. Options Participants must also follow the procedures set forth below with respect to American-style cash-settled index options:

**i.** For all contracts exercised by the Options Participant or by any customer of the Options Participant, an "exercise advice" must be delivered by the Options Participant in such form or manner prescribed by the Exchange no later than 4:20 p.m. Eastern Time, or if trading hours are extended or modified in the applicable options class, no later than five (5) minutes after the close of trading on that day.

**ii.** Subsequent to the delivery of an "exercise advice," should the Options Participant or a customer of the Options Participant determine not to exercise all or part of the advised contracts, the Options Participant must also deliver an "advice cancel" in such form or manner prescribed by the Exchange no later than 4:20 p.m. Eastern Time, or if trading hours are extended or modified in the applicable options class, no later than five (5) minutes after the close of trading on that day.

**iii.** The Exchange may determine to extend the applicable deadline for the delivery of "exercise advice" and "advice cancel" notifications pursuant to this paragraph (l) if unusual circumstances are present.

**iv.** No Options Participant may prepare, time stamp or submit an "exercise advice" prior to the purchase of the contracts to be exercised if the Options Participant knew or had reason to know that the contracts had not yet been purchased.

**v.** The failure of any Options Participant to follow the procedures in this paragraph (l) may result in the assessment of a fine, which may include but is not limited to disgorgement of potential economic gain obtained or loss avoided by the subject exercise, as determined by the Exchange.

**vi.** Preparing or submitting an "exercise advice" or "advice cancel" after the applicable deadline on the basis of material information released after such deadline, in addition to constituting a violation of this Rule, is activity inconsistent with just and equitable principles of trade.

**vii.** The procedures set forth in subparagraphs (i)-(ii) of this subparagraph (l) do not apply (a) on the business day prior to expiration in series expiring on a day other than a business day or (b) on the expiration day in series expiring on a business day.

**viii.** Exercises of American-style, cash-settled index options (and the submission of corresponding "exercise advice" and "advice cancel" forms) shall be prohibited during any time when trading in such options is delayed, halted, or suspended, subject to the following exceptions:

**1)** The exercise of an American-style, cash-settled index option may be processed and given effect in accordance with and subject to the rules of the Clearing Corporation while trading in the option is delayed, halted, or suspended if it can be documented, in a form prescribed by the Exchange, that the decision to exercise the option was made during allowable time frames prior to the delay, halt, or suspension.

**2)** Exercises of expiring American-style, cash-settled index options shall not be prohibited on the business day of expiration, or in the case of index option contracts expiring on a day that is not a business day, the last business day prior to their expiration.

**3)** Exercises of American-style, cash-settled index options shall not be prohibited during a trading halt that occurs at or after 4:00 p.m. Eastern Time. In the event of such a trading halt, exercises may occur through 4:20 p.m. Eastern Time. In addition, if trading resumes following such a trading halt (pursuant to the procedure described in Section 8 of Chapter V of these Rules (Opening the Market)), exercises may occur during the resumption of trading and for five (5) minutes after the close of the resumption of trading. The provisions of this subparagraph 3) are subject to the authority of the Exchange to impose restrictions on transactions and exercises pursuant to Section 14 of Chapter III of these Rules (Limit on Outstanding Uncovered Short Positions).

**4)** The Exchange may determine to permit the exercise of American-style, cash-settled index options while trading in such options is delayed, halted, or suspended.

### **Supplementary Material**

.01 For purposes of this Section 1, the terms "customer account" and "non-customer account" have the same meaning as defined in the Clearing Corporation By-Laws Article I(C)(28) and Article I(N)(2), respectively

.02 Each Participant shall prepare a memorandum of every exercise instruction received showing the time when such instruction was so received. Such memoranda shall be subject to the requirements of SEC Rule 17a-4(b).

.03 Reserved.

.04 Each Participant shall establish fixed procedures to insure secure time stamps in connection with their electronic systems employed for the recording of submissions to exercise or not exercise expiring options.

.05 The filing of a Contrary Exercise Advice required by this Section 1 does not serve to substitute as the effective notice to the Clearing Corporation for the exercise or non-exercise of expiring options.

## **Sec. 2 Allocation of Exercise Notices**

(a) Each Options Participant shall establish fixed procedures for the allocation of exercise notices assigned in respect of a short position in such Options Participant's customers' accounts. The allocation shall be on a "first in, first out," or automated random selection basis that has been approved by the Exchange, or on a manual random selection basis that has been specified by the Exchange. Each Options Participant shall inform its customers in writing of the method it uses to allocate exercise notices to its customers' account, explaining its manner of operation and the consequences of that system.

(b) Each Options Participant shall report its proposed method of allocation to the Exchange and obtain the Exchange's prior approval thereof, and no Options Participant shall change its method of allocation unless the change has been reported to and approved by the Exchange. The requirements of this paragraph shall not be applicable to allocation procedures submitted to and approved by another SRO having comparable standards pertaining to methods of allocation.

(c) Each Options Participant shall preserve for a three-year period sufficient work papers and other documentary materials relating to the allocation of exercise notices to establish the manner in which allocation of such exercise notices is in fact being accomplished.

## **Sec. 3 Delivery and Payment**

(a) Delivery of the underlying security upon the exercise of an options contract, and payment of the aggregate exercise price in respect thereof, shall be in accordance with the Rules of the Clearing Corporation.

(b) As promptly as possible after the exercise of an options contract by a customer, the Options Participant shall require the customer to make full cash payment of the aggregate exercise price in the case of a call options contract, or to deposit the underlying security in the case of a put options contract, or to make the required margin deposit in respect thereof if the transaction is effected in a margin account, in accordance with the Rules of the Exchange, the provisions of Chapter XIII of these Rules, and the applicable regulations of the Federal Reserve Board.

(c) As promptly as practicable after the assignment to a customer of an exercise notice the Options Participant shall require the customer to deposit the underlying security in the case of a call options contract if the underlying security is not carried in the customer's account, or to make full cash payment of the aggregate exercise price in the case of a put

options contract, or in either case to deposit the required margin in respect thereof if the transaction is effected in a margin account, in accordance with the Rules of the Exchange, the provisions of Chapter XIII of these Rules, and the applicable regulations of the Federal Reserve Board.

(d) In accordance with the applicable rules of The Options Clearing Corporation ("OCC"), upon exercise of an in-the-money U.S. Dollar-Settled Foreign Currency option structured as a call, the holder receives, from OCC, U.S. dollars representing the difference between the exercise strike price and the closing settlement value of the U.S. Dollar-Settled Foreign Currency options contract multiplied by the number of units of currency covered by the contract. For a U.S. Dollar-Settled Foreign Currency option structured as a put, the holder receives U.S. dollars representing the excess of the exercise price over the closing settlement value of the U.S. Dollar- Settled Foreign Currency option contract multiplied by the number of units of foreign currency covered by the contract.]

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**Chapter X Discipline and Summary Suspensions**

**Sec. 1 – Sec. 6** No change.

**Sec. 7 Penalty for Minor Rule Violations**

The following BX Options rule and policy violations may be determined by BX Regulation to be minor in nature. If so, BX Regulation may, with respect to any such violation, proceed under the 9200 Series Rules of the Exchange and impose the fine set forth below. BX Regulation is not required to proceed under said Sections as to any rule violation and may, whenever such action is deemed appropriate, commence a disciplinary proceeding under the 9200 Series Rules of the Exchange as to any such violation. A subsequent violation is calculated on the basis of a rolling 24-month period ("Period").

(a) – (d) No change.

(e) *Expiring Exercise Declaration Rules*. Violations of [Chapter VIII, Sections 1-3]Options 5, Section 100 of these Rules regarding exercise of Options Contracts, allocation of exercise notices and delivery and payment of the underlying security.

FINE SCHEDULE	Individual	Firm
First Offense	\$500	\$1,000
Second Offense	\$1,000	\$2,500
Subsequent Offense	\$2,500	\$5,000

(f) – (k) No change.

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## **Options 5 Options Trade Administration**

### **Section 100 Exercises and Deliveries**

#### **Section 101 Exercise of Options Contracts**

(a) Subject to the restrictions set forth in Chapter III, Section 9 of these Rules (Exercise Limits) and to such restrictions as may be imposed pursuant to Chapter III, Section 12 of these Rules (Other Restrictions on Options Transactions and Exercises) or pursuant to the Rules of the Clearing Corporation, an outstanding options contract may be exercised during the time period specified in the Rules of the Clearing Corporation by the tender to the Clearing Corporation of an exercise notice in accordance with the Rules of the Clearing Corporation. An exercise notice may be tendered to the Clearing Corporation only by the Clearing Participant in the account of which such options contract is carried with the Clearing Corporation. Participants may establish fixed procedures as to the latest time they will accept exercise instructions from customers.

(b) Special procedures apply to the exercise of equity options on the business day of their expiration, or in the case of option contracts expiring on a day that is not a business day, on the last business day before their expiration ("expiring options"). Unless waived by The Options Clearing Corporation (also known in this Rule as the Clearing Corporation), expiring options are subject to the Exercise-by-Exception ("Ex-by-Ex") procedure under Clearing Corporation Rule 805. This Rule provides that, unless contrary instructions are given, option contracts that are in-the-money by specified amounts shall be automatically exercised. In addition to the Rules of the Clearing Corporation, the following Exchange requirements apply with respect to expiring options. Option holders desiring to exercise or not exercise expiring options must either:

(1) take no action and allow exercise determinations to be made in accordance with the Clearing Corporation's Ex-by-Ex procedure where applicable; or

(2) submit a "Contrary Exercise Advice" to the Exchange as specified in paragraph (d) below.

(c) Exercise cut-off time. Option holders have until 5:30 p.m. Eastern Time on the business day of expiration, or, in the case of an option contract expiring on a day that is not a business day, on the business day immediately prior to the expiration date, to make a final decision to exercise or not exercise an expiring option. Participants may not accept exercise instructions for customer or non-customer accounts after 5:30 p.m. Eastern Time.

(d) Submission of Contrary Exercise Advices. A Contrary Exercise Advice is a communication either: (i) to not exercise an option that would be automatically exercised under the Clearing Corporation's Ex-by-Ex procedure, or (ii) to exercise an option that

would not be automatically exercised under the Clearing Corporation's Ex-by-Ex procedure.

A Contrary Exercise Advice may be submitted by a Participant by using the Clearing Corporation's ENCORE system, a Contrary Exercise Advice form of any other national securities exchange of which the firm is a Participant and where the option is listed, or such other method as the Exchange may prescribe. A Contrary Exercise Advice may be canceled by filing an Advice Cancel at any time up to the submission cut-off times specified below.

For customer accounts, Participants have until 7:30 p.m. Eastern Time to submit a Contrary Exercise Advice to the Exchange.

For noncustomer accounts, Participants have until 7:30 p.m. Eastern Time to submit a Contrary Exercise Advice to the Exchange if such Participant employs an electronic submission procedure with time stamp for the submission of exercise instructions by option holders. Participants are required to manually submit a Contrary Exercise Advice by 5:30 p.m. for non-customer accounts if such Participants do not employ an electronic submission procedure with time stamp for the submission of exercise instructions by option holders.

(e) If the Clearing Corporation has waived the Ex-by-Ex procedure for an options class, Participants must either:

(1) submit to the Exchange, a Contrary Exercise Advice, in a manner specified by the Exchange, within the time limits specified in paragraph (d) above if the holder intends to exercise the option; or

(2) take no action and allow the option to expire without being exercised. In cases where the Ex-by-Ex procedure has been waived, the Rules of the Clearing Corporation require that Participants wishing to exercise such options must submit an affirmative Exercise Notice to the Clearing Corporation, whether or not a Contrary Exercise Advice has been filed with the Exchange.

(f) A Participant that has accepted the responsibility to indicate final exercise decisions on behalf of another Participant or non-Participant broker-dealer shall take the necessary steps to ensure that such decisions are properly indicated to the Exchange. Such Participant may establish a processing cut-off time prior to the Exchange's exercise cut-off time at which it will no longer accept final exercise decisions in expiring options from option holders for whom it indicates final exercise decisions. Each Participant that indicates final exercise decisions through another broker-dealer is responsible for ensuring that final exercise decisions for all of its proprietary (including market maker) and public customer account positions are indicated in a timely manner to such broker-dealer.



(g) Notwithstanding the foregoing, Participants may make final exercise decisions after the exercise cutoff time but prior to expiration without having submitted a Contrary Exercise Advice in the circumstances listed below. A memorandum setting forth the circumstance giving rise to instructions after the exercise cutoff time shall be maintained by the Participant and a copy thereof shall be filed with the Exchange no later than 12:00 noon Eastern Time on the first business day following the respective expiration. An exercise decision after the exercise cut-off time may be made:

(1) in order to remedy mistakes or errors made in good faith; or

(2) where exceptional circumstances have restricted an option holder's ability to inform a Participant of a decision regarding exercise, or a Participant's ability to receive an option holder's decision by the cut-off time. The burden of establishing any of the above exceptions rests solely on the Participant seeking to rely on such exceptions.

(h) In the event the Exchange provides advance notice on or before 5:30 p.m. Eastern Time on the business day immediately prior to the business day of their expiration, or, in the case of an option contract expiring on a day that is not a business day, the second business day immediately prior to the expiration date indicating that a modified time for the close of trading in equity options on such business day of expiration, or, in the case of an option contract expiring on a day that is not a business day, such last business day before expiration will occur, then the deadline to make a final decision to exercise or not exercise an expiring option shall be 1 hour 30 minutes following the time announced for the close of trading on that day instead of the 5:30 p.m. Eastern Time deadline found in Paragraph (c) of this Section 101. However, Participants have until 7:30 Eastern Time to deliver a Contrary Exercise Advice or Advice Cancel to the Exchange for customer accounts and noncustomer accounts where such Participant employs an electronic submission procedure with time stamp for the submission of exercise instructions. For non-customer accounts, Participants that do not employ an electronic procedure with time stamp for the submission of exercise instructions are required to deliver a Contrary Exercise Advice or Advice Cancel within 1 hour and 30 minutes following the time announced for the close of trading on that day instead of the 5:30 p.m. Eastern Time deadline found in Paragraph (d) of this Section 101.

(i) Modification of cut-off time.

(1) The Exchange may establish extended cut-off times for decision to exercise or not exercise an expiring option and for the submission of Contrary Exercise Advices on a case-by-case basis due to unusual circumstances. For purposes of this subparagraph (i)(1), an "unusual circumstance" includes, but is not limited to, increased market volatility; significant order imbalances; significant volume surges and/or systems capacity constraints; significant spreads between the bid and offer in underlying securities; internal system malfunctions affecting the ability to disseminate or update market bids and offers and/or execute or route orders; or other similar occurrences.

(2) The Exchange with at least one (1) business day prior advance notice, by 12:00 noon on such day, may establish a reduced cut-off time for the decision to exercise or not exercise an expiring option and for the submission of Contrary Exercise Advices on a case-by-case basis due to unusual circumstances; provided, however, that under no circumstances should the exercise cut-off time and the time for submission of a Contrary Exercise Advice be before the close of trading. For purposes of this subparagraph (i) (2), an "unusual circumstance" includes, but is not limited to, a significant news announcement concerning the underlying security of an option contract that is scheduled to be released just after the close on the business day the option contract expires, or, in the case of an option contract expiring on a day that is not a business day, the business day immediately prior to expiration.

(j) Submitting or preparing an exercise instruction, contrary exercise advice or advice cancel after the applicable exercise cut-off time in any expiring options on the basis of material information released after the cut-off time is activity inconsistent with just and equitable principles of trade.

(k) The failure of any Participant to follow the procedures in this Section 101 may result in the assessment of a fine, which may include but is not limited to disgorgement of potential economic gain obtained or loss avoided by the subject exercise, as determined by the Exchange.

(l) Clearing Participants must follow the procedures of the Clearing Corporation when exercising American-style cash-settled index options contracts issued or to be issued in any account at the Clearing Corporation. Options Participants must also follow the procedures set forth below with respect to American-style cash-settled index options:

(1) For all contracts exercised by the Options Participant or by any customer of the Options Participant, an "exercise advice" must be delivered by the Options Participant in such form or manner prescribed by the Exchange no later than 4:20 p.m. Eastern Time, or if trading hours are extended or modified in the applicable options class, no later than five (5) minutes after the close of trading on that day.

(2) Subsequent to the delivery of an "exercise advice," should the Options Participant or a customer of the Options Participant determine not to exercise all or part of the advised contracts, the Options Participant must also deliver an "advice cancel" in such form or manner prescribed by the Exchange no later than 4:20 p.m. Eastern Time, or if trading hours are extended or modified in the applicable options class, no later than five (5) minutes after the close of trading on that day.

(3) The Exchange may determine to extend the applicable deadline for the delivery of "exercise advice" and "advice cancel" notifications pursuant to this paragraph (l) if unusual circumstances are present.

(4) No Options Participant may prepare, time stamp or submit an "exercise advice" prior to the purchase of the contracts to be exercised if the Options Participant knew or had reason to know that the contracts had not yet been purchased.

(5) The failure of any Options Participant to follow the procedures in this paragraph (1) may result in the assessment of a fine, which may include but is not limited to disgorgement of potential economic gain obtained or loss avoided by the subject exercise, as determined by the Exchange.

(6) Preparing or submitting an "exercise advice" or "advice cancel" after the applicable deadline on the basis of material information released after such deadline, in addition to constituting a violation of this Rule, is activity inconsistent with just and equitable principles of trade.

(7) The procedures set forth in subparagraphs (1)-(2) of this subparagraph (1) do not apply (A) on the business day prior to expiration in series expiring on a day other than a business day or (B) on the expiration day in series expiring on a business day.

(8) Exercises of American-style, cash-settled index options (and the submission of corresponding "exercise advice" and "advice cancel" forms) shall be prohibited during any time when trading in such options is delayed, halted, or suspended, subject to the following exceptions:

(A) The exercise of an American-style, cash-settled index option may be processed and given effect in accordance with and subject to the rules of the Clearing Corporation while trading in the option is delayed, halted, or suspended if it can be documented, in a form prescribed by the Exchange, that the decision to exercise the option was made during allowable time frames prior to the delay, halt, or suspension.

(B) Exercises of expiring American-style, cash-settled index options shall not be prohibited on the business day of expiration, or in the case of index option contracts expiring on a day that is not a business day, the last business day prior to their expiration.

(C) Exercises of American-style, cash-settled index options shall not be prohibited during a trading halt that occurs at or after 4:00 p.m. Eastern Time. In the event of such a trading halt, exercises may occur through 4:20 p.m. Eastern Time. In addition, if trading resumes following such a trading halt (pursuant to the procedure described in Section 8 of Chapter V of these Rules (Opening the Market)), exercises may occur during the resumption of trading and for five (5) minutes after the close of the resumption of trading. The provisions of this subparagraph (3) are subject to the authority of the Exchange to impose restrictions on transactions and exercises pursuant to Section 14 of Chapter III of these Rules (Limit on Outstanding Uncovered Short Positions).

(D) The Exchange may determine to permit the exercise of American-style, cash-settled index options while trading in such options is delayed, halted, or suspended.

### **Commentary**

.01 For purposes of this Section 101, the terms "customer account" and "non-customer account" have the same meaning as defined in the Clearing Corporation By-Laws Article I(C)(28) and Article I(N)(2), respectively

.02 Each Participant shall prepare a memorandum of every exercise instruction received showing the time when such instruction was so received. Such memoranda shall be subject to the requirements of SEC Rule 17a-4(b).

.03 Reserved.

.04 Each Participant shall establish fixed procedures to insure secure time stamps in connection with their electronic systems employed for the recording of submissions to exercise or not exercise expiring options.

.05 The filing of a Contrary Exercise Advice required by this Section 101 does not serve to substitute as the effective notice to the Clearing Corporation for the exercise or non-exercise of expiring options.

### **Section 102 Allocation of Exercise Notices**

(a) Each Options Participant shall establish fixed procedures for the allocation of exercise notices assigned in respect of a short position in such Options Participant's customers' accounts. The allocation shall be on a "first in, first out," or automated random selection basis that has been approved by the Exchange, or on a manual random selection basis that has been specified by the Exchange. Each Options Participant shall inform its customers in writing of the method it uses to allocate exercise notices to its customers' account, explaining its manner of operation and the consequences of that system.

(b) Each Options Participant shall report its proposed method of allocation to the Exchange and obtain the Exchange's prior approval thereof, and no Options Participant shall change its method of allocation unless the change has been reported to and approved by the Exchange. The requirements of this paragraph shall not be applicable to allocation procedures submitted to and approved by another SRO having comparable standards pertaining to methods of allocation.

(c) Each Options Participant shall preserve for a three-year period sufficient work papers and other documentary materials relating to the allocation of exercise notices to establish the manner in which allocation of such exercise notices is in fact being accomplished.

### **Section 103 Delivery and Payment**

(a) Delivery of the underlying security upon the exercise of an options contract, and payment of the aggregate exercise price in respect thereof, shall be in accordance with the Rules of the Clearing Corporation.

(b) As promptly as possible after the exercise of an options contract by a customer, the Options Participant shall require the customer to make full cash payment of the aggregate exercise price in the case of a call options contract, or to deposit the underlying security in the case of a put options contract, or to make the required margin deposit in respect thereof if the transaction is effected in a margin account, in accordance with the Rules of the Exchange, the provisions of Chapter XIII of these Rules, and the applicable regulations of the Federal Reserve Board.

(c) As promptly as practicable after the assignment to a customer of an exercise notice the Options Participant shall require the customer to deposit the underlying security in the case of a call options contract if the underlying security is not carried in the customer's account, or to make full cash payment of the aggregate exercise price in the case of a put options contract, or in either case to deposit the required margin in respect thereof if the transaction is effected in a margin account, in accordance with the Rules of the Exchange, the provisions of Chapter XIII of these Rules, and the applicable regulations of the Federal Reserve Board.

(d) In accordance with the applicable rules of The Options Clearing Corporation ("OCC"), upon exercise of an in-the-money U.S. Dollar-Settled Foreign Currency option structured as a call, the holder receives, from OCC, U.S. dollars representing the difference between the exercise strike price and the closing settlement value of the U.S. Dollar-Settled Foreign Currency options contract multiplied by the number of units of currency covered by the contract. For a U.S. Dollar-Settled Foreign Currency option structured as a put, the holder receives U.S. dollars representing the excess of the exercise price over the closing settlement value of the U.S. Dollar- Settled Foreign Currency option contract multiplied by the number of units of foreign currency covered by the contract.

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