A proposed rule change to amend the fees assessed under Rule 7015(h).

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 * Sean  
Last Name * Bennett

Title * Associate General Counsel

E-mail * sean.bennett@nasdaqomx.com

Telephone * (301) 978-8499  
Fax (301) 978-8472

Signature

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

Edward S Knight, Executive Vice President and General Counsel

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.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Form 19b-4 Information *</th>
<th>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.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Add Remove View</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exhibit 1 - Notice of Proposed Rule Change *</td>
<td>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)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Add Remove View</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exhibit 2 - Notices, Written Comments, Transcripts, Other Communications</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Add Remove View</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exhibit 3 - Form, Report, or Questionnaire</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Add Remove View</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exhibit 4 - Marked Copies</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Add Remove View</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exhibit 5 - Proposed Rule Text</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Add Remove View</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Partial Amendment</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1. **Text of the Proposed Rule Change**

   (a) Pursuant to the provisions of Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (“Act”)\(^1\) and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,\(^2\) The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC (“NASDAQ” or the “Exchange”) is filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“Commission”) a proposed rule change to amend the fees assessed under Rule 7015(h).

   The text of the proposed rule change is below. Proposed new language is underlined; proposed deletions are in brackets. NASDAQ will begin assessing the fee on May 1, 2013.

   * * * * *

   **7015. Access Services**

   The following charges are assessed by Nasdaq for connectivity to systems operated by NASDAQ, including the Nasdaq Market Center, the FINRA/NASDAQ Trade Reporting Facility, and FINRA's OTCBB Service. The following fees are not applicable to the NASDAQ Options Market LLC. For related options fees for Access Services refer to Chapter XV, Section 3 of the Options Rules.

   (a) – (g) No change.

   (h) **VTE Terminal Fees**

      • Each ID is subject to a minimum commission fee of $250\([125]\) per month unless it executes a minimum of 100,000 shares.

      • Each ID receiving market data is subject to pass-through fees for use of these services. Pricing for these services is determined by the exchanges and/or market center.

      • Each ID that is given web access is subject to a $250\([125]\) monthly fee.

   * * * * *

   (b) Not applicable.

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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 NASDAQ on July 10, 2012. NASDAQ staff will advise the Board of Directors of NASDAQ of any action taken pursuant to delegated authority. No other action by the Exchange is necessary for the filing of the rule change.

Questions regarding this rule filing may be directed to T. Sean Bennett, Associate General Counsel, The NASDAQ OMX Group, Inc., at (301) 978-8499 (telephone) or (301) 978-8472 (fax).

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

a. Purpose

NASDAQ is proposing to increase the fees assessed members under Rule 7015(h) for use of VTE terminals. A VTE terminal is a basic front-end user interface used by NASDAQ members to connect to, and enter orders in, The Nasdaq Market Center. Members using VTE terminals pay the exchanges and market centers separately for data feeds and services provided by NASDAQ, other exchanges or market centers through VTE. Such fees are filed with the SEC and separately assessed by the exchanges and market centers at the same rate irrespective of the method of accessing the data feeds. These data feeds provide information that is necessary for users to enter orders through VTE. The two fees assessed under Rule 7015(h) relate to optional web access and commissions.
Rule 7015(h) currently assesses monthly a minimum commission fee of $125 per ID for users executing orders totaling less than 100,000 shares per month, and a web access fee of $125 per ID. NASDAQ last increased fees assessed under Rule 7015(h) in 2011 when it raised the fee for access to the terminal via the web from $100 monthly to $125 monthly, and raised the minimum commission fee for users executing orders totaling less than 100,000 shares per month from $100 monthly to $125 monthly. In light of increasing costs, NASDAQ is proposing to increase the fee for access to the terminal via the web from $125 monthly to $250 monthly, and increase the minimum commission fee for users executing orders totaling less than 100,000 shares per month from $125 monthly to $250 monthly.

NASDAQ notes that web connectivity is one option available to NASDAQ users for accessing the VTE terminal. Another option is access through extranet connectivity, where a user contracts directly with a third-party extranet provider and pays fees to that provider. With respect to minimum commission fees, members that execute total orders above the 100,000 share threshold will continue to not be assessed a commission fee.

Based on NASDAQ’s operation of the VTE since it was acquired from INET, NASDAQ believes that the pricing changes are warranted in order to appropriately balance the demand for the product with increasing platform, overhead and technology infrastructure costs.

b. **Statutory Basis**

The Exchange believes that its proposal is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act.

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in general, and with Section 6(b)(4)\textsuperscript{5} of the Act, in particular. The Exchange believes it is consistent with Section 6(b)(4) of the Act because it provides for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees and other charges among members and issuers and other persons using any facility or system which the Exchange operates or controls. All similarly situated members are subject to the same fee structure, and access to this NASDAQ service is offered on fair and non-discriminatory terms. As noted, NASDAQ has not increased the fees assessed under Rule 7015(h) since 2011 despite incurring increased costs. The proposed fees may also allow NASDAQ to make a profit to the extent the increasing platform, overhead and technology infrastructure costs are covered. NASDAQ notes that it operates in a highly competitive market in which market participants can readily favor competing venues if they deem fee levels at a particular venue to be excessive. Use of VTE terminals is entirely optional and members can avail themselves of numerous other means of accessing The Nasdaq Market Center. Members are not obligated to subscribe to VTE terminals and may cancel an existing subscription at any time, with the obligation to pay only for full the monthly fee for the month canceled. As such, the Exchange believes that the proposed fees are reasonable.

4. **Self-Regulatory Organization’s Statement on Burden on Competition**

NASDAQ does not believe that the proposed rule change will result in any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act, as amended. The proposed fees merely allow NASDAQ to recapture the increasing platform, overhead and technology infrastructure costs it incurs in support of the service. If such costs are covered, the service may provide NASDAQ with a profit. The fees are

\textsuperscript{5} 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).
applied uniformly among subscribing member firms, which are not compelled to subscribe to the service and may access the information provided through other means. For these reasons, any burden arising from the fees is necessary in the interest of promoting the equitable allocation of a reasonable fee.

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.

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)**

   Pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(ii) of the Act, NASDAQ has designated this proposal as establishing or changing a due, fee, or other charge imposed by the self-regulatory organization on any person, whether or not the person is a member of the self-regulatory organization, which renders the proposed rule change effective upon filing.

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

   The proposed rule change is not based on the rules of another self-regulatory organization or of the Commission.

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

   Not applicable.

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

    Not applicable.

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11. **Exhibits**

   1. Completed notice of proposed rule change for publication in the *Federal Register*. 

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (“Act”),¹ and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,² notice is hereby given that on April 24, 2013 The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC (“NASDAQ” or the “Exchange”) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“Commission”) a 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

NASDAQ is proposing to amend the fees assessed under Rule 7015(h).

NASDAQ will implement the amended fees effective on May 1, 2013.

The text of the proposed rule change is below. Proposed new language is underlined; proposed deletions are in brackets.

* * * * *

7015. Access Services

The following charges are assessed by Nasdaq for connectivity to systems operated by NASDAQ, including the Nasdaq Market Center, the FINRA/NASDAQ Trade Reporting

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Facility, and FINRA's OTCBB Service. The following fees are not applicable to the NASDAQ Options Market LLC. For related options fees for Access Services refer to Chapter XV, Section 3 of the Options Rules.

(a) – (g) No change.

**VTE Terminal Fees**

- Each ID is subject to a minimum commission fee of $250 per month unless it executes a minimum of 100,000 shares.
- Each ID receiving market data is subject to pass-through fees for use of these services. Pricing for these services is determined by the exchanges and/or market center.
- Each ID that is given web access is subject to a $250 monthly fee.

* * * * *

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

In its filing with the Commission, NASDAQ 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 those 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 parts of such statements.
A. Self-Regulatory Organization’s Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

1. Purpose

NASDAQ is proposing to increase the fees assessed members under Rule 7015(h) for use of VTE terminals. A VTE terminal is a basic front-end user interface used by NASDAQ members to connect to, and enter orders in, The Nasdaq Market Center. Members using VTE terminals pay the exchanges and market centers separately for data feeds and services provided by NASDAQ, other exchanges or market centers through VTE. Such fees are filed with the SEC and separately assessed by the exchanges and market centers at the same rate irrespective of the method of accessing the data feeds. These data feeds provide information that is necessary for users to enter orders through VTE. The two fees assessed under Rule 7015(h) relate to optional web access and commissions.

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Based on NASDAQ’s operation of the VTE since it was acquired from INET, NASDAQ believes that the pricing changes are warranted in order to appropriately balance the demand for the product with increasing platform, overhead and technology infrastructure costs.

2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that its proposal is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act in general, and with Section 6(b)(4) of the Act, in particular. The Exchange believes it is consistent with Section 6(b)(4) of the Act because it provides for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees and other charges among members and issuers and other persons using any facility or system which the Exchange operates or controls. All similarly situated members are subject to the same fee structure, and access to this NASDAQ service is offered on fair and non-discriminatory terms. As noted, NASDAQ has not increased the fees assessed under Rule 7015(h) since 2011 despite incurring increased costs. The proposed fees may also allow NASDAQ to make a profit to the extent the

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increasing platform, overhead and technology infrastructure costs are covered.

NASDAQ notes that it operates in a highly competitive market in which market participants can readily favor competing venues if they deem fee levels at a particular venue to be excessive. Use of VTE terminals is entirely optional and members can avail themselves of numerous other means of accessing The Nasdaq Market Center. Members are not obligated to subscribe to VTE terminals and may cancel an existing subscription at any time, with the obligation to pay only for full the monthly fee for the month canceled. As such, the Exchange believes that the proposed fees are reasonable.

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

NASDAQ does not believe that the proposed rule change will result in any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act, as amended. The proposed fees merely allow NASDAQ to recapture the increasing platform, overhead and technology infrastructure costs it incurs in support of the service. If such costs are covered, the service may provide NASDAQ with a profit. The fees are applied uniformly among subscribing member firms, which are not compelled to subscribe to the service and may access the information provided through other means. For these reasons, any burden arising from the fees is necessary in the interest of promoting the equitable allocation of a reasonable fee.

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

Written comments were neither solicited nor received.
III. Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission Action

The foregoing change has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act, and paragraph (f) of Rule 19b-4, thereunder. 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.

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:

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. Please include File Number SR-NASDAQ-2013-072 on the subject line.

Paper comments:

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

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-NASDAQ-2013-072. This file number should be included on the subject line if e-mail is used.

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7 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)
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 on official business days between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Copies of such filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal offices 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-NASDAQ-2013-072, 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.8

Kevin M. O’Neill
Deputy Secretary