will also be collected on a same-day basis and DTC is adding language to the Settlement Service Guide in this regard. In addition, DTC is adding language to the Settlement Service Guide to clarify that the relevant Guide provisions shall apply only to the calculation and collection of DTC Participants Fund deposits, as described in the Guide, and do not supersede or limit any provisions of the DTC Rules or any rights of DTC in accordance with applicable law and DTC’s Rules and Procedures, including but not limited to transactions in securities and money payments.

Finally, DTC is making certain clarifying and technical changes to the language as set forth in the “Participants Fund” section of its Settlement Service Guide, including (i) updating the description of the purpose of the Participants Fund, (ii) updating the use of defined terms, such as “Participant,” and (iii) updating and adding subject headings.

III. Discussion

Section 19(b)(2)(C) of the Act directs the Commission to approve a proposed rule change of a self-regulatory organization if it finds that such proposed rule change is consistent with the requirements of the Act and the rules and regulations thereunder applicable to such organization. Section 17A(b)(3)(F) of the Act requires that, among other things, “[t]he rules of the clearing agency are designed to promote the prompt and accurate clearance and settlement of securities transactions and . . . to assure the safeguarding of securities and funds which are in the custody or control of the clearing agency or for which it is responsible.” Furthermore, Commission Rule 17Ad–22(d)(11) regarding default procedures, adopted as part of the Clearing Agency Standards, requires that registered clearing agencies “establish, implement, maintain and enforce written policies and procedures reasonably designed to, as applicable: . . . establish default procedures that ensure that the clearing agency can take timely action to contain losses and liquidity pressures and to continue meeting its obligations in the event of a participant default.”

Here, as described above, DTC’s proposed rule change to accelerate collection of increases in Participants’ Required Participants Fund Deposits in certain circumstances from two business
days to the same day that the Participant is notified of the increase should, generally, help further safeguard the securities and settlement process as a whole, as required by Section 17A(b)(3)(F) of the Act. Since DTC will have access to the required funds, which are calculated by an established formula, more quickly. More specifically, this rule change should help improve DTC’s ability to take timely action to contain losses and liquidity pressures and to continue meeting its obligations in the event of a Participant default, as required by Commission Rule 17Ad–22(d)(11), by providing DTC with funds likely necessary to contain such losses and liquidity pressures in the event of a defaulting Participant.

IV. Conclusion

On the basis of the foregoing, the Commission finds the Proposed Rule Change is consistent with the requirements of the Act, particularly with the requirements of Section 17A of the Act, and the rules and regulations thereunder.

It is therefore ordered, pursuant to Section 19(b)(2) of the Act, that the proposed rule change SR–DTC–2013–01 be and hereby is approved.

For the Commission by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.

Kevin M. O’Neill,
Deputy Secretary.

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION


Self-Regulatory Organizations; The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change To Amend Rule 4120 To Adopt aModification in the Process for Initiating Trading of a Security That Is the Subject of a Trading Halt or Pause on NASDAQ

May 13, 2013.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the


NASDAD proposes to amend Rule 4120 to adopt a modification in the process for initiating trading of a security that is the subject of a trading halt or pause on NASDAQ, and to make several additional modifications to Rule 4120 to clarify the conditions under which NASDAQ will conduct a halt cross. NASDAQ proposes to implement the proposed rule change on a date that is on, or shortly after, the 30th day following the date of the filing. The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Exchange’s Web site at http://www.nasdaq.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. 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

In 2012, NASDAQ modified its process for commencing trading of a security that is the subject of an initial public offering (an “IPO”) on NASDAQ by allowing market participants to enter orders to be held in an undisplayed state until the commencement of the Display-Only Period that occurs prior to

the IPO. NASDAQ is now proposing a similar change with regard to entering orders prior to the end of other trading halts or pauses on NASDAQ. Rule 4120(a) describes the circumstances under which NASDAQ has the authority to initiate a trading halt. As detailed in Rule 4120(a), the specific bases for a halt include the following:

- A halt to permit the dissemination of material news with respect to a NASDAQ-listed security (Rule 4120(a)(1));
- A halt when a security listed on another national securities exchange is halted to permit dissemination of news (Rule 4120(a)(2)) or due to an order imbalance or influx (Rule 4120(a)(3));
- A halt in an American Depository Receipt (“ADR”) or other security listed on Nasdaq, when the Nasdaq-listed security or the security underlying the ADR is listed on or registered with another national or foreign securities exchange or market, and the regulatory authority overseeing such exchange or market halts trading in such security for regulatory reasons (Rule 4120(a)(4));
- A halt when Nasdaq requests from the issuer information relating to material news or the issuer’s ability to meet Nasdaq listing qualification requirements, or any other information necessary to protect investors and the public interest (Rule 4120(a)(5));
- A halt trading in a security listed on NASDAQ when extraordinary market activity in the security is occurring. NASDAQ determines that the activity is likely to have a material effect on the market for the security, and NASDAQ believes that the activity is caused by the misuse or malfunction of an electronic quotation, communication, reporting, or execution system (Rule 4120(a)(6));
- A halt with respect to an index warrant when deemed appropriate in the interests of a fair and orderly market and to protect investors (Rule 4120(a)(8));
- A halt in a series of Portfolio Depository Receipts, Index Fund Shares or Managed Fund Shares listed on Nasdaq if the Intraday Indicative Value or the index value applicable to that series is not being disseminated as required (Rule 4120(b)(9));
- A halt in a Derivative Securities Product (as defined in Rule 4120(b)(4)(A)) for which a net asset value (“NAV”) or a Disclosed Portfolio is disseminated if Nasdaq becomes aware that the NAV or Disclosed Portfolio is not being disseminated to all

market participants at the same time (Rule 4120(a)(10));
- A trading pause with respect to NASDAQ-listed stocks that are not subject to the Limit Up-Limit Down Plan and that are experiencing certain large price movements, as defined by Rule 4120(a)(11), or with respect to a NASDAQ-listed stock that is subject to the Limit Up-Limit Down Plan and that is in a “straddle state,” as defined by Rule 4120(a)(12)(F); and
- A trading halt in a Derivative Security Product traded pursuant to unlisted trading privileges for which a “Required Value,” such as an intraday indicative value or disclosed portfolio, is not being disseminated, under the conditions described in Rule 4120(b).5

Rule 4120(c)(7) provides that in the case of a halt under Rule 4120(a)(1), (4), (5), (6), (9), (10), or (11), or Rule 4120(b), prior to terminating the halt, there is a 5-minute Display-Only Period during which market participants may enter quotes and orders to the NASDAQ Market Center. At the conclusion of the Display-Only Period, trading commences through the halt cross process provided for in Rule 4753.6 However, if at the end of a Display-Only Period, NASDAQ detects an order imbalance in the security, the halt may be extended for an additional Display-Only Period of one minute. NASDAQ notes that the purpose of the halt cross is to establish a consensus price for the resumption of trading of securities for which NASDAQ is the primary listing market. Accordingly, NASDAQ does not believe that it is warranted to conduct a halt cross for securities listed on other exchanges. Accordingly, NASDAQ is removing the reference to Rule 4120(b) from Rule 4120(c), since Rule 4120(b) pertains solely to halts of securities traded on an unlisted traded privileges (“UTP”) basis. In addition, since halts under Rule 4120(a)(10) may pertain either to securities listed on NASDAQ or securities traded on a UTP basis, NASDAQ is further amending the rule to clarify that a halt cross is conducted only for securities listed on NASDAQ. Finally, since Rule 4120(a)(12)(F) contemplates a halt cross for a NASDAQ-listed security subject to the Limit Up-Limit Down Plan that is in a straddle state, NASDAQ is adding a reference to this provision to Rule 4120(c)(7).

Halts for securities not listed on NASDAQ are terminated at the time specified by NASDAQ, and a halt cross is not performed prior to resumption of trading. Under the current process, quotes and orders in a halted security (with the exception of a security halted for an IPO) may not be entered until the commencement of the Display-Only Period, in the instance of a security for which a halt cross will occur, or until the resumption of trading in other instances. However, NASDAQ believes that the quality of its process for commencing trading in the halted security would be enhanced by allowing market participants to enter orders to be held but not displayed until the beginning of the Display-Only Period, in the instances of a security for which a halt cross will occur, or until the resumption of trading in other instances.7 Specifically, NASDAQ believes that this change will provide for a greater number of orders being entered prior to commencement of trading, resulting in a higher level of order interaction in the cross or at the resumption of trading.8 Orders entered in this manner will be held in a suspended state until the beginning of the Display-Only Period or the resumption of trading, as applicable, at which time they will be entered into the system. Market participants may cancel orders entered in this manner in the same way they would cancel any other order. Orders entered prior to the Display-Only Period or the resumption of trading, as applicable, will be rejected unless they are designated for holding.


4 Rule 4120 provides for a halt when a security is the subject of an IPO on NASDAQ (Rule 4120(a)(7)). Entry of orders during an IPO halt was addressed in a prior proposed rule change. See supra n.3.

5 Rule 4120 also provides for a Display-Only Period and a halt cross in the case of a halt under Rule 4120(b). Since that rule applies only to securities traded on an unlisted trading privileges (“UTP”) basis, NASDAQ believes that it is not necessary to conduct a halt cross prior to resumption of trading, consistent with other halts applicable to securities that are traded on a UTP basis. Accordingly, the rule is being amended to remove the reference to Rule 4120(b) from the provision of the rule that requires a cross for the resumption of trading.

6 NASDAQ notes that in the case of a trading pause under Rule 4120(a)(11) or (12), the Display-Only Period commences at the same time as the trading pause. Accordingly, the proposed rule change does not alter the status quo with respect to such trading pauses. Rather, the proposed rule change provides that “in instances where a trading halt is effect prior to the commencement of the Display Only Period, market participants may enter orders in a security that is the subject of the trading halt on Nasdaq and designate such orders to be held until the beginning of the Display Only Period.”
With respect to halts for which a halt cross will not occur, the orders will be entered into the continuous market once trading resumes.\(^9\) With respect to halts for which a cross will occur, the orders will be processed in the manner provided for in Rule 4753.

2. Statutory Basis

NASDAQ believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the provisions of Section 6 of the Act,\(^10\) in general, and with Section 6(b)(5) of the Act,\(^11\) in particular, that the proposal is designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to foster cooperation and coordination with persons engaged in regulating, clearing, settling, processing information with respect to, and facilitating transactions in securities, 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. Specifically, NASDAQ believes that the change to allow entry of quotes and orders for holding during a trading halt will provide for a greater number of orders being entered prior to commencement of trading, resulting in a higher level of order interaction in the re-opening process. Thus, NASDAQ believes that the change will remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market. NASDAQ further believes that the proposed change to clarify that halt crosses will not be conducted for the resumption of trading in securities traded on a UTP basis is consistent with the halt cross’s purpose of establishing a consensus price for the resumption of trading of securities for which NASDAQ is the primary listing market. Because this price is established by the listing market for securities that NASDAQ trades on a UTP basis, NASDAQ believes that conducting a halt cross for such securities is not necessary to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system.

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. Specifically, NASDAQ believes that this change will provide for a greater number of orders being entered prior to commencement of trading, resulting in a higher level of order interaction. NASDAQ believes that this change will promote competition by enhancing the attractiveness of NASDAQ as a trading venue through higher order fill rates and more complete price discovery. Moreover, because the change will not affect the availability or price of goods or services offered by NASDAQ or others, it will not impose any burden on competition.

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

The Exchange has filed the proposed rule change pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(iii) of the Act\(^12\) and Rule 19b–4(f)(6) thereunder.\(^13\) Because the 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 prior to 30 days from the date on which it was filed, or such shorter time as the Commission may designate, if consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest, the proposed rule change has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act and Rule 19b–4(f)(6)(iii) thereunder.

At any time within 60 days of the filing of such 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 email to rule-comments@sec.gov. Please include File Number SR–NASDAQ–2013–073 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–2013–073. This file number should be included on the subject line if email 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 Web site 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 such 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 publicly available. All submissions should refer to File Number SR–NASDAQ–2013–073 and should be submitted on or before June 7, 2013.
For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.14

Elizabeth M. Murphy, Secretary, Commission, dated March 5, 2013 ("CRT Letter"); Letter from David J. Amster, Chief Secretary, Commission, dated March 5, 2013 ("KOR Letter"); Letter from Theodore R. Lazo, Managing Director and Associate General Counsel, Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association to Elizabeth M. Murphy, Secretary, Commission, dated March 18, 2013 ("SIFMA Letter").

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc., Order Approving the Proposed Rule Change, as Modified by Amendment No. 1, To Require Members To Report OTC Equity Transactions As Soon as Practicable, But No Later Than 10 Seconds, Following Execution

May 13, 2013.

I. Introduction

On February 1, 2013, Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc. ("FINRA") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission"), pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act")1 and Rule 19b–4 thereunder,2 a proposed rule change to require that members report over-the-counter ("OTC") transactions in NMS stocks and OTC Equity Securities,3 and cancellations of such transactions, to FINRA as soon as practicable, but no later than 10 seconds, following execution (or cancellation, as applicable). The proposed rule change was published for comment in the Federal Register on February 12, 2013.4

The Commission received five comment letters in response to the proposed rule change.5 On May 7, 2013 FINRA responded to the comment letters and filed Amendment No. 1 to the proposed rule change.6 This order approves the proposed rule change, as modified by Amendment No. 1.

II. Description of the Proposal

FINRA trade reporting rules currently require that members report OTC transactions in NMS stocks and OTC Equity Securities that are executed during the hours that the FINRA Facilities are open within 30 seconds of execution.7 In addition, members must report the cancellation of a trade within 30 seconds of the time of cancellation if the trade is both executed and cancelled on the same day during normal market hours.8 Under current FINRA guidance, members are expected to report transactions as soon as practicable and would violate the rule if they withhold trade reports, e.g., by programming their systems to delay reporting until the last permissible second.9

FINRA proposed to amend its trade reporting rules to require members to report OTC transactions in NMS stocks and OTC Equity Securities as soon as practicable, but no later than 10 seconds, following execution and to report trade cancellations as soon as practicable, but no later than 10 seconds, after the time of cancellation.10

March 5, 2013 ("CFI Letter"); Letter from Manisha Kimmel, Executive Director, Financial Information Forum to Elizabeth M. Murphy, Secretary, Commission, dated March 6, 2013 ("FIF Letter"); and Letter from Theodore R. Lazo, Managing Director and Associate General Counsel, Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association to Elizabeth M. Murphy, Secretary, Commission, dated March 18, 2013 ("SIFMA Letter").

See Letter from Stephanie Dumont, Senior Vice President and Deputy Director of Capital Markets Policy, FINRA to the Commission dated May 7, 2013 ("FINRA Response"). See also Amendment No. 1 dated May 7, 2013 (FINRA proposed to adopt Supplementary Material to provide it will take such factors as the complexity and manual nature of the execution and reporting of the trade into consideration in determining whether "reasonable justification" exists to excuse what otherwise may be deemed to be a pattern or practice of late trade reporting). ("Amendment No. 1"). Because Amendment No. 1 is technical in nature, it is not subject to notice and comment.

See, e.g., FINRA Rules 6282(a), 6380A(a), 6380B(a) and 6622(a).

The TRF's and ORF are open between 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m., and the AD is open between 8:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.


Members must report all cancellations of previously reported transactions; however, where the trade is executed or cancelled outside of normal market hours, the 30-second requirement does not apply to the reporting of the cancellation.


FINRA also is proposing conforming changes to replace the reference to 30 seconds with 10 seconds in the rules relating to the reporting of stop stock and "prior reference price" transactions. See FINRA under the proposed rule change, all transactions not reported within 10 seconds will be marked late (unless expressly subject to a different reporting requirement11 or excluded from the trade reporting rules altogether). In the filing, FINRA stated that it understands that there will be isolated instances where a member is unable to report trades within the time period prescribed by rule, and FINRA will continue to look for a pattern or practice 12 of unexcused late trade reporting before taking action against a member. Pursuant to FINRA Rules 6181 and 6623, unexcused late reporting occurs when there are "repeated reports of executions submitted after the required time period without reasonable justification or exceptional circumstances." The rules also provide that "[e]xceptional circumstances will be determined on a case-by-case basis and may include instances of system failure by a member or service bureau, or unusual market conditions, such as extreme volatility in a security, or in the market as a whole."

FINRA also proposed to adopt Supplementary Material to clarify the requirement that members report trades and trade cancellations “as soon as practicable.” Specifically, the proposed Supplementary Material provides that members must adopt policies and procedures reasonably designed to achieve compliance with this requirement and must program systems to commence the trade reporting process without delay upon execution (or cancellation, as applicable). Where a member has such reasonably designed policies, procedures and systems in place, the member will not be viewed as violating the “as soon as practicable” requirement because of delays in trade reporting that are due to external factors so long as the member does not purposely delay the reporting of the trade. The proposed Supplementary Material also expressly prohibits members from purposely withholding trade reports, e.g., by programming their systems to delay reporting until the last permissible second. FINRA notes that members that engage in a pattern and practice of unexcused late reporting (i.e., reporting later than 10 seconds Rules 6282(a)(4), 6380A(a)(5), 6380B(a)(5) and 6622(a)(5).

For example, the proposed rule change will not amend the reporting requirements applicable to transactions in Restricted Equity Securities, as defined in Rule 6420, effected under Securities Act Rule 144A, which transactions currently are not subject to the 30-second reporting requirement. See Rule 6622(a)(3).

See, e.g., FINRA Rule 6282. See also Amendment No. 1.

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