Required fields are shown with yellow backgrounds and asterisks.

OMB APPROVAL

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Page 1 of *	41		EXCHANGE COMN GTON, D.C. 20549 orm 19b-4		File No.*	SR - 2014 - * 087 Amendments *)
	NASDAQ Stock Market to Rule 19b-4 under the		Act of 1934			
Initial *	Amendment *	Withdrawal	Section 19(b)(2)	Section V	on 19(b)(3)(A) *	Section 19(b)(3)(B) *
1 1101	Extension of Time Period or Commission Action *	Date Expires *		☐ 19b-4(f☐	19b-4(f)(5)	
	proposed change pursuant	to the Payment, Clear Section 806(e)(2) *	ing, and Settlement <i>i</i>	Act of 2010	Security-Based Swa to the Securities Exch Section 3C(b)(2	-
Exhibit 2 Se	_	Exhibit 3 Sent As Paper Do	ocument			
Description Provide a brief description of the action (limit 250 characters, required when Initial is checked *). A proposed rule change to adopt an all-inclusive annual listing fee and modify certain other listing fees.						
Provide th	Information ne name, telephone number to respond to questions an			staff of the self	-regulatory organizatio	n
First Nan	ne * Arnold		Last Name * Golu	b		
Title *	Vice President		Zaot Hamo			
E-mail *	Arnold.Golub@nasda	agomx com				
Telephone * (301) 978-8075						
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.						
	3/26/2014 dward S. Knight		Executive Vice Pres	(Title *) sident and Ge	eneral Counsel	
this form. A	(Name *) king the button at right will digit digital signature is as legally bi nd once signed, this form canno	nding as a physical	Persona Not V	alidated - 138	3935917270,	

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549 For complete Form 19b-4 instructions please refer to the EFFS website. The self-regulatory organization must provide all required information, presented in a Form 19b-4 Information * clear and comprehensible manner, to enable the public to provide meaningful comment on the proposal and for the Commission to determine whether the proposal Remove is consistent with the Act and applicable rules and regulations under the Act. The Notice section of this Form 19b-4 must comply with the guidelines for publication Exhibit 1 - Notice of Proposed Rule Change * 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 Add Remove View 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) The Notice section of this Form 19b-4 must comply with the guidelines for publication **Exhibit 1A- Notice of Proposed Rule** in the Federal Register as well as any requirements for electronic filing as published Change, Security-Based Swap Submission, by the Commission (if applicable). The Office of the Federal Register (OFR) offers or Advance Notice by Clearing Agencies * 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, Copies of notices, written comments, transcripts, other communications. If such Transcripts, Other Communications documents cannot be filed electronically in accordance with Instruction F, they shall be filed in accordance with Instruction G. Remove View Add Exhibit Sent As Paper Document П Exhibit 3 - Form, Report, or Questionnaire 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 Add Remove View referred to by the proposed rule change. Exhibit Sent As Paper Document The full text shall be marked, in any convenient manner, to indicate additions to and **Exhibit 4 - Marked Copies** deletions from the immediately preceding filing. The purpose of Exhibit 4 is to permit Add Remove View 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** 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 Add Remove View of the proposed rule change. If the self-regulatory organization is amending only part of the text of a lengthy **Partial Amendment** 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 Proposed Rule Change

(a) Pursuant to the provisions of Section 19(b)(1) under the Securities Exchange

Act of 1934 ("Act"), and Rule 19b-4 thereunder, The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC

("Nasdaq" or "Exchange") is filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission

("Commission") a proposed rule change to adopt an all-inclusive annual listing fee and modify certain other listing fees. While changes proposed herein are effective upon filing, the Exchange has designated the proposed amendments to be operative on January 1, 2015.

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

- (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 Nasdaq (the "Board") on July 16, 2014. Exchange staff will advise the Board of any action taken pursuant to delegated authority. No other action is necessary for the filing of the proposed rule change. Questions and comments on the proposed rule change may be directed to Arnold Golub, Vice President, The NASDAQ OMX Group, Inc., at (301) 978-8075.

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

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

a. <u>Purpose</u>

Nasdaq proposes to adopt an all-inclusive annual fee, which will simplify billing and provide transparency and certainty to companies as to the annual cost of listing, modify annual fees for listed companies that remain on the existing fee schedule, and clarify certain fee rules.

Nasdaq understands from speaking with listed companies that many companies object to the number and in some cases the variable nature of certain of Nasdaq's listing fees. For example, a company may owe fees when it issues additional shares as a result of events that do not raise money and cannot always be forecasted or budgeted for by the Company, such as the exercise by employees of stock options or the implementation of a reverse stock split. To address such concerns, Nasdaq has determined to create an alternative fee schedule, which eliminates fees related to the issuance of additional shares, record-keeping changes, and substitution listing events, thereby simplifying and clarifying for companies the annual fees to which they are subject. In addition, under this alternative fee structure, Nasdaq will also eliminate the fee for a written interpretation of the listing rules and for review by Nasdaq Staff of a compliance plan. As a result, companies subject to this alternative structure will pay only a single annual fee to Nasdaq, which will include all the ordinary costs of listing for the year.³ This change will

A Company that receives a delisting determination or public reprimand letter must still pay fees for review of that decision by an independent Hearings Panel or the Nasdaq Listing and Hearing Review Council. Companies also will pay application and entry fees to list new classes of securities.

also benefit Nasdaq, by eliminating the multiple invoices that must be sent to a company each year⁴ and providing more certainty as to revenue.

For companies listed on the Capital Market, other than ADRs and Closed-end Funds, the all-inclusive annual fee will range from \$42,000 to \$75,000; for ADRs listed on the Capital Market the all-inclusive annual fee will range from \$37,000 to \$45,000. On the Global and Global Select Markets, the all-inclusive annual fee for companies other than ADRs and Closed-end Funds will range from \$45,000 to \$155,000 and the all-inclusive annual fee for ADRs will range from \$45,000 to \$75,000. The all-inclusive annual fee for Closed-end Funds listed on any market tier will range from \$30,000 to \$100,000. In each case, a company's all-inclusive annual fee will be based on its total shares outstanding.

While this alternative is being introduced in response to feedback from Nasdaq's listed-companies, Nasdaq also understands that this innovation may not be appealing to all companies and therefore proposes to allow currently listed companies the option to switch to the proposed all-inclusive annual fee schedule for 2015 or to wait until 2018, when it will become mandatory for all companies. However, Nasdaq will offer incentives to companies that voluntarily elect the all-inclusive annual fee schedule for 2015. Specifically, any company that chooses to be subject to the all-inclusive annual fee beginning in 2015 will be billed for 2015, 2016 and 2017 based on the lower of its then-current total shares outstanding or the total shares outstanding reflected in information held by Nasdaq as of December 31, 2014. As such, regardless of any increase in the

In addition to the annual fee, companies are also billed quarterly for listing of additional shares fees and upon the occurrence of events that result in record keeping and substitution listing fees.

company's shares outstanding during that time, its all-inclusive annual fee will not increase until at least January 1, 2018. In addition, because Listing of Additional Shares fees are billed based on a company's public filings, shares issued in the last reporting period of 2014 would not ordinarily be billed until the company files its periodic report for that period in 2015. In order to eliminate confusion by companies that elect to pay the all-inclusive annual fee, and therefore believe they would receive only a single bill in 2015 for all listing fees, Nasdaq proposes to forgive the fees for such issuances in the final reporting period of 2014. Nasdaq does not believe that these incentives will have any adverse impact on the amount of funds available for its regulatory programs.

All companies that list after January 1, 2015 will be subject to the proposed all-inclusive annual fee. However, Nasdaq proposes to treat any company that applied to list on Nasdaq prior to January 1, 2015 similarly to a listed-company that elects to be subject to the all-inclusive annual fee. Such an applicant will be billed for 2015, 2016 and 2017 based on the lower of its then-current total shares outstanding or the total shares outstanding reflected in information held by Nasdaq as of the date of listing. As such, regardless of any increase in shares outstanding, the all-inclusive annual listing fee for such companies will not increase, until at least January 1, 2018. Nasdaq believes that this is appropriate, given that these companies will have made their listing decision based on Nasdaq's current fee schedule.

The proposed rule change also raises the annual fees that will be paid by listed companies that remain on the existing fee schedule. The annual fee paid by most Capital

Market companies last increased effective January 1, 2013.⁵ Fees have not been increased on Global Market companies since January 1, 2010. Since then, Nasdag has invested in upgrades to the NASDAQ MarketSite, which houses a state-of-the-art digital broadcast studio and can be utilized as a New York venue by listed companies, and the MarketSite Tower. In addition, Nasdaq has invested in its online tools, including the Listing Center and Reference Library. The Listing Center allows companies to submit their notifications to Nasdaq electronically, using on-line forms that are pre-populated with much of the required information. The Reference Library contains more than 400 frequently asked questions describing the application of the listing rules, and summaries of approximately 450 interpretive letters and decisions of the Nasdaq Listing and Hearing Review Council. These tools, which provide transparency to the application of the listing rules and simplify some burdens of being a listed company, have had approximately 440,000 page views from January 1 to July 31, 2014. As a result, Nasdaq believes it is appropriate to modify its fees to allow continued investment in these initiatives and other innovative ideas that benefit listed companies and enhance the effectiveness of Nasdaq's regulatory program.

The revised annual fees for most companies listed on the Capital Market will range from \$32,000 to \$45,000 based on total shares outstanding, compared with the current \$32,000. The revised annual fees for most companies listed on the Global or

Securities Exchange Act Release No. 68129 (November 1, 2012), 77 FR 66907 (November 7, 2012) (approving SR–NASDAQ–2012–120).

Securities Exchange Act Release No. 61669 (March 5, 2010), 75 FR 11958 (March 12, 2010) (approving SR–NASDAQ–2009–081).

Global Select Markets will range from \$40,000 to \$125,000 based on total shares outstanding, compared with the current range of \$35,000 to \$99,500.⁷

The following charts summarize the current annual fee, the proposed annual fee and the proposed all-inclusive annual fee applicable to domestic and foreign companies, other than ADRs and Closed-end Funds. These schedules apply to over 95% of the companies listed on Nasdaq.

Global/Global Select Markets

Total Shares Outstanding	2014 Annual Fee*	2015 Annual Fee*	2015 All-Inclusive Fee**
Up to 10 million shares	\$35,000	\$40,000	\$45,000
10+ to 50 million shares	\$37,500	\$40,000	\$55,000
50+ to 75 million shares	\$46,500	\$46,500	\$75,000
75+ to 100 million shares	\$68,500	\$69,000	\$100,000
100+ to 125 million shares	\$89,000	\$93,000	\$125,000
125+ to 150 million shares	\$89,000	\$125,000	\$135,000
Over 150 million shares	\$99,500	\$125,000	\$155,000

Capital Market

Total Shares Outstanding	2014 Annual Fee*	2015 Annual Fee*	2015 All-Inclusive Fee**
Up to 10 million shares	\$32,000	\$32,000	\$42,000
10+ to 50 million shares	\$32,000	\$40,000	\$55,000
Over 50 million shares	\$32,000	\$45,000	\$75,000

^{*} Company must also pay Listing of Additional Shares, Record Keeping, Substitution Listing, and certain regulatory fees.

^{**} Company does not pay any additional Listing of Additional Shares, Record Keeping, Substitution Listing, or regulatory fees in connection with its continued listing.

The revised annual fee for companies with ADRs listed on the Capital Market will be \$32,000, for companies with up to 10 million ADRs listed, or \$40,000 for companies with more than 10 million ADRs listed. The revised annual fee for companies with ADRs listed on the Global or Global Select Markets will range from \$40,000 to \$69,000, compared with the current range of \$30,000 to \$50,000. Fees for families of closed-end funds listed on each market tier are the same and will increase from the current range of \$15,000 to \$75,000, based on shares outstanding in the fund family, to a new range of \$22,500 to \$80,000.

Finally, Nasdaq proposes to make certain clarifying changes to the existing rule text. First, Nasdaq proposes to clarify how annual fees (including the proposed allinclusive annual fees) are assessed when a company first lists or transfers between market tiers. Nasdaq also proposes to clarify the application of fee waivers in certain merger situations. As currently drafted, the rule requires that a company apply for a waiver if it is applicable. Nasdaq proposes instead to apply these waivers automatically for all eligible companies. In addition, the proposed rule change would clarify the treatment of the waiver in a case where the company had not yet paid its annual fee. Nasdaq also proposes to delete current IM-5920-1, which provides a waiver for listed securities exempt from registration under Section 12(g) of the Act pursuant to Rule 12g3-2(b). After Nasdaq registered as a national securities exchange, these securities were initially permitted to list pursuant to an exemption from Section 12(a) of the Act. This exemption expired on August 1, 2009, and companies described in the interpretive material can no longer be listed on Nasdaq. Nasdaq also proposes to modify a cross reference to the record keeping fee in Rule 5250(e)(3), since that fee will not be payable by all companies. Last, Nasdaq proposes to remove from the rules certain effective dates that are no longer applicable.

While the changes proposed herein are effective upon filing, Nasdaq has designated that the changes be operative on January 1, 2015. Until January 1, 2015, Nasdaq will maintain the existing, applicable fee schedule in its online manual, and will also display the changes proposed herein as being effective in the future.

Securities Exchange Act Release No. 54241 (July 31, 2006), 71 FR 45359 (August 8, 2006).

b. Statutory Basis

Nasdaq believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the provisions of Section 6 of the Act,⁹ in general and with Sections 6(b)(4) and (5) of the Act,¹⁰ in particular, in that it provides for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees, and other charges among its members, issuers and other persons using its facilities, and does not unfairly discriminate between customers, issuers, brokers or dealers.

As a preliminary matter, Nasdaq competes for listings with other national securities exchanges and companies can easily choose to list on, or transfer to, those alternative venues.¹¹ As a result, the fees Nasdaq can charge listed companies are constrained by the fees charged by its competitors and Nasdaq cannot charge prices in a manner that would be unreasonable, inequitable or unfairly discriminatory.

Nasdaq believes that the proposed all-inclusive annual fees are reasonable because Nasdaq is eliminating multiple fees in favor of a single annual fee for listed companies. Under the proposed fee structure, companies can pay less than they would if they remain on the existing structure and pay annual fees, Listing of Additional Shares fees (which can be as much as \$65,000 annually) or incur Record Keeping or Substitution Listing fees. The proposed all-inclusive annual fees are also not unfairly discriminatory because they affect all similarly situated companies in the same way. This fee will be

⁹ 15 U.S.C. 78f.

¹⁵ U.S.C. 78f(b)(4) and (5).

The Justice Department noted the intense competitive environment for exchange listings. See "NASDAQ OMX Group Inc. and IntercontinentalExchange Inc. Abandon Their Proposed Acquisition Of NYSE Euronext After Justice Department Threatens Lawsuit" (May 16, 2011), available at http://www.justice.gov/atr/public/press releases/2011/271214.htm.

assessed based on a company's shares outstanding, consistent with the way Nasdaq and other national securities exchanges charge fees today, 12 and is not unfairly discriminatory because companies with fewer shares outstanding tend to be smaller companies, which may use fewer of the Exchange's services and be more price sensitive. In addition, while companies may pay separate fees today for certain corporate actions, Record Keeping events, and share issuances, it is not unfairly discriminatory to eliminate those fees because all companies will benefit similarly from that elimination in years where they otherwise would have had to pay these fees. Further, the expenses associated with maintaining the infrastructure to process these share issuances and corporate actions and events is part of Nasdaq's overhead and spreading those costs across all listed companies is not unfairly discriminatory.

The proposed increase to the annual fee is also reasonable based on the enhancements Nasdaq has made since fees were last increased in 2010, for Global and Global Select Market companies, and 2013 for most Capital Market companies. As described above, Nasdaq has invested in upgrades to the NASDAQ MarketSite and MarketSite Tower, and its online tools, including the Listing Center and Reference Library, to the benefit of listed companies. The proposed increase also will help Nasdaq continue to invest in these initiatives and its regulatory programs.

Nasdaq believes that having a lower maximum fee for ADRs under the proposed all-inclusive and standard annual fees is reasonable and not unfairly discriminatory

See NYSE Listed Company Manual Section 902.03 (charging an annual fee per share); NYSE MKT Company Guide Section 141 (charging an annual fee based on tiers of outstanding shares).

See footnotes 5 and 6, supra.

because the U.S. listing is not typically an ADR's primary listing. In addition, because ADRs are foreign private issuers, which currently pay a maximum Listing of Additional Shares fee of \$7,500, it is appropriate to charge ADRs a lower all-inclusive annual fee than a domestic company, which could pay a Listing of Addition Shares fee of up to \$65,000. Similarly, Nasdaq believes that it is appropriate to maintain a separate fee schedule for Closed-end Funds based on their unique characteristics. These companies are particularly sensitive to the expenses they incur, given that they compete for investment dollars based on return. In addition, these funds need to issue shares as a primary means to expand their businesses and raise additional money to invest. As such, Nasdaq already applies a different annual fee and maximum quarterly Listing of Additional Shares fee for these companies, and the proposed rule change maintains a separate, lower fee schedule for them, which is not unfairly discriminatory.

Finally, Nasdaq believes that the proposed fees are consistent with the investor protection objectives of Section 6(b)(5) of the Act¹⁴ in that they are designed to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to remove impediments to a free and open market and national market system, and in general to protect investors and the public interest. Specifically, the fees are designed, in part, to ensure that there are adequate resources for Nasdaq's listing compliance program, which helps to assure that listing standards are properly enforced and investors are protected.

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

¹⁵ U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

Act, as amended. The market for listing services is extremely competitive and listed companies may freely choose alternative venues based on the aggregate fees assessed, and the value provided by each listing. This rule proposal does not burden competition with other listing venues, which are similarly free to set their fees. Further, this proposed rule change would introduce an all-inclusive annual listing fee, which no other market currently offers and which may therefore increase competition with other listing venues. Nasdaq believes that this innovative fee proposal reflects the existing competition between listing venues and will further enhance such competition. For these reasons, Nasdaq does not believe that the proposed rule change will result in any burden on competition for listings.

- 5. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed Rule Change Received from Members, Participants, or Others</u>
 - Written comments were neither solicited nor received.
- 6. <u>Extension of Time Period for Commission Action</u>

Nasdaq does not consent at this time to an extension of the time period for Commission action specified in Section 19(b)(2) of the Act.

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

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(ii) of the Act, ¹⁵ 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.

¹⁵ U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(ii).

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

Not applicable.

- 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.

11. Exhibits

1. Completed notice of proposed rule change for publication in the <u>Federal</u>

Register.

5. Text of the proposed rule change.

EXHIBIT 1

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. ; File No. SR-NASDAQ-2014-087)

August ___, 2014

Self-Regulatory Organizations; The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change to Adopt an All-Inclusive Annual Listing Fee and Modify Certain Other Listing Fees

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 August 26, 2014, The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC ("Nasdaq" 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. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed Rule Change</u>

The Exchange proposes to adopt an all-inclusive annual listing fee and modify certain other listing fees. While these amendments are effective upon filing, the Exchange has designated the proposed amendments to be operative on January 1, 2015.

The text of the proposed rule change is available at http://nasdaq.cchwallstreet.com, at NASDAQ's principal office, and at the Commission's Public Reference Room.

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

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

1. Purpose

Nasdaq proposes to adopt an all-inclusive annual fee, which will simplify billing and provide transparency and certainty to companies as to the annual cost of listing, modify annual fees for listed companies that remain on the existing fee schedule, and clarify certain fee rules.

Nasdaq understands from speaking with listed companies that many companies object to the number and in some cases the variable nature of certain of Nasdaq's listing fees. For example, a company may owe fees when it issues additional shares as a result of events that do not raise money and cannot always be forecasted or budgeted for by the Company, such as the exercise by employees of stock options or the implementation of a reverse stock split. To address such concerns, Nasdaq has determined to create an alternative fee schedule, which eliminates fees related to the issuance of additional shares, record-keeping changes, and substitution listing events, thereby simplifying and clarifying for companies the annual fees to which they are subject. In addition, under this alternative fee structure, Nasdaq will also eliminate the fee for a written interpretation of the listing rules and for review by Nasdaq Staff of a compliance plan. As a result,

companies subject to this alternative structure will pay only a single annual fee to Nasdaq, which will include all the ordinary costs of listing for the year.³ This change will also benefit Nasdaq, by eliminating the multiple invoices that must be sent to a company each year⁴ and providing more certainty as to revenue.

For companies listed on the Capital Market, other than ADRs and Closed-end Funds, the all-inclusive annual fee will range from \$42,000 to \$75,000; for ADRs listed on the Capital Market the all-inclusive annual fee will range from \$37,000 to \$45,000. On the Global and Global Select Markets, the all-inclusive annual fee for companies other than ADRs and Closed-end Funds will range from \$45,000 to \$155,000 and the all-inclusive annual fee for ADRs will range from \$45,000 to \$75,000. The all-inclusive annual fee for Closed-end Funds listed on any market tier will range from \$30,000 to \$100,000. In each case, a company's all-inclusive annual fee will be based on its total shares outstanding.

While this alternative is being introduced in response to feedback from Nasdaq's listed-companies, Nasdaq also understands that this innovation may not be appealing to all companies and therefore proposes to allow currently listed companies the option to switch to the proposed all-inclusive annual fee schedule for 2015 or to wait until 2018, when it will become mandatory for all companies. However, Nasdaq will offer incentives to companies that voluntarily elect the all-inclusive annual fee schedule for

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In addition to the annual fee, companies are also billed quarterly for listing of additional shares fees and upon the occurrence of events that result in record keeping and substitution listing fees.

2015. Specifically, any company that chooses to be subject to the all-inclusive annual fee beginning in 2015 will be billed for 2015, 2016 and 2017 based on the lower of its then-current total shares outstanding or the total shares outstanding reflected in information held by Nasdaq as of December 31, 2014. As such, regardless of any increase in the company's shares outstanding during that time, its all-inclusive annual fee will not increase until at least January 1, 2018. In addition, because Listing of Additional Shares fees are billed based on a company's public filings, shares issued in the last reporting period of 2014 would not ordinarily be billed until the company files its periodic report for that period in 2015. In order to eliminate confusion by companies that elect to pay the all-inclusive annual fee, and therefore believe they would receive only a single bill in 2015 for all listing fees, Nasdaq proposes to forgive the fees for such issuances in the final reporting period of 2014. Nasdaq does not believe that these incentives will have any adverse impact on the amount of funds available for its regulatory programs.

All companies that list after January 1, 2015 will be subject to the proposed all-inclusive annual fee. However, Nasdaq proposes to treat any company that applied to list on Nasdaq prior to January 1, 2015 similarly to a listed-company that elects to be subject to the all-inclusive annual fee. Such an applicant will be billed for 2015, 2016 and 2017 based on the lower of its then-current total shares outstanding or the total shares outstanding reflected in information held by Nasdaq as of the date of listing. As such, regardless of any increase in shares outstanding, the all-inclusive annual listing fee for such companies will not increase, until at least January 1, 2018. Nasdaq believes that this is appropriate, given that these companies will have made their listing decision based on Nasdaq's current fee schedule.

The proposed rule change also raises the annual fees that will be paid by listed companies that remain on the existing fee schedule. The annual fee paid by most Capital Market companies last increased effective January 1, 2013.⁵ Fees have not been increased on Global Market companies since January 1, 2010.⁶ Since then, Nasdaq has invested in upgrades to the NASDAQ MarketSite, which houses a state-of-the-art digital broadcast studio and can be utilized as a New York venue by listed companies, and the MarketSite Tower. In addition, Nasdaq has invested in its online tools, including the Listing Center and Reference Library. The Listing Center allows companies to submit their notifications to Nasdaq electronically, using on-line forms that are pre-populated with much of the required information. The Reference Library contains more than 400 frequently asked questions describing the application of the listing rules, and summaries of approximately 450 interpretive letters and decisions of the Nasdaq Listing and Hearing Review Council. These tools, which provide transparency to the application of the listing rules and simplify some burdens of being a listed company, have had approximately 440,000 page views from January 1 to July 31, 2014. As a result, Nasdaq believes it is appropriate to modify its fees to allow continued investment in these initiatives and other innovative ideas that benefit listed companies and enhance the effectiveness of Nasdaq's regulatory program.

The revised annual fees for most companies listed on the Capital Market will range from \$32,000 to \$45,000 based on total shares outstanding, compared with the

Securities Exchange Act Release No. 68129 (November 1, 2012), 77 FR 66907 (November 7, 2012) (approving SR–NASDAQ–2012–120).

Securities Exchange Act Release No. 61669 (March 5, 2010), 75 FR 11958 (March 12, 2010) (approving SR–NASDAQ–2009–081).

current \$32,000. The revised annual fees for most companies listed on the Global or Global Select Markets will range from \$40,000 to \$125,000 based on total shares outstanding, compared with the current range of \$35,000 to \$99,500.⁷

The following charts summarize the current annual fee, the proposed annual fee and the proposed all-inclusive annual fee applicable to domestic and foreign companies, other than ADRs and Closed-end Funds. These schedules apply to over 95% of the companies listed on Nasdaq.

Global/Global Select Markets

Total Shares Outstanding	2014 Annual Fee*	2015 Annual Fee*	2015 All-Inclusive Fee**
Up to 10 million shares	\$35,000	\$40,000	\$45,000
10+ to 50 million shares	\$37,500	\$40,000	\$55,000
50+ to 75 million shares	\$46,500	\$46,500	\$75,000
75+ to 100 million shares	\$68,500	\$69,000	\$100,000
100+ to 125 million shares	\$89,000	\$93,000	\$125,000
125+ to 150 million shares	\$89,000	\$125,000	\$135,000
Over 150 million shares	\$99,500	\$125,000	\$155,000

Capital Market

Total Shares Outstanding	2014 Annual Fee*	2015 Annual Fee*	2015 All-Inclusive Fee**
Up to 10 million shares	\$32,000	\$32,000	\$42,000
10+ to 50 million shares	\$32,000	\$40,000	\$55,000
Over 50 million shares	\$32,000	\$45,000	\$75,000

The revised annual fee for companies with ADRs listed on the Capital Market will be \$32,000, for companies with up to 10 million ADRs listed, or \$40,000 for companies with more than 10 million ADRs listed. The revised annual fee for companies with ADRs listed on the Global or Global Select Markets will range from \$40,000 to \$69,000, compared with the current range of \$30,000 to \$50,000. Fees for families of closed-end funds listed on each market tier are the same and will increase from the current range of \$15,000 to \$75,000, based on shares outstanding in the fund family, to a new range of \$22,500 to \$80,000.

- * Company must also pay Listing of Additional Shares, Record Keeping, Substitution Listing, and certain regulatory fees.
- ** Company does not pay any additional Listing of Additional Shares, Record Keeping, Substitution Listing, or regulatory fees in connection with its continued listing.

Finally, Nasdaq proposes to make certain clarifying changes to the existing rule text. First, Nasdaq proposes to clarify how annual fees (including the proposed allinclusive annual fees) are assessed when a company first lists or transfers between market tiers. Nasdaq also proposes to clarify the application of fee waivers in certain merger situations. As currently drafted, the rule requires that a company apply for a waiver if it is applicable. Nasdaq proposes instead to apply these waivers automatically for all eligible companies. In addition, the proposed rule change would clarify the treatment of the waiver in a case where the company had not yet paid its annual fee. Nasdaq also proposes to delete current IM-5920-1, which provides a waiver for listed securities exempt from registration under Section 12(g) of the Act pursuant to Rule 12g3-2(b). After Nasdaq registered as a national securities exchange, these securities were initially permitted to list pursuant to an exemption from Section 12(a) of the Act.⁸ This exemption expired on August 1, 2009, and companies described in the interpretive material can no longer be listed on Nasdaq. Nasdaq also proposes to modify a cross reference to the record keeping fee in Rule 5250(e)(3), since that fee will not be payable by all companies. Last, Nasdaq proposes to remove from the rules certain effective dates that are no longer applicable.

While the changes proposed herein are effective upon filing, Nasdaq has designated that the changes be operative on January 1, 2015. Until January 1, 2015,

Securities Exchange Act Release No. 54241 (July 31, 2006), 71 FR 45359 (August 8, 2006).

Nasdaq will maintain the existing, applicable fee schedule in its online manual, and will also display the changes proposed herein as being effective in the future.

2. Statutory Basis

Nasdaq believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the provisions of Section 6 of the Act,⁹ in general and with Sections 6(b)(4) and (5) of the Act,¹⁰ in particular, in that it provides for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees, and other charges among its members, issuers and other persons using its facilities, and does not unfairly discriminate between customers, issuers, brokers or dealers.

As a preliminary matter, Nasdaq competes for listings with other national securities exchanges and companies can easily choose to list on, or transfer to, those alternative venues. As a result, the fees Nasdaq can charge listed companies are constrained by the fees charged by its competitors and Nasdaq cannot charge prices in a manner that would be unreasonable, inequitable or unfairly discriminatory.

Nasdaq believes that the proposed all-inclusive annual fees are reasonable because Nasdaq is eliminating multiple fees in favor of a single annual fee for listed companies. Under the proposed fee structure, companies can pay less than they would if they remain on the existing structure and pay annual fees, Listing of Additional Shares fees (which can be as much as \$65,000 annually) or incur Record Keeping or Substitution

⁹ 15 U.S.C. 78f.

¹⁵ U.S.C. 78f(b)(4) and (5).

The Justice Department noted the intense competitive environment for exchange listings. See "NASDAQ OMX Group Inc. and IntercontinentalExchange Inc. Abandon Their Proposed Acquisition Of NYSE Euronext After Justice Department Threatens Lawsuit" (May 16, 2011), available at http://www.justice.gov/atr/public/press releases/2011/271214.htm.

Listing fees. The proposed all-inclusive annual fees are also not unfairly discriminatory because they affect all similarly situated companies in the same way. This fee will be assessed based on a company's shares outstanding, consistent with the way Nasdaq and other national securities exchanges charge fees today, 12 and is not unfairly discriminatory because companies with fewer shares outstanding tend to be smaller companies, which may use fewer of the Exchange's services and be more price sensitive. In addition, while companies may pay separate fees today for certain corporate actions, Record Keeping events, and share issuances, it is not unfairly discriminatory to eliminate those fees because all companies will benefit similarly from that elimination in years where they otherwise would have had to pay these fees. Further, the expenses associated with maintaining the infrastructure to process these share issuances and corporate actions and events is part of Nasdaq's overhead and spreading those costs across all listed companies is not unfairly discriminatory.

The proposed increase to the annual fee is also reasonable based on the enhancements Nasdaq has made since fees were last increased in 2010, for Global and Global Select Market companies, and 2013 for most Capital Market companies. As described above, Nasdaq has invested in upgrades to the NASDAQ MarketSite and MarketSite Tower, and its online tools, including the Listing Center and Reference Library, to the benefit of listed companies. The proposed increase also will help Nasdaq continue to invest in these initiatives and its regulatory programs.

See NYSE Listed Company Manual Section 902.03 (charging an annual fee per share); NYSE MKT Company Guide Section 141 (charging an annual fee based on tiers of outstanding shares).

See footnotes 5 and 6, supra.

Nasdaq believes that having a lower maximum fee for ADRs under the proposed all-inclusive and standard annual fees is reasonable and not unfairly discriminatory because the U.S. listing is not typically an ADR's primary listing. In addition, because ADRs are foreign private issuers, which currently pay a maximum Listing of Additional Shares fee of \$7,500, it is appropriate to charge ADRs a lower all-inclusive annual fee than a domestic company, which could pay a Listing of Addition Shares fee of up to \$65,000. Similarly, Nasdaq believes that it is appropriate to maintain a separate fee schedule for Closed-end Funds based on their unique characteristics. These companies are particularly sensitive to the expenses they incur, given that they compete for investment dollars based on return. In addition, these funds need to issue shares as a primary means to expand their businesses and raise additional money to invest. As such, Nasdaq already applies a different annual fee and maximum quarterly Listing of Additional Shares fee for these companies, and the proposed rule change maintains a separate, lower fee schedule for them, which is not unfairly discriminatory.

Finally, Nasdaq believes that the proposed fees are consistent with the investor protection objectives of Section 6(b)(5) of the Act¹⁴ in that they are designed to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to remove impediments to a free and open market and national market system, and in general to protect investors and the public interest. Specifically, the fees are designed, in part, to ensure that there are adequate resources for Nasdaq's listing compliance program, which helps to assure that listing standards are properly enforced and investors are protected.

¹⁵ U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

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 market for listing services is extremely competitive and listed companies may freely choose alternative venues based on the aggregate fees assessed, and the value provided by each listing. This rule proposal does not burden competition with other listing venues, which are similarly free to set their fees. Further, this proposed rule change would introduce an all-inclusive annual listing fee, which no other market currently offers and which may therefore increase competition with other listing venues. Nasdaq believes that this innovative fee proposal reflects the existing competition between listing venues and will further enhance such competition. For these reasons, Nasdaq does not believe that the proposed rule change will result in any burden on competition for listings.

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

No written comments were either solicited or received.

III. <u>Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission Action</u>

The foregoing rule change has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(ii) of the Act¹⁵ and paragraph (f) of Rule 19b-4 thereunder.¹⁶

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

¹⁵ U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(ii).

¹⁷ CFR 240.19b-4(f).

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 <u>rule-comments@sec.gov</u>. Please include File Number SR-NASDAQ-2014-087 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-2014-087. 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-NASDAQ-2014-087 and should be submitted on or before [insert date 21 days from publication in the <u>Federal Register</u>].

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority. ¹⁷

Kevin M O'Neill Deputy Secretary

¹⁷ CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

EXHIBIT 5

Deleted text is [bracketed]. New text is <u>underlined</u>.

The NASDAQ Stock Market Rules

* * * * *

5250. Obligations for Companies Listed on The Nasdaq Stock Market

(a) - (d) No change.

(e) Nasdaq Notification Requirements

Various corporate events resulting in material changes will trigger the requirement for Companies to submit certain forms and applicable fees to Nasdaq as specified below.

All applicable forms can be found at http://www.nasdaq.com/about/listing information.stm#forms.

(1) – (2) No change.

(3) Record Keeping Change

- (A) The Company shall file on a form designated by Nasdaq notification of any [corporate name change, or other change requiring payment of a record-keeping fee,] change to its name, the par value or title of its security, its symbol, or a similar change, no later than 10 days after the change. The Company shall also pay the appropriate Record-Keeping Fee as referenced in the Rule 5900 Series.
- (B) No change.
- (4) (6) No change.
- (f) No change.

* * * * *

5602. Written Interpretations of Nasdaq Listing Rules

- (a) (b) No change.
- (c) An applicant to Nasdaq that has submitted the applicable entry fee under Rule 5910(a) or Rule 5920(a) will not also be required to submit a fee in connection with a request for a written interpretation involving the applicant's initial listing on Nasdaq. A listed

Company that is subject to the All-Inclusive Annual Listing Fee described in IM-5910-1 or IM-5920-1 is not required to submit a fee in connection with a request for a written interpretation. In addition, a Company is not required to submit a fee in connection with a request for an exception from the Nasdaq shareholder approval rules pursuant to the financial viability exception as described in Rule 5635(f).

(d) - (f) No change.

* * * * *

5810. Notification of Deficiency by the Listing Qualifications Department

* * * * *

- (a) (b) No change.
- (c) Types of Deficiencies and Notifications

The type of deficiency at issue determines whether the Company will be immediately suspended and delisted, or whether it may submit a compliance plan for review or is entitled to an automatic cure or compliance period before a Staff Delisting Determination is issued. In the case of a deficiency not specified below, Staff will issue the Company a Staff Delisting Determination or a Public Reprimand Letter.

(1) No change.

(2) Deficiencies for which a Company may Submit a Plan of Compliance for Staff Review

(A) Unless the Company is currently under review by an Adjudicatory Body for a Staff Delisting Determination, the Listing Qualifications Department may accept and review a plan to regain compliance when a Company is deficient with respect to one of the standards listed in subsections (i) through (iv) below. In accordance with Rule 5810(c)(2)(C), plans provided pursuant to subsections (i) through (iii) below must be provided generally within 45 calendar days, and in accordance with Rule 5810(c)(2)(F), plans provided pursuant to subsection (iv) must be provided generally within 60 calendar days. If a Company that is not subject to the All-Inclusive Annual Listing Fee described in IM-5910-1 or IM-5920-1 submits a plan of compliance under subsections (i), (iii), or (iv)[in response to a staff notification sent after October 15, 2013], it must also pay a compliance plan review fee of \$5,000. If a Company's plan consists of transferring from the Nasdaq Global or Global Select Market to the Nasdaq Capital Market, the Company should submit its application and the applicable application fee at the same time as its plan to regain compliance, but does not need to also pay the compliance plan review fee.

(i) – (iv) No change.

- (B) (F) No change.
- (3) (4) No change.
- (d) No change.

* * * * *

5900. Company Listing Fees

5901. Preamble to Company Listing Fees

This section sets forth the required fees for Companies both seeking listing and currently listed on Nasdaq. Rule 5930 describes fees for Linked Securities, SEEDS, and Other Securities qualified for listing under Rule 5710, 5715 or 5730. Rule 5940 describes fees for other Exchange Listed Products. The fees for all other Companies are described in Rule 5910 (for the Global and Global Select Markets) and Rule 5920 (for the Capital Market). With certain exceptions, these Companies [seeking to list on Nasdaq]must pay a non-refundable application fee, and an entry fee, which is based on the number of shares being listed. Starting January 1, 2015, Nasdaq will offer Companies that pay fees under Rules 5910 or 5920 an All-Inclusive Annual Listing Fee described in IM-5910-1 and IM-5920-1. Any Company not subject to the All-Inclusive Annual Listing Fee must pay applicable standard annual fees, listing of additional shares fees, record keeping fees and substitution listing fees as described in Rules 5910 and 5920. [Listed Companies are required to pay annual fees, fees for listing additional shares, and fees for certain corporate changes, such as a change in name or a substitution listing. Please note that the fees related to written interpretations of Nasdaq listing rules can be found in Rule 5602.]

5910. The Nasdaq Global Market

(a) - (b) No change.

(c) <u>Standard Annual Fee</u> — Domestic and Foreign Issues

(1) The issuer of each class of securities (not otherwise identified in this Rule 5900 Series) that is a domestic or foreign issue listed on the Nasdaq Global Market shall pay to Nasdaq an annual fee calculated on total shares outstanding according to the following schedule:

Up to [10]50 million shares	[\$35,000] <u>\$40,000</u>
[10+ to 50 million shares	\$37,500]
50+ to 75 million shares	\$46,500
75+ to 100 million shares	[\$68,500] <u>\$69,000</u>
100+ to [150] <u>125</u> million shares	[\$89,000] <u>\$93,000</u>
Over [150]125 million shares	[\$99,500] <u>\$125,000</u>

- (2) No change.
- (3) [If a class of securities is removed from the Nasdaq Global Market that portion of the annual fees for such class of securities attributable to the months following the date of removal shall not be refunded, except such portion shall be applied to the Nasdaq Capital Market fees for that calendar year.] Assessment of Annual Fee
 - (A) In the first calendar year of listing, a Company's annual fee will be based on the total shares outstanding as of the date of listing and will be prorated based on the month of listing. For example, a Company that lists on any day in March will owe 10/12 of the applicable annual fee; if it lists on any day in April, it will owe 9/12 of the applicable annual fee.
 - (B) After the first calendar year of listing, a Company's annual fee will be assessed on January 1st for the upcoming calendar year based on the total shares outstanding as of December 31st of the prior year. If a Company is listed on January 1st, the Company will owe the annual fee for the entire year, even if the Company delists or is removed before the Company is billed or pays the fee for that year.
 - (C) Transfers from Capital Market. If a Company transfers its listing from the Capital Market to the Global or Global Select Market, the annual fee will be prorated based on the month of the transfer. Such a Company will owe the annual fee for the new market tier starting in the month of transfer and the annual fee for the Capital Market for all earlier months in the calendar year.

For example, a Company with 8 million total shares outstanding is listed on the Capital Market and transfers to the Global Market on October 20th. Its new annual fee for the Global Market is \$40,000, which is prorated from October to December, resulting in an annual fee due of \$10,000 for its first calendar year of listing on the Global Market. Since this Company already paid an annual fee of \$32,000 on the Capital Market, it will be credited \$8,000, which represents the portion of the annual fee already paid for listing on the Capital Market for the remainder of the year. The Company, therefore, has a balance due to Nasdaq of \$2,000.

(D) No portion of the annual fee paid is refundable if a class of securities is delisted or otherwise removed from The Nasdaq Stock Market. No portion of the annual fee that is due and payable when a class of securities is delisted or otherwise removed from The Nasdaq Stock Market will be waived upon delisting or removal.

(4) – (5) No change.

(d) <u>Standard Annual Fee</u> — American Depositary Receipts (ADRs) and Closed-End Funds

(1) The issuer of each class of securities that is an ADR listed on The Nasdaq Global Market shall pay to Nasdaq an annual fee calculated on ADRs outstanding according to the following schedule[not to exceed \$50,000 per Company]:

Up to [10]50 million ADRs	[\$30,000] <u>\$40,000</u>
[10+ to 50 million ADRs	\$37,500]
50+ to 75 million ADRs	[\$42,500] <u>\$46,500</u>
Over 75 million ADRs	[\$50,000] <u>\$69,000</u>

- (2) No change.
- (3) A Closed-End Fund listed on the Nasdaq Global Market shall pay to Nasdaq an annual fee calculated based on total shares outstanding according to the following schedule:

[Up to 5 million shares	\$15,000]
[5+ to 10 million shares	\$17,500]
[10+ to 25 million shares	\$20,000]
[25+] <u>Up</u> to 50 million shares	\$22,500
50+ to 100 million shares	[\$30,000] <u>\$35,000</u>
100+ to 250 million shares	[\$50,000] <u>\$55,000</u>
Over 250 million shares	[\$75,000] <u>\$80,000</u>

- (4) (5) No change.
- (6) [If a class of securities is removed from the Nasdaq Global Market, that portion of the annual fees for such class of securities attributable to the months following the date of removal shall not be refunded, except such portion shall be applied to the Nasdaq Capital Market fees for that calendar year.] Assessment of Annual Fee
 - (A) In the first calendar year of listing, a Company's annual fee will be based on the total shares outstanding as of the date of listing and will be prorated based on the month of listing. For example, a Company that lists on any day in March will owe 10/12 of the applicable annual fee; if it lists on any day in April, it will owe 9/12 of the applicable annual fee.
 - (B) After the first calendar year of listing, a Company's annual fee will be assessed on January 1st for the upcoming calendar year based on the total shares outstanding as of December 31st of the prior year. If a Company is listed on January 1st, the Company will owe the annual fee for the entire year, even if the Company delists or is removed before the Company is billed or pays the fee for that year.

(C) Transfers from Capital Market. If a Company transfers its listing from the Capital Market to the Global or Global Select Market, the annual fee will be prorated based on the month of the transfer. Such a Company will owe the annual fee for the new market tier starting in the month of transfer and the annual fee for the Capital Market for all earlier months in the calendar year.

For example, a Company with 8 million total ADRs outstanding is listed on the Capital Market and transfers to the Global Market on October 20th. Its new annual fee for the Global Market is \$40,000, which is prorated from October to December, resulting in an annual fee due of \$10,000 for its first calendar year of listing on the Global Market. Since this Company already paid an annual fee of \$32,000 on the Capital Market, it will be credited \$8,000, which represents the portion of the annual fee already paid for listing on the Capital Market for the remainder of the year. The Company, therefore, has a balance due to Nasdaq of \$2,000.

(D) No portion of the annual fee paid is refundable if a class of securities is delisted or otherwise removed from The Nasdaq Stock Market. No portion of the annual fee that is due and payable when a class of securities is delisted or otherwise removed from The Nasdaq Stock Market will be waived upon delisting or removal.

(e) - (f) No change.

IM-5910-1. All-Inclusive Annual Listing Fee

(a) Starting January 1, 2015, Nasdaq will offer an All-Inclusive Annual Listing Fee.
Companies that list on Nasdaq after January 1, 2015, will be subject to this fee schedule.
A Company listed before January 1, 2015 may make an irrevocable election to be subject to the All-Inclusive Annual Listing Fee before that time by submitting the opt-in form available on Nasdaq's website by December 31, 2014. All other Companies will be subject to this fee schedule beginning January 1, 2018.

(b) **Transition**

(1) Nasdaq will offer the following incentives to a Company listed before January 1, 2015, which, prior to December 31, 2014, makes an irrevocable election to be subject to the All-Inclusive Annual Listing Fee:

(A) Until December 31, 2017, the Company will be billed based on the lower of its then-current total shares outstanding or the total shares outstanding reflected in information held by Nasdaq as of December 31, 2014. As such, regardless of any increase in shares outstanding, the All-

<u>Inclusive Annual Listing Fee will not increase until at least January 1, 2018.</u>

- (B) The Company will not be billed for the listing of additional shares after December 31, 2014, regardless of when the shares were issued. As such, fees for shares issued in the final period of 2014, which otherwise would be billed during 2015, will be forgiven.
- (2) In addition, until December 31, 2017, any Company that applied to list on Nasdaq prior to January 1, 2015, will be billed based on the lower of its then-current total shares outstanding or the total shares outstanding reflected in information held by Nasdaq as of the date of listing. As such, regardless of any increase in shares outstanding, the All-Inclusive Annual Listing Fee will not increase, until at least January 1, 2018.
- (c) The All-Inclusive Annual Listing Fee eliminates all fees described in Rules 5910(b) (f) for standard annual fees, additional shares fees, record-keeping fees, and substitution listing event fees. In addition, Companies that pay the All-Inclusive Annual Listing Fee are not subject to the fees described in Rule 5602 (for a written interpretation of the listing rules) and Rule 5810(c) (for review by Nasdaq Staff of a compliance plan). For the avoidance of doubt, Companies that pay the All-Inclusive Annual Listing Fee must still pay the fees described in Rules 5815(a)(3) and 5820(a) (for review by a Hearings Panel or the Nasdaq Listing and Hearing Review Council, respectively, of a Staff Delisting Determination or Public Reprimand Letter). These Companies must also pay fees described in Rule 5910(a) relating to the listing of an additional class of securities of the Company.
- (d) The All-Inclusive Annual Listing Fee will be calculated according to the following schedules:
 - (1) <u>All domestic and foreign Companies listing equity securities, except as</u> described below:

Up to 10 million shares	\$45,000
10+ to 50 million shares	\$55,000
50+ to 75 million shares	\$75,000
75+ to 100 million shares	\$100,000
100+ to 125 million shares	\$125,000
125+ to 150 million shares	\$135,000
Over 150 million shares	\$155,000

(2) American Depositary Receipts (ADRs):

Up to 50 million ADRs	\$45,000
50+ to 75 million ADRs	\$52,500
Over 75 million ADRs	\$75,000

(3) Closed-end Funds:

Up to 50 million shares	\$30,000
50+ to 100 million shares	\$50,000
100+ to 250 million shares	\$75,000
Over 250 million shares	\$100,000

(e) Assessment of All-Inclusive Annual Listing Fee

- (1) In the first calendar year of listing, a Company's All-Inclusive Annual Listing Fee will be based on the total shares outstanding as of the date of listing and will be prorated based on the month of listing. For example, a Company that lists on any day in March will owe 10/12 of the applicable annual fee; if it lists on any day in April, it will owe 9/12 of the applicable annual fee.
- (2) After the first calendar year of listing, a Company's All-Inclusive Annual Listing Fee will be assessed on January 1st for the upcoming calendar year based on the total shares outstanding as of December 31st of the prior year. If a Company is listed on January 1st, the Company will owe the All-Inclusive Annual Listing Fee for the entire year, even if the Company delists or is removed before the Company is billed or pays the fee for that year.
- (3) For a Company with any equity securities listed on the Nasdaq Global or Global Select Markets, the All-Inclusive Annual Listing Fee for the year shall be based on the aggregate number of all shares outstanding for each class of equity securities (not otherwise identified in this Rule 5900 Series) listed on the Nasdaq Global Select, Global and Capital Markets as of January 1 of that year, as shown in the Company's periodic reports required to be filed with the Company's appropriate regulatory authority or in more recent information held by Nasdaq. In the case of a foreign private issuer, the All-Inclusive Annual Listing Fee will be based on only those shares issued and outstanding in the United States, provided the Company notifies Nasdaq of that number by completing the appropriate form in the Nasdaq Listing Center.
- (4) **Transfers from Capital Market**. If a Company transfers its listing from the Capital Market to the Global or Global Select Market, its All-Inclusive Annual Listing Fee will be prorated based on the month of the transfer. Such a Company will owe the All-Inclusive Annual Listing Fee for the new market tier starting in the month of transfer and the All-Inclusive Annual Listing Fee for the Capital Market for all earlier months in the calendar year.

For example, a Company with 80 million total shares outstanding is listed on the Capital Market and transfers to the Global Market on October 20th. Its new All-Inclusive Annual Fee for the Global Market is \$100,000, which is prorated from October to December, resulting in an annual fee due of \$25,000 for its first

calendar year of listing on the Global Market. Since this Company already paid an All-Inclusive Annual Fee of \$75,000 on the Capital Market, it will be credited \$18,750, which represents the portion of the All-Inclusive Annual Fee already paid for listing on the Capital Market for the remainder of the year. The Company, therefore, has a balance due to Nasdaq of \$6,250.

- (5) No portion of the All-Inclusive Annual Listing Fee paid is refundable if a class of securities is delisted or otherwise removed from The Nasdaq Stock Market. No portion of the All-Inclusive Annual Listing Fee that is due and payable when a class of securities is delisted or otherwise removed from The Nasdaq Stock Market will be waived upon delisting or removal.
- (6) **Relisting.** A Company that was suspended, delisted, or removed from Nasdaq for any reason, whether regulatory or voluntary, is not required to pay a second All-Inclusive Annual Listing Fee if it relists in the same calendar year.

5920. The Nasdaq Capital Market

(a) - (b) No change.

(c) Standard Annual Fee

(1)

(A) The issuer of each class of securities that is a domestic or foreign issue, other than American Depositary Receipts (ADRs) and Closed-End Funds, listed on the Nasdaq Capital Market shall pay to Nasdaq an annual fee [in the amount of \$32,000.]according to the following schedule:

Up to 10 million shares	<u>\$32,000</u>
10+ to 50 million shares	\$40,000
Over 50 million shares	\$45,000

(B) [Effective January 1, 2013, the issuer of each class of securities that is an ADR listed on the Nasdaq Capital Market shall pay to Nasdaq an annual fee in the amount of \$25,000. Effective January 1, 2014, the]The issuer of each class of securities that is an ADR listed on the Nasdaq Capital Market shall pay to Nasdaq an annual fee [in the amount of \$32,000.]according to the following schedule:

Up to 10 million ADRs	\$32,000
Over 10 million ADRs	\$40,000

- (2) No change.
- (3) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), a Closed-End Fund listed on the Nasdaq Capital Market shall pay to Nasdaq an annual fee calculated based on total shares outstanding according to the following schedule:

[Up to 5 million shares	\$15,000]
[5+ to 10 million shares	\$17,500]
[10+ to 25 million shares	\$20,000]
[25+]Up to 50 million shares	\$22,500
50+ to 100 million shares	[\$30,000] <u>\$35,000</u>
100+ to 250 million shares	[\$50,000]\$55,000
Over 250 million shares	[\$75,000]\$80,000

(4) No change.

- (5) [If a class of securities is removed from the Nasdaq Capital Market, that portion of the annual fees for such class of securities attributable to the months following the date of removal shall not be refunded, except such portion shall be applied to Nasdaq Global Market fees for that calendar year.] Assessment of Annual Fee
 - (A) In the first calendar year of listing, a Company's annual fee will be based on the total shares outstanding as of the date of listing and will be prorated based on the month of listing. For example, a Company that lists on any day in March will owe 10/12 of the applicable annual fee; if it lists on any day in April, it will owe 9/12 of the applicable annual fee.
 - (B) After the first calendar year of listing, a Company's annual fee will be assessed on January 1st for the upcoming calendar year based on the total shares outstanding as of December 31st of the prior year. If a Company is listed on January 1st, the Company will owe the annual fee for the entire year, even if the Company delists or is removed before the Company is billed or pays the fee for that year.
 - (C) Transfers from Global and Global Select Market. If a Company transfers its listing from the Global or Global Select Market to the Capital Market, it will not owe any additional annual fee for the Capital Market, nor shall it receive any credit or offset of the portion of the annual fee paid or assessed for the prior market.

For example, a Company with 8 million total shares outstanding is listed on the Global Market and transfers to the Capital Market on October 20th. Its new annual fee for the Capital Market is \$32,000. Since this Company already paid an annual fee of \$40,000 on the Global Market, it will not owe any additional annual fee for that calendar year. However, the Company would not receive any further credit of the amount previously paid for listing on the Global Market and would owe the full \$32,000 Capital Market annual fee in the following year.

(6) - (8) No change.

(d) - (e) No change.

IM-5920-1. All-Inclusive Annual Listing Fee

(a) Starting January 1, 2015, Nasdaq will offer an All-Inclusive Annual Listing Fee. Companies that list on Nasdaq after January 1, 2015, will be subject to this fee schedule. A Company listed before January 1, 2015 may make an irrevocable election to be subject to the All-Inclusive Annual Listing Fee before that time by submitting the opt-in form available on Nasdaq's website by December 31, 2014. All other Companies will be subject to this fee schedule beginning January 1, 2018.

(b) Transition

- (1) Nasdaq will offer the following incentives to a Company listed before January 1, 2015, which, prior to December 31, 2014, makes an irrevocable election to be subject to the All-Inclusive Annual Listing Fee:
 - (A) Until December 31, 2017, the Company will be billed based on the lower of its then-current total shares outstanding or the total shares outstanding reflected in information held by Nasdaq as of December 31, 2014. As such, regardless of any increase in shares outstanding, the All-Inclusive Annual Listing Fee for such a Company will not increase until at least January 1, 2018.
 - (B) The Company will not be billed for the listing of additional shares after December 31, 2014, regardless of when the shares were issued. As such, fees for shares issued in the final period of 2014, which otherwise would be billed during 2015, will be forgiven.
- (2) In addition, until December 31, 2017, any Company that applied to list on Nasdaq prior to January 1, 2015, will be billed based on the lower of its then-current total shares outstanding or the total shares outstanding reflected in information held by Nasdaq as of the date of listing. As such, the All-Inclusive Annual Listing Fee will not increase, regardless of any increase in shares outstanding, until at least January 1, 2018.
- (c) The All-Inclusive Annual Listing Fee eliminates all fees described in Rules 5920(b) (e) for standard annual fees, additional shares fees, record-keeping fees, and substitution listing event fees. In addition, Companies that pay the All-Inclusive Annual Listing Fee are not subject to the fees described in Rule 5602 (for a written interpretation of the listing rules) and Rule 5810(c) (for review by Nasdaq Staff of a compliance plan). For the avoidance of doubt, Companies that pay the All-Inclusive Annual Listing Fee must still pay the fees described in Rules 5815(a)(3) and 5820(a) (for review by a Hearings Panel or the Nasdaq Listing and Hearing Review Council, respectively, of a Staff Delisting Determination or Public Reprimand Letter). These Companies must also pay

fees described in Rule 5920(a) relating to the listing of an additional class of securities of the Company.

- (d) The All-Inclusive Annual Listing Fee will be calculated according to the following schedules:
 - (1) All domestic and foreign Companies listing equity securities, except as described below:

Up to 10 million shares	\$42,000
10+ to 50 million shares	\$55,000
Over 50 million shares	\$75,000

(2) American Depositary Receipts (ADRs):

Up to 10 million ADRs	\$37,000
Over 10 million ADRs	\$45,000

(3) Closed-end Funds:

Up to 50 million shares	\$30,000
50+ to 100 million shares	\$50,000
100+ to 250 million shares	\$75,000
Over 250 million shares	\$100,000

(e) Assessment of All-Inclusive Annual Listing Fee

- (1) In the first calendar year of listing, a Company's All-Inclusive Annual Listing Fee will be based on the total shares outstanding as of the date of listing and will be prorated based on the month of listing. For example, a Company that lists on any day in March will owe 10/12 of the applicable annual fee; if it lists on any day in April, it will owe 9/12 of the applicable annual fee.
- (2) After the first calendar year of listing, a Company's All-Inclusive Annual Listing Fee will be assessed on January 1st for the upcoming calendar year based on the total shares outstanding as of December 31st of the prior year. If a Company is listed on January 1st, the Company will owe the All-Inclusive Annual Listing Fee for the entire year, even if the Company delists or is removed before the Company is billed or pays the fee for that year.
- (3) For a Company with equity securities listed only on the Nasdaq Capital Market, the All-Inclusive Annual Listing Fee for the year shall be based on the aggregate number of shares outstanding for each class of listed equity securities (not otherwise identified in this Rule 5900 Series) as of January 1 of that year, as shown in the Company's periodic reports required to be filed with the Company's appropriate regulatory authority or in more recent information held by Nasdaq. If

a Company has any equity securities listed on the Nasdaq Global or Global Select Markets, the shares listed on the Nasdaq Capital Market will be aggregated with those on the Global and Global Select Market, and the Company shall not be subject to the fee described in this IM-5920-1, but instead shall be subject to the fee contained in IM-5910-1. In the case of a foreign private issuer, the All-Inclusive Annual Listing Fee will be based on only those shares issued and outstanding in the United States, provided the Company notifies Nasdaq of that number by completing the appropriate form in the Nasdaq Listing Center.

(4) Transfers from Global and Global Select Market. If a Company transfers its listing from the Global or Global Select Market to the Capital Market, it will not owe any additional All-Inclusive Annual Listing Fee for the Capital Market, nor shall it receive any credit or offset of the portion of the All-Inclusive Annual Listing Fee paid or assessed for the prior market.

For example, a Company with 110 million total shares outstanding is listed on the Global Market and transfers to the Capital Market on October 20th. Its new All-Inclusive Annual Listing Fee for the Capital Market is \$75,000. Since this Company already paid an All-Inclusive Annual Listing Fee of \$125,000 on the Global Market, it will not owe any additional annual fee for that calendar year. However, the Company would not receive any further credit of the amount previously paid for listing on the Global Market and would owe the full \$75,000 Capital Market annual fee in the following year.

- (5) No portion of the All-Inclusive Annual Listing Fee paid is refundable if a class of securities is delisted or otherwise removed from The Nasdaq Stock Market. No portion of the All-Inclusive Annual Listing Fee that is due and payable when a class of securities is delisted or otherwise removed from The Nasdaq Stock Market will be waived upon delisting or removal.
- (6) **Relisting.** A Company that was suspended, delisted, or removed from Nasdaq for any reason, whether regulatory or voluntary, is not required to pay a second All-Inclusive Annual Listing Fee if it relists in the same calendar year.

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[IM-5920-1. Foreign Exempt Securities

Rules 5920(b)(4) and 5920(c)(4) provide Nasdaq with the discretion to waive all or part of the additional shares and annual fee otherwise due. Pursuant to that authority, Nasdaq has determined to waive any additional shares or annual fee that otherwise would be due from any foreign Company whose securities or underlying ADRs were exempt from registration under Section 12(g) of the Act pursuant to Rule 12g3-2(b) prior to Nasdaq's registration as a national securities exchange and whose securities are also subject to an exemption issued by the Commission that permits the listing the security notwithstanding its failure to be registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act.]

IM-5900-1. Waiver of Fees upon Application in Certain Merger Situations

Rules 5910(c)(2), 5910(d)(5), 5920(c)(4), 5930(b)(2), and 5940(b)(3) provide Nasdaq with the discretion to waive all or part of the annual listing fees prescribed in this Rule 5900 Series. Pursuant to that authority, Nasdaq has determined to waive fees in the following situations involving mergers.

- (a) [Nasdaq will permit a]A Nasdaq Company that completes a merger with another Nasdaq Company during the first 90 days of a calendar year [to apply for and]will receive a <u>credit or</u> waiver for 75% of the annual fee <u>or All-Inclusive Annual Listing Fee</u> assessed to the acquired Nasdaq Company. [Companies must apply for the credit no later than June 30 of the year in which the merger occurred.]
- (b) [Nasdaq will permit a]A non-Nasdaq Company that completes a merger with a Nasdaq Company [that results in the non-Nasdaq Company being] and is the surviving entity [and listing on Nasdaq to apply for and]will, upon listing on Nasdaq, receive a [waiver of the pro rated]credit for the annual fee previously paid by the Nasdaq Company, prorated for the [period of time]months remaining in the year after the merger. If the annual fee was not paid by the Nasdaq Company prior to the merger, the credit will go to the non-surviving entity, which will still be required to pay the remaining balance of its annual fee, representing the fee for the period it was listed.

[Applications pertaining to the waivers described in paragraphs (a) and (b) above should be addressed to: Finance Department CCG Billing Operations, The Nasdaq Stock Market Inc., 9600 Blackwell Road, Rockville, Maryland 20850.]