## Description

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

A proposed rule change to amend NASDAQ Rule 7015(b) and (g) to modify the port fees.

## Contact Information

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

**First Name**: Jeffrey  
**Last Name**: Davis  
**Title**: Vice President and Deputy General Counsel  
**E-mail**: jeffrey.davis@nasdaq.com  
**Telephone**: (301) 978-8484  
**Fax**: (301) 978-8472

## 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.

**Date**: 04/22/2015  
**By**: Edward S. Knight  
**Title**: Executive Vice President and General Counsel  
**E-mail**: edward.knight@nasdaq.com

NOTE: Clicking the button at right will digitally sign and lock this form. A digital signature is as legally binding as a physical signature, and once signed, this form cannot be changed.
If the self-regulatory organization is amending only part of the text of a lengthy proposed rule change, it may, with the Commission's permission, file only those portions of the text of the proposed rule change in which changes are being made if the filing (i.e., partial amendment) is clearly understandable on its face. Such partial amendment shall be clearly identified and marked to show deletions and additions.
1. **Text of the Proposed Rule Change**

   (a) Pursuant to the provisions of Section 19(b)(1) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (“Act”)\(^1\) and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,\(^2\) The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC (“NASDAQ” or “Exchange”) is filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“Commission”) a proposed rule change to amend NASDAQ Rule 7015(b) and (g) to modify the port fees charged to members and non-members for ports used to enter orders into Nasdaq systems, in connection with the use of the FIX and OUCH trading telecommunication protocols. Specifically, the Exchange proposes to upgrade the hardware supporting the ports to Field Programmable Gate Array (“FPGA”) technology, and to recoup the upgrade costs by increasing fees by $25 per port.

   The text of the proposed rule change is below. Proposed new language is underlined; proposed deletions are in brackets.\(^3\)

   \[
   \begin{array}{ll}
   7015. \text{Access Services} \\
   (a) \text{No change.} \\
   (b) \text{Financial Information Exchange (FIX)} \\
   \end{array}
   \]

   \[
   \begin{array}{ll}
   \text{Ports} & \text{Price} \\
   \hline
   \text{FIX Trading Port} & \$575[50]/port/month \\
   \text{FIX Port for Services Other than Trading} & \$500/port/month \\
   \end{array}
   \]

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\(^3\) Changes are marked to the rule text that appears in the electronic Nasdaq Manual found at [http://nasdaqomx.cchwallstreet.com](http://nasdaqomx.cchwallstreet.com).
(c)–(f) No change.

(g) Other Port Fees

Remote Multi-cast ITCH Wave Ports

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
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<td>MITCH Wave Port at Secaucus, NJ</td>
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<tr>
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<td>$5,000</td>
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The following port fees shall apply in connection with the use of other trading telecommunication protocols:

- $575[50] per month for each port pair, other than Multicast ITCH® data feed pairs, for which the fee is $1,000 per month for software-based TotalView-ITCH or $2,500 per month for combined software- and hardware-based TotalView-ITCH, and TCP ITCH data feed pairs, for which the fee is $750 per month.

- An additional $200 per month for each port used for entering orders or quotes over the Internet.

- An additional $600 per month for each port used for market data delivery over the Internet.

Dedicated OUCH Port Infrastructure

The Dedicated OUCH Port Infrastructure subscription allows a member firm to assign up to 30 of its OUCH ports to a dedicated server infrastructure for its exclusive use. A Dedicated OUCH Port Infrastructure subscription is available to a member firm for a fee of $5,000 per month, which is in addition to the standard fees assessed for each OUCH port. A one-time installation fee of $5,000 is assessed subscribers for each Dedicated OUCH Port Server subscription.

(h) – (i) No change.

* * * * *
(b) Not applicable.

(c) Not applicable.

2. Procedures of the Self-Regulatory Organization

The proposed rule change was approved by senior management of the Exchange pursuant to authority delegated by the Board of Directors of the Exchange on July 16, 2014. Exchange staff will advise the Board of Directors of any action taken pursuant to delegated authority. No other action by the Exchange is necessary for the filing of the rule change.

Questions and comments on the proposed rule change may be directed to Deputy General Counsel, Jeffrey S. Davis, NASDAQ, at (301) 978-8493 (telephone).

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

a. Purpose

Nasdaq is proposing to amend Nasdaq Rule 7015 (b) and (g) to modify the monthly fee it charges for ports used to enter orders in the Nasdaq Market Center for the trading of equities, in connection with the use of FIX and OUCH trading telecommunication protocols.

The enhanced ports will use field-programmable gate array ("FPGA") technology, which is a hardware-delivery mechanism and an upgrade to the existing software and software-and-hardware based mechanisms. By taking advantage of hardware parallelism, FPGA technology is capable of processing more data packets during peak market conditions without the introduction of variable queuing latency. In other words, the upgrade to FPGA will improve the predictability of the telecommunications ports and thereby add value to the user experience.
The Exchange is offering new technology and pricing in order to keep pace with changes in the industry and evolving customer needs as new technologies emerge and products continue to develop and change. The costs associated with the hardware-based delivery system cover creating, shipping, installing and maintaining the new equipment and codebase. From a messaging perspective, the data content and sequencing on the new hardware version of the OUCH ports will be the same as on the legacy software-based versions of NASDAQ’s ports that are being replaced.

b. **Statutory Basis**

NASDAQ believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the provisions of Section 6 of the Act, in general, and with Section 6(b)(5) of the Act in particular, in 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. The Exchange continuously strives to offer members state of the art technology to enhance their trading experience and thereby enhance the national market system. Incremental enhancements such as the advent of FPGA technology has helped make the U.S. markets the deepest, most liquid markets in the world.

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The Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 6(b)(4) of the Act\(^6\) in that it provides for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees and other charges among members and issuers and other persons using any facility or system which the Exchange operates or controls, and it does not unfairly discriminate between customers, issuers, brokers or dealers.

The Exchange believes that the proposed fees are reasonable in that they are based on the costs associated with purchasing hardware (capital expenditures) and supporting and maintaining the infrastructure (operating expenditures) for the FPGA enhancement for member firms. In addition, the FPGA enhancements will provide value to members far exceeding the incremental costs imposed. The Exchange also believes that the proposed fees are equitable and not unfairly discriminatory because the fees apply equally to all users of the FPGA-enhanced ports. Moreover, the fees apply in direct proportion to the number of ports used by each member.

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

NASDAQ does not believe that the proposed rule change will result in any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act, as amended. To the contrary, NASDAQ believes that the proposed rule change is pro-competitive in that the enhancements improve the competitiveness of the NASDAQ Market Center and the overall quality of the national market system. If, as NASDAQ believes, the FPGA enhancement provides NASDAQ a competitive advantage, other exchanges will quickly respond by enhancing their own markets in the same way. Such

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innovation and imitation is the very essence of the competition the Exchange Act is
designed to promote.⁷

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

   No written comments were either solicited or received.

6. **Extension of Time Period for Commission Action**

   The Exchange 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.⁸

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

   Pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(ii) of the Act,⁹ the Exchange has designated this
   proposal as establishing or changing a due, fee, or other charge imposed on any person,
   whether or not the person is a member of the self-regulatory organization, which renders
   the proposed rule change effective upon filing.

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

   Not applicable.

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

   Not applicable.

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⁷ The Chicago Mercantile Exchange is already using FPGA technology in order
entry ports for the trading of futures. See


dissemination of any new data elements not already disseminated via an approved
NOM product.
10. **Advance 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 Federal Register.
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
(Release No. ______; File No. SR-NASDAQ-2015-042)

April ___, 2015

Self-Regulatory Organizations; The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change to Amend NASDAQ Rule 7015(b) and (g) to Modify Port 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 April 22, 2015, 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. Self-Regulatory Organization’s Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed Rule Change

The Exchange proposes to amend NASDAQ Rule 7015(b) and (g) to modify the port fees charged to members and non-members for ports used to enter orders into Nasdaq systems, in connection with the use of the FIX and OUCH trading telecommunication protocols.

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


7015. Access Services

(a) No change.

(b) Financial Information Exchange (FIX)

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(c)– (f) No change.

(g) Other Port Fees

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(h) – (i) No change.

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

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

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

1. Purpose

Nasdaq is proposing to amend Nasdaq Rule 7015 (b) and (g) to modify the monthly fee it charges for ports used to enter orders in the Nasdaq Market Center for the trading of equities, in connection with the use of FIX and OUCH trading telecommunication protocols.

The enhanced ports will use field-programmable gate array (“FPGA”) technology, which is a hardware-based delivery mechanism and an upgrade to the existing software and software-and-hardware based mechanisms. By taking advantage of hardware parallelism, FPGA technology is capable of processing more data packets during peak market conditions without the introduction of variable queuing latency. In other words, the upgrade to FPGA will improve the predictability of the telecommunications ports and thereby add value to the user experience.

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and codebase. From a messaging perspective, the data content and sequencing on the new hardware version of the OUCH ports will be the same as on the legacy software-based versions of NASDAQ ports that are being replaced.

2. Statutory Basis

NASDAQ believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the provisions of Section 6 of the Act, in general, and with Section 6(b)(5) of the Act in particular, in 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. The Exchange continuously strives to offer members state of the art technology to enhance their trading experience and thereby enhance the national market system. Incremental enhancements such as the advent of FPGA technology has helped make the U.S. markets the deepest, most liquid markets in the world.

The Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 6(b)(4) of the Act in that it provides for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees and other charges among members and issuers and other persons using any facility or

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system which the Exchange operates or controls, and it does not unfairly discriminate between customers, issuers, brokers or dealers.

The Exchange believes that the proposed fees are reasonable in that they are based on the costs associated with purchasing hardware (capital expenditures) and supporting and maintaining the infrastructure (operating expenditures) for the FPGA enhancement for member firms. In addition, the FPGA enhancements will provide value to members far exceeding the incremental costs imposed. The Exchange also believes that the proposed fees are equitable and not unfairly discriminatory because the fees apply equally to all users of the FPGA-enhanced ports. Moreover, the fees apply in direct proportion to the number of ports used by each member.

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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. To the contrary, NASDAQ believes that the proposed rule change is pro-competitive in that the enhancements improve the competitiveness of the NASDAQ Market Center and the overall quality of the national market system. If, as NASDAQ believes, the FPGA enhancement provides NASDAQ a competitive advantage, other exchanges will quickly respond by enhancing their own markets in the same way. Such innovation and imitation is the very essence of the competition the Exchange Act is designed to promote.⁶

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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 foregoing rule change has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(ii) of the Act.\(^7\)

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

IV. **Solicitation of Comments**

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

**Electronic comments:**

- Use the Commission’s Internet comment form ([http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml](http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml)); or

- Send an e-mail to rule-comments@sec.gov. Please include File Number SR-NASDAQ-2015-042 on the subject line.

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Paper comments:

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

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-NASDAQ-2015-042. 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-2015-042 and should be submitted on or before [insert date 21 days from publication in the Federal Register].
For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.\(^8\)

Kevin M O’Neill
Deputy Secretary

\(^8\) 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).