

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-74823; File No. SR-NASDAQ-2015-046]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change Relating to Collection of Exchange Fees

April 28, 2015.

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 27, 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 and II below, which Items have been prepared by NASDAQ. 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 the Substance of the Proposed Rule Change

NASDAQ proposes to amend Exchange Rule 7007, which is currently reserved, and entitle it “Collection of Exchange Fees and Other Claims” and require each Nasdaq member, and all applicants for registration as such, to provide a clearing account number for an account at the National Securities Clearing Corporation (“NSCC”) for purposes of permitting the Exchange to debit certain fees, fines, charges and/or other monetary sanctions or other monies due and owing to the Exchange.

The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Exchange’s Web site at <http://www.nasdaq.cchwallstreet.com>, at the principal office of the Exchange, and at the Commission’s Public Reference Room.

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

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

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

1. Purpose

The purpose of the proposed rule change is to amend Rule 7007 to require NASDAQ members, and all applicants for registration as such, to provide a clearing account number for an account at NSCC for purposes of permitting the Exchange to debit any undisputed or final fees, fines, charges and/or other monetary sanctions or other monies due and owing to the Exchange or other charges related to certain 7000 series rules³ and the 8000⁴ series rules which are due and owing to NASDAQ. The Exchange would entitle Rule 7007 “Collection of Exchange Fees and Other Claims.”

Currently, the Exchange requires all Options Participants to provide such an NSCC account number.⁵ The Exchange believes that the proposed debiting process for NASDAQ members that conduct an equities business would create an efficient method of collecting undisputed or final fees, fines, charges and/or other monetary sanctions or monies due and owing to the Exchange.⁶ Further, this proposal would provide a cost savings to the Exchange in that it would alleviate administrative processes related to the collection of monies owed to the Exchange by NASDAQ members conducting an equities business, as it does today for Options Participants on the NASDAQ Options Market LLC (“NOM”).⁷ Collection matters divert staff resources away from the Exchange’s regulatory and business purposes. In addition, the debiting process would prevent NASDAQ member accounts from becoming overdue.

The Exchange proposes to require NASDAQ equity members and applicants to provide a clearing account

³ The 7000 series rules in the NASDAQ Rulebook list charges for membership, services and equipment. Only the Rules which require payment to the Exchange would be subject to direct debit. By way of example, Rule 7003, Registration and Processing Fees, fees are collected by FINRA.

⁴ The 8000 series rules in the NASDAQ Rulebook list sanctions associated with disciplinary actions. Any disciplinary fines or sanctions collected pursuant to the 8000 series shall be subject to direct debit to the extent described within this rule change. See also note 6 for exceptions to debits.

⁵ See Chapter XV, Section 1 in the NASDAQ Rules.

⁶ The Exchange will not debit accounts for fees that are unusually large or for special circumstances, unless such debiting is requested by the NASDAQ member.

⁷ See NOM Rules at Chapter XV, Section 1. NOM Participants are subject to the same process for direct debit as specified herein.

number for an account at NSCC in order to permit the Exchange to debit any undisputed or final fees, fines, charges and/or monetary sanctions or other monies due and owing to the Exchange or other charges related to the 7000 series rules, as specified below, and the 8000 series rules. Specifically, the following 7000 series Rules will be subject to proposed Rule 7007: 7001 (Membership Fees), 7014 (Market Quality Incentive Programs: Investor Support Program), 7015 (Access Services), 7016 (Nasdaq Risk Management), 7018 (Nasdaq Market Center Order Execution and Routing), 7021 (NasdaqTrader.com Trading and Compliance Data Package Fee), 7024 (Clearly Erroneous Module), 7027 (Aggregation of Activity of Affiliated Members), 7029 (Installation, Removal or Relocation), 7030 (Other Services), 7034 (Co-Location Services), 7038 (Step-Outs and Sales Fees Transfers), 7041 (Nasdaq Regulation Reconnaissance Service), 7042 (Non-Tape Riskless Submissions), 7043 (Inclusion of Transaction Fees in Clearing Reports Submitted to ACT), 7049 (Nasdaq InterACT), 7051 (Direct Connectivity to Nasdaq), 7055 (Short Sale Monitor), 7058 (QView), 7060 (Equity Trade Journal for Clearing Firms) and 7061 (Limit Locator).

The Exchange would send a monthly invoice⁸ to each NASDAQ equity member on approximately the 3th—10th business day of the following month.⁹ The Exchange would also send a file to NSCC each month on approximately the 23rd of the following month to initiate the debit of the appropriate amount stated on the NASDAQ member’s invoice for the prior month. Because the NASDAQ member would receive an invoice well before any monies are debited (normally within two weeks), the NASDAQ member would have adequate time to contact the staff with any questions concerning its invoice. If a NASDAQ member disagrees with the invoice, the Exchange would not commence the debit until the dispute is resolved. Specifically, the Exchange will not include the disputed amount in the debit if the member has disputed the amount in writing to the Exchange’s designated staff by the 15th of the

⁸ The monthly invoice will indicate that the amount on the invoice will be debited from the designated NSCC account. Each month, the Exchange will send a file to the NASDAQ member’s clearing firm which will indicate the amounts to be debited from each member. If a NASDAQ member is “self-clearing”, no such file would be sent as the member would receive the invoice, as noted above, which would indicate the amount to be debited.

⁹ NASDAQ members may receive invoices either electronically, by mail or by both methods.

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

month, or the following business day if the 15th is not a business day, and the amount in dispute is at least \$10,000 or greater.

Once NSCC receives the file from the Exchange, NSCC would proceed to debit the amounts indicated from the clearing members account. In the instance where the NASDAQ member clears through an Exchange clearing member, the estimated transaction fees owed to the Exchange are typically debited by the clearing member on a daily basis in order to ensure adequate funds have been escrowed. The Exchange would debit any monies owed including undisputed or final fees, fines, charges and/or monetary sanctions or monies due and owed to the Exchange.¹⁰ The Exchange believes that the debit process would eliminate the risk of unpaid invoices because of the large amounts of capital held at NSCC by NASDAQ equity members.

The Exchange proposes this rule change become operative on July 1, 2015. On August 24, 2015, the Exchange will debit July 2015 billing pursuant to the process described in this rule change.¹¹ The Exchange will notify NASDAQ equity members of this rule change in an Equity Trader Alert to provide its members ample time to provide the Exchange with the information necessary for the direct debit and prepare for the change to the collection process. NASDAQ members' primary NSCC account number will be utilized unless the NASDAQ member contacts the Exchange prior to July 1, 2015 with an alternate NSCC account number.

2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that its proposal is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act¹² in general, and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(5) of the Act¹³ in particular, in that it is designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and

¹⁰ This includes, among other things, fines and sanctions which result from disciplinary proceedings or actions taken pursuant to the 8000 series of NASDAQ Rules. With respect to disciplinary proceedings, the Exchange would not debit any monies until such action is final. The Exchange would not consider an action final until all appeal periods have run and/or all appeal timeframes are exhausted. With respect to non-disciplinary actions, the Exchange would similarly not take action to debit a member account until all appeal periods have run and/or all appeal timeframes are exhausted. Any uncontested disciplinary or non-disciplinary actions will be debited, and the amount due will appear on the NASDAQ member's invoice prior to the actual NSCC debit.

¹¹ The initial debit will include all outstanding fees through August 2015.

¹² 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

¹³ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

equitable principles of trade, to foster cooperation and coordination with persons engaged in 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 by providing NASDAQ equity members with an efficient process to pay undisputed or final fees, fines, charges and/or monetary sanctions or monies dues and owing to the Exchange.

The Exchange believes that its proposal to debit NSCC accounts is reasonable because it would ease the NASDAQ equity member's administrative burden in paying monthly invoices, avoid overdue balances and provide same day collection from all NASDAQ members who owe monies to the Exchange.

The Exchange believes that its proposal to debit NSCC accounts is equitable and not unfairly discriminatory because it will apply to all NASDAQ members in a uniform manner. Today, the debit process is applied to all NOM Participants.¹⁴

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

NASDAQ does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. With this proposal, the proposed debit process would apply uniformly to all NASDAQ members as it does today with all Options Participants.

Further, this proposal would provide a cost savings to the Exchange in that it would alleviate administrative processes related to the collection of monies owed to the Exchange for NASDAQ members conducting an equities business, as it does today for NOM Participants. Collection matters divert staff resources away from the Exchange's regulatory and business purposes. In addition, the debiting process would prevent NASDAQ member accounts from becoming overdue.

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.

¹⁴ See note 7.

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

Because the foregoing proposed rule change does not: (i) significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest; (ii) impose any significant burden on competition; and (iii) become operative for 30 days from the date on which it was filed, or such shorter time as the Commission may designate, it has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(iii) of the Act¹⁵ and subparagraph (f)(6) 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 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>); or
- Send an email to rule-comments@sec.gov. Please include File Number SR-NASDAQ-2015-046 on the subject line.

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-2015-046. This file number should be included on the subject line if email is used. To help the Commission process and review your comments more efficiently, please use only one method. The Commission will post all comments on the Commission's

¹⁵ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(a)(iii).

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

Internet Web site (<http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml>). Copies of the submission, all subsequent amendments, all written statements with respect to the proposed rule change that are filed with the Commission, and all written communications relating to the proposed rule change between the Commission and any person, other than those that may be withheld from the public in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552, will be available for Web site viewing and printing in the Commission's Public Reference Room, 100 F Street NE., Washington, DC 20549 on official business days between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Copies of such filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal offices of the Exchange. All comments received will be posted without change; the Commission does not edit personal identifying information from submissions. You should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly. All submissions should refer to File Number SR-NASDAQ-2015-046, and should be submitted on or before May 26, 2015.

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

Brent J. Fields,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2015-10283 Filed 5-1-15; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

[Docket No. NHTSA-2015-0030; Notice 1]

Continental Tire the Americas, LLC, Receipt of Petition for Decision of Inconsequential Noncompliance

AGENCY: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), Department of Transportation (DOT).

ACTION: Receipt of Petition.

SUMMARY: Continental Tire the Americas, LLC, (CTA), has determined that certain Continental Tire brand TKC80 motorcycle replacement tires do not fully comply with paragraph S6.5(c) of Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) No. 119, *New Pneumatic Radial Tires for motor vehicles with a GVWR of more than 4,536 Kilograms (10,000 pounds) and Motorcycles*. CTA has filed an

appropriate report dated February 18, 2015, pursuant to 49 CFR part 573, *Defect and Noncompliance Responsibility and Reports*.

DATES: The closing date for comments on the petition is June 3, 2015.

ADDRESSES: Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views, and arguments on this petition. Comments must refer to the docket and notice number cited at the beginning of this notice and submitted by any of the following methods:

- **Mail:** Send comments by mail addressed to: U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Operations, M-30, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Washington, DC 20590.

- **Hand Deliver:** Deliver comments by hand to: U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Operations, M-30, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Washington, DC 20590. The Docket Section is open on weekdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. except Federal Holidays.

- **Electronically:** Submit comments electronically by: logging onto the Federal Docket Management System (FDMS) Web site at <http://www.regulations.gov/>. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments. Comments may also be faxed to (202) 493-2251.

Comments must be written in the English language, and be no greater than 15 pages in length, although there is no limit to the length of necessary attachments to the comments. If comments are submitted in hard copy form, please ensure that two copies are provided. If you wish to receive confirmation that your comments were received, please enclose a stamped, self-addressed postcard with the comments. Note that all comments received will be posted without change to http://www.regulations.gov, including any personal information provided.

Documents submitted to a docket may be viewed by anyone at the address and times given above. The documents may also be viewed on the Internet at http://www.regulations.gov by following the online instructions for accessing the dockets. DOT's complete Privacy Act Statement is available for review in the **Federal Register** published on April 11, 2000, (65 FR 19477-78).

The petition, supporting materials, and all comments received before the close of business on the closing date indicated below will be filed and will be considered. All comments and supporting materials received after the closing date will also be filed and will be considered to the extent possible.

When the petition is granted or denied, notice of the decision will be published in the **Federal Register** pursuant to the authority indicated below.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. CTA's Petition

Pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 30118(d) and 30120(h) (see implementing rule at 49 CFR part 556), CTA submitted a petition for an exemption from the notification and remedy requirements of 49 U.S.C. Chapter 301 on the basis that this noncompliance is inconsequential to motor vehicle safety.

This notice of receipt of CTA's petition is published under 49 U.S.C. 30118 and 30120 and does not represent any agency decision or other exercise of judgment concerning the merits of the petition.

II. Tires Involved

Affected are approximately 1,062 Continental TKC80 size 120/70-19 M/C 60Q diagonal (bias) motorcycle replacement tires manufactured between April 8, 2012 and January 31, 2015.

III. Noncompliance

CTA explains that the noncompliance is that the tire size designation marking on the sidewalls of the subject tires does not contain the correct construction code designator symbol from The Tire and Rim Association yearbook. Therefore, the tires do not fully comply with paragraph S6.5(c) of FMVSS No. 119 because the tire size designation is not as listed in the documents and publications designated in S5.1. Specifically, the tires were marked with the construction code designator "B" indicating bias-belted construction and should have been marked with the designator "-" indicating diagonal (bias) construction.

IV. Rule Text

Paragraph S6.5 of FMVSS No. 119 requires in pertinent part:

S6.5 Tire Markings. Except as specified in paragraphs, each tire shall be marked on each sidewall with the information specified in paragraphs (a) through (j) of this section. . . .

(c) The tire size designation as listed in the documents and publications designated in S5.1.

V. Summary of CTA's Analyses

CTA stated its belief that the subject noncompliance is inconsequential to motor vehicle safety for the following reasons:

(A) CTA notes that the only improper marking on the sidewall of the subject tires is the use of the letter character "B" in the

¹⁷ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).