5. The Secretary shall arrange for publication of this order in the Federal Register.

By the Commission.

Erica A. Barker,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2022–06145 Filed 3–22–22; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 7710–FW–P

POSTAL SERVICE

Product Change—Priority Mail Negotiated Service Agreement

AGENCY: Postal ServiceTM.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Postal Service gives notice of filing a request with the Postal Regulatory Commission to add a domestic shipping services contract to the list of Negotiated Service Agreements in the Mail Classification Schedule’s Competitive Products List.

DATES: Date of required notice: March 23, 2022.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Sean Robinson, 202–268–8405.


Sean Robinson,
Attorney, Corporate and Postal Business Law.

[FR Doc. 2022–06165 Filed 3–22–22; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 7710–12–P

SEcurities and ExChANGE CoMMiSSION


Self-Regulatory Organizations: The Nasdaq Stock Market LLC; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change To Harmonize Various Processes Under Options 3, Section 20 Across the Affiliated Nasdaq Options Exchanges

March 17, 2022.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (“Act”),1 and Rule 19b–4 thereunder, notice is hereby given that on March 8, 2022, 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 Substantive and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

The Exchange proposes to harmonize its processes and procedures under Options 3, Section 20 with those of its affiliated options exchange.


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

The Exchange proposes to harmonize its existing processes for the review of decisions on appeal under Options 3, Section 20 with those of its affiliate Nasdaq Phlx LLC (“Phlx”). The Exchange also proposes several non-substantive, conforming changes in Options 3, Section 1.

Appeal

Today, Options 3, Section 20(k) governs the appeal process for determinations by Exchange staff made under this Rule, including obvious error determinations. Specifically, a party to a transaction affected by a decision made under this section may appeal that decision to the Exchange Review Council. An appeal must be made in writing, and must be received by the Exchange within thirty (30) minutes after the person making the appeal is given the notification of the determination being appealed.

The Exchange proposes generally to maintain its current appeal process with certain additions to harmonize its process with that of its affiliate, Phlx. First, while Phlx similarly requires the parties to submit a request for review within thirty (30) minutes of being notified of the determination being appealed, Phlx also provides parties with additional time to submit their request if the notification occurs later in the trading day. In particular, if the notification is made after 3:30 p.m. Eastern Time, either party has until 9:30 a.m. Eastern Time on the next trading day to submit a request for review.3 Similar to Phlx, the Exchange believes that this flexibility will be helpful for Participants in submitting their appeal requests in a timely manner, particularly where notification of the Official’s decision was received later in the trading day, and therefore proposes to adopt this provision in Options 3, Section 20(k).

Second, the Exchange proposes to add a provision for when the Exchange Review Council panel must render a decision on requests for appeal to harmonize to Phlx’s process. Specifically, the Exchange proposes in Options 3, Section 20(k) that the Exchange Review Council panel shall review the facts and render a decision on the day of the transaction, or the next trade day in the case where a request is properly made after 3:30 p.m. on the day of the transaction or where the request is properly made the next trade day.4

Options 3, Section 1

The Exchange proposes non-substantive, conforming amendments to Options 3, Section 1 (Days and Hours of Business). The Exchange first proposes to amend the title from “Days and Hours of Business” to “Hours of Business.” The Exchange recently filed to establish General 3, Section 1030, which governs the days the Exchange will be open for business.5 At this time, the Exchange also proposes to amend Options 3, Section 1(c) which provides, “NOM shall not be open for business on any

3 See Phlx Options 3, Section 20(f).
4 See Phlx Options 3, Section 20(f) for analogous language.
holiday observed by The Nasdaq Stock Market, LLC.” The Exchange proposes to instead provide, “NOM shall not be open for business as provided within General 3, Section 1030.” This proposed text will make clear that while General 3, Section 1030 governs the days the Exchange will be open for business, the remainder of the rule addresses the hours of operation of the System and specific products. Finally, the Exchange proposes to update citations to the Options 4 rules related to Exchange-Traded Fund Shares and Index-Linked Securities.

2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that its proposal is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act,6 in general, and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(5) of the Act,7 in particular, in that it is designed to promote just and equitable principles of trade, 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 and because it is not designed to permit unfair discrimination between customers, issuers, brokers, or dealers.

The Exchange believes that its proposal to amend the current appeal process to harmonize with Phlx’s appeal process is consistent with the Act because it will continue to afford Participants with due process in connection with decisions made by Officials under Options 3, Section 20 that the Participant may feel warrants review. As discussed above, the proposal would allow either party until 9:30 a.m. the next trading to submit a request for review if notification is made after 3:30 p.m., which the Exchange believes will be helpful for Participants in submitting their appeal requests in a timely manner. Furthermore, the proposal provides the Exchange Review Council panel additional time and flexibility to render decisions on requests for appeal in cases where a request is properly made after 3:30 p.m. on the day of the transaction or where the request is improperly made the next trading day, and is designed to reduce administrative burden on the Exchange.

Ultimately, the proposed changes to the appeal process are intended to align certain time frames with those of its affiliate in order to provide more consistent rules and procedures across the affiliated options exchanges owned by Nasdaq, Inc. Consistent rules and procedures, in turn, would simplify and streamline the regulatory requirements and increase the understanding of the Exchange’s operations for Participants of the Exchange that are also members on the Exchange’s affiliated options exchanges. Greater harmonization across the affiliated options exchanges will result in greater uniformity, rules that are easier to follow and understand, and more efficient regulatory compliance, thereby contributing to the protection of investors and the public interest. As such, the proposed rule change would foster cooperation and coordination with persons engaged in facilitating transactions in securities and would remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system.

Lastly, the Exchange’s proposal to amend Options 3, Section 1 (Days and Hours of Business) as described above will bring greater clarity, and ensure that this Rule conforms to the changes made in the recent filing to establish General 3, Section 1030, which governs the days the Exchange will be open for business.8 The Exchange believes that market participants would benefit from the increased clarity, thereby reducing potential confusion, and ensuring that market participants and investors can more easily navigate and understand the Exchange’s rules.

For these reasons, the Exchange believes that the proposal is consistent with the Act.

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

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on competition. The Exchange believes that the proposed change to the appeal process under Options 3, Section 20(k), the changes are designed to provide greater harmonization among similar rules and processes across the Exchange’s affiliated options exchanges, resulting in more efficient regulatory compliance for common members. For these reasons, the Exchange believes that the proposed rule change reflects this competitive environment and does not impose any undue burden on intermarket competition.

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

No written comments were either solicited or received.

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

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 Act9 and subparagraph (f)(6) of Rule 19b–4 thereunder.10

At any time within 60 days of the filing of the proposed rule change, the Commission summarily may temporarily suspend such rule change if it appears to the Commission that such action is necessary or appropriate in the public interest, for the protection of investors, or otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. 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 (https://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml); or
- Send an email to rule-comments@sec.gov. Please include File Number SR–NASDAQ–2022–023 on the subject line.

Paper Comments
- Send paper comments in triplicate to Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549–1090.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR–NASDAQ–2022–023. This file number should be included on the subject line if email is used. To help the Commission process and review your comments more efficiently, please use only one method. The Commission will post all comments on the Commission’s internet website (https://www.sec.gov/)

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8 See supra note 5.
10 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 has satisfied this requirement.
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. Persons submitting comments are cautioned that we do not redact or edit personal identifying information from comment submissions.

You should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly. All submissions should refer to File Number SR–NASDAQ–2022–023 and should be submitted on or before April 13, 2022.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.¹¹

J. Matthew DeLesDernier, Assistant Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2022–06088 Filed 3–22–22; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8011–01–P

SEcurities and EXchange COMmission

[Release No. 34–94455; File No. SR–C2–2022–008]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Cboe C2 Exchange, Inc.; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of a Proposed Rule Change To Extend the Pilot Period Related to the Market-Wide Circuit Breaker in Rule 5.20.01 to April 18, 2022

March 17, 2022.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the “Act”),¹ and Rule 19b–4 thereunder,² notice is hereby given that on March 17, 2022, Cboe C2 Exchange, Inc. (the “Exchange” or “C2”) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “Commission”) the proposed rule change as described in Items I and II below, which Items have been prepared

by the Exchange. The Exchange filed the proposal as a “non-controversial” proposed rule change pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(ii) of the Act ³ and Rule 19b–4(f)(6) thereunder. ⁴ 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

Cboe C2 Exchange, Inc. (the “Exchange” or “C2”) proposes to extend the pilot period related to the market-wide circuit breaker in Rule 5.20.01 to April 18, 2022. The text of the proposed rule change is provided in Exhibit 5. The text of the proposed rule change is provided in Exhibit 5.

The text of the proposed rule change is also available on the Exchange’s website (http://markets.cboe.com/us/options/regulation/rule_files/ctwo/), at the Exchange’s Office of the Secretary, 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 and discussed any comments it received on the proposed rule change. The text of those statements may be examined at the places specified in Item IV below. The Exchange has prepared summaries, set forth in sections A, B, and C below, of the most significant 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 Exchange proposes to extend the pilot related to the market-wide circuit breaker in Rule 5.20.01 to the close of business on April 18, 2022.

Background

The Market-Wide Circuit Breaker (“MWCB”) rules, including the Exchange’s Rule 5.20.01, provide an important, automatic mechanism that is invoked to promote stability and investor confidence during periods of significant stress when cash equities securities experience extreme market-wide declines. The MWCB rules are designed to slow the effects of extreme price declines through coordinated trading halts across both cash equity and equity options securities markets.

The cash equities rules governing MWCBs were first adopted in 1988 and, in 2012, all U.S. cash equity exchanges and FINRA amended their cash equities uniform rules on a pilot basis (the “Pilot Rules”), including Exchange Rule 5.20.01.⁵ The Securities and Exchange Commission (the “Commission”) approved the Pilot Rules, the term of which was to coincide with the pilot period for the Plan to Address Extraordinary Market Volatility pursuant to Rule 608 of Regulation NMS (the “LULD Plan”),⁶ including any extensions to the pilot period for the LULD Plan. Though the LULD Plan was primarily designed for equity markets, the Exchange believed it would, indirectly, potentially impact the options markets as well. Thus, the Exchange has previously adopted and amended Rule 5.20.01 (as well as other options pilot rules) to ensure the option markets were not harmed as a result of the Plan’s implementation and implemented such rule on a pilot basis that has coincided with the pilot period for the Plan.⁷ In April 2019, the Commission approved an amendment to the LULD Plan for it to operate on a permanent, rather than pilot, basis.⁸ In light of the proposal to make the LULD Plan permanent, the Exchange amended Rule 5.20.01 to untie the pilot’s effectiveness from that of the LULD Plan and to extend the pilot’s effectiveness to the close of business on October 18, 2019.⁹ The Exchange subsequently amended Rule 5.20.01 to extend the


See Securities Exchange Act Release Nos. 68769 (January 30, 2013), 78 FR 8213 (February 5, 2013) (SR–C2–2013–006) (amending Rule 6.32.03, which was later renumbered to Rule 5.20.01, to delay the operative date of the pilot to coincide with the initial date of operations of the Plan); and 85624 (April 11, 2019), 84 FR 16086 (April 17, 2019) (SR–C2–2019–008) (proposed to extend the pilot for certain options pilots, including Rule 5.20.01).
