SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION


Self-Regulatory Organizations; NASDAQ OMX PHLX LLC; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change Relating to Customer Rebate Program

August 14, 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 August 3, 2015, NASDAQ OMX PHLX LLC (“PHLX” or “Exchange”) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC” or “Commission”) the proposed rule change as described 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

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.

1. Purpose

The purpose of this filing is to amend pricing in section B, entitled “Customer Rebate Program,” of the Pricing Schedule. In particular, the Exchange proposes to: (i) Indicate that Category A rebates for certain Customer Simple Orders in Penny Pilot 1 and non-Penny Pilot Options will increase specifically for Tiers 3, 4, and 5; (ii) establish new Category B for rebates for certain electronic Customer PIXLM ® Orders; (iii) rename Category C to Category G regarding certain electronic Complex 6 and Complex PIXL 7 Orders; and (iv) update and clarify the explanatory notes applicable to Categories A, B, and C to match the proposed changes.

The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Exchange’s Web site at http://nasdaqomxpathx.chswallstreet.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

The Exchange proposes to amend pricing in section B, entitled “Customer Rebate Program,” of the Pricing Schedule. In particular, the Exchange proposes to: (i) Indicate that Category A rebates for certain Customer Simple Orders in Penny Pilot 4 and non-Penny Pilot Options will increase specifically for Tiers 3, 4, and 5; (ii) establish new Category B for rebates for certain electronic Customer PIXLM ® Orders; (iii) rename Category C to Category G regarding certain electronic Complex 6 and Complex PIXL 7 Orders; and (iv) update and clarify the explanatory notes applicable to Categories A, B, and C to match the proposed changes.

The Exchange proposes these amendments in order to more clearly delineate how rebates apply to different types of Customer orders: Customer Simple Orders (Category A), Complex PIXL Orders (Category B), and Customer Complex Orders and Customer Complex PIXL Orders (Category C).

Section B—Customer Rebate Program

Currently, the Exchange has a Customer Rebate Program consisting of five Tiers of Customer Rebates on two categories, A and B, of transactions. A Phlx member qualifies for a certain rebate Tier based on the percentage of total national customer volume in Multiply Listed equity and ETF options classes, excluding SPY8 options that it transacts monthly on Phlx. The Exchange calculates Customer volume in Multiply Listed Options (excluding SPY options) by totaling electronically-delivered and executed volume, excluding volume associated with electronic Qualified Contingent Cross (“QCC”) Orders, as defined in Exchange Rule 1080(10). 9

The Exchange now has rebate categories A and Category B to cover all rebates pursuant to the


5. The term “Customer” applies to any transaction that is identified by a member or member organization for placing in the Customer range at the Options Clearing Corporation (“OCC”) which is not for the account of broker or dealer or the account of a “Professional” (as that term is defined in Rule 100(b)(14)).

6. The Penny Pilot was established in January 2007 and was last extended in 2015. See Securities Exchange Act Release Nos. 55153 (January 23, 2007), 72 FR 4523 (January 31, 2007) [SR-Phlx–2006–74] (notice of filing and approval order establishing Penny Pilot); and 75286 (June 24, 2015) [SR–Phlx–2015–54] (notice of filing and immediate effectiveness extending the Penny Pilot through June 30, 2016). Non-Penny Pilot Options are options other than Penny Pilot Options listed on the Exchange (e.g., AAPL, BAC, EEM, FB, FXL, IWM, QQQ, TWTR, VXX and XLF), which can be found

7. 4 A Complex Order is any order involving the simultaneous purchase and/or sale of two or more different options series in the same underlying security, priced at a net debit or credit based on the relative prices of the individual components, for the same account, for the purpose of executing a particular investment strategy. Furthermore, a Complex Order can also be a stock-option order, which is an order to buy or sell a stated number of units of an underlying stock or Exchange Traded Fund (“ETF”) coupled with the purchase or sale of options contract(s). See Exchange Rule 1080, Commentary .07(a)(iii).

8. A transaction resulting from an order that was electronically delivered utilizes Phlx XL. See Exchange Rules 1014 and 1080. Electronically delivered orders do not include orders transacted on the Exchange floor. A transaction resulting from an order that is non-electronically-delivered is represented on the trading floor by a floor broker. See Exchange Rule 1063. All orders are either electronically or non-electronically delivered.

9. SYP is the SPDR® S&P 500® ETF Trust, S&P® 500® SPDR® and Standard & Poor’s® Financial Services LLC.

10. A QCC Order is comprised of an order to buy or sell at least 1000 contracts that is identified as being part of a qualified contingent trade, as that term is defined in Rule 1080(10), coupled with a contra-side order to buy or sell an equal number of contracts. The QCC Order must be executed at a price at or between the National Best Bid and Offer and be rejected if a Customer order is resting on the Exchange book at the same price. A QCC Order shall only be submitted electronically from off the floor to the PHLX XL II System. See Rule 1080(o).

11. See also Securities Exchange Act Release No. 64249 (April 7, 2011), 76 FR 20773 (April 13, 2011) [SR–Phlx–2011–47] (a rule change to establish a QCC Order to facilitate the execution of stock/option Qualified Contingent Trades (“QCTs”) that satisfy the requirements of the trade through exemption in connection with Rule 611(d) of the Regulation NMS).

12. Members and member organizations under common ownership may aggregate their Customer volume for purposes of determining whether a Customer Rebate Tier and receiving rebates. Common ownership means members or member organizations under 75% common ownership or control. See Preface to Pricing Schedule.
Customer Rebate Program. The Exchange proposes to add new Category B. This allows the Exchange to more clearly delineate how rebates apply to three types of orders: Customer Simple Orders, which will be covered in Category A; Customer PIXL Orders, which will be covered in Category B; and Customer Complex Orders and Customer Complex PIXL Orders, which will be covered in Category C.

Currently, a Category A rebate is paid to members executing electronically-delivered Customer Simple Orders in Penny Pilot Options and Customer Simple Orders in non-Penny Pilot Options in Section II symbols. Rebates are paid on Customer PIXL Complex Orders in section II symbols that execute against non-Initiating Order interest. Customer Complex PIXL Orders that execute against a Complex PIXL Initiating Order will not be paid a rebate under any circumstances. The Category B rebate will not be paid when an electronically-delivered Customer Complex Order, including a Customer Complex PIXL Order, executes against another electronically-delivered Customer Complex Order. Rebates on Customer PIXL Orders are capped at 4,000 contracts per order leg for Complex PIXL Orders.

Currently, there is an explanatory note regarding Category A, an explanatory note regarding Category B, and an asterisked note that applies to certain sections of Category A and Category B. These are discussed below.

### Table 1: Customer Rebate Tiers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Customer rebate tiers</th>
<th>Percentage thresholds of national customer volume in multiply-listed equity and ETF options classes, excluding SPY options (monthly)</th>
<th>Category A</th>
<th>Category B</th>
<th>Category C</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tier 1</td>
<td>0.00%–0.60%</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tier 2</td>
<td>Above 0.60%–1.10%</td>
<td>0.10</td>
<td>0.17</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tier 3</td>
<td>Above 1.10%–1.60%</td>
<td>0.12</td>
<td>0.17</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tier 4</td>
<td>Above 1.60%–2.50%</td>
<td>0.16</td>
<td>0.22</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tier 5</td>
<td>Above 2.50%</td>
<td>0.17</td>
<td>0.22</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Exchange proposes in Category A to change the Tier 3 Customer Rebate from $0.12 to $0.15. The Exchange also proposes to change the Tier 4 Customer Rebate from $0.16 to $0.20, and the Tier 5 Customer Rebate from $0.17 to $0.21. The Exchange believes that the proposed increased Category A rebates will continue to encourage members to send Customer Liquidity to Phlx. The Exchange believes that the proposed three or four cent rebate increase in Tiers 3, 4, and 5 is reasonable and fair, and retains the existing structure of increasingly higher rebates in increasingly higher Tiers to encourage members to send greater liquidity while giving members an

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5 A “Specialist” is an Exchange member who is registered as an options specialist pursuant to Rule 1020(a).

11 A “Market Maker” includes Registered Options Traders (Rule 1014(b)(i) and (ii)), which includes Streaming Quote Traders (see Rule 1014(b)(ii)(A)) and Remote Streaming Quote Traders (see Rule 1014(b)(ii)(B)).

13 A “Market Maker” includes Registered Options Traders (Rule 1014(b)(i) and (ii)), which includes Streaming Quote Traders (see Rule 1014(b)(ii)(A)) and Remote Streaming Quote Traders (see Rule 1014(b)(ii)(B)).
opportunity to receive higher Customer rebates. Moreover, as stated in the explanatory note to Category A, rebates will continue to be paid to members executing electronically-delivered Customer Simple Orders in Penny Pilot Options and Customer Simple Orders in Non-Penny Pilot Options in section II symbols. The remaining provisions in the Category A explanatory note regarding Customer PIXL Orders (Customer PIXL Orders that execute against a PIXL Initiating Order are paid a rebate of $0.14 per contract, and rebates on Customer PIXL Orders that are capped at 4,000 contracts per order for Simple PIXL Orders) are simply moved to proposed Category B.

The Exchange proposes new Category B regarding Customer PIXL orders that are not complex orders (these are covered in Category C). The proposed Tiers in Category B are exactly like the current Tiers in Category A. Thus, the proposed Category B Tiers include Tier 1 at $0.00, Tier 2 at $0.10, Tier 3 at $0.15, Tier 4 at $0.17, and Tier 5 at $0.22. As discussed, all of the Tiers in Category C apply to Customer Complex Orders and Customer Complex PIXL Orders only. In addition, the current Category B explanatory note is re-named to Category C so that as proposed it reads as follows: Rebate will be paid to members executing electronically-delivered Customer Complex Orders in Penny Pilot Options and Non-Penny Pilot Options in Section II symbols. Rebate will be paid on Customer PIXL Complex Orders in Section II symbols that execute against non-Initiating Order interest. Customer Complex PIXL Orders that execute against a Complex PIXL Initiating Order will not be paid a rebate under any circumstances. The Category C Rebate will not be paid when an electronically-delivered Customer Complex Order, including Customer Complex PIXL Order, executes against another electronically-delivered Customer Complex Order. Rebates on Customer PIXL Complex Orders will be capped at 4,000 contracts per order leg for Complex PIXL Orders. Finally, the asterisked explanatory note, which currently applies to Categories A and B but does not apply to Category C as it currently does not exist, will be amended to properly reflect all three Categories. This note discusses certain rebates in addition to the applicable Tier 2 and Tier 3 rebate to a Specialist or Market Maker or its member or member organization affiliate under Common Ownership. The portion of the note that now applies to Category A only will be expanded to Category A and B; and the portion of the note that now applies to Category B will apply to new Category C. Thus, the asterisked note would read as follows: The Exchange will pay a $0.02 per contract Category A and B rebate and a $0.03 per contract Category C rebate in addition to the applicable Tier 2 and 3 rebate to a Specialist or Market Maker or its member or member organization affiliate under Common Ownership provided the Specialist or Market Maker has reached the Monthly Market Maker Cap, as defined in section II. The Exchange believes that, similarly to the other proposed changes, this adds clarity to the proposed new three-Category rebate structure where each Category applies to a different type of Customer Order.16

The Exchange believes that by making the proposed changes, clarifying the rebate structure, and increasing certain rebates, the Exchange will continue to encourage market participants to direct a greater number of Customer orders to the Exchange.

2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that its proposal to amend the Pricing Schedule is consistent with section 6(b) of the Act in general, and further the objectives of section 6(b)(4) and (b)(5) of the Act in particular, 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 Phlx operates or controls, and is not designed to permit unfair discrimination between market participants to whom the Exchange’s fees and rebates are applicable.

Section B—Customer Rebates

The Exchange believes that its proposal to change the Tier 3 Customer Rebate from $0.12 to $0.15, the Tier 4 Customer Rebate from $0.16 to $0.20, and the Tier 5 Customer Rebate from $0.17 to $0.21 is reasonable. These proposed changes will allow the Exchange to continue to attract Customer liquidity to the Exchange. Customer orders bring valuable liquidity to the market, which liquidity benefits other market participants. Customer liquidity benefits all market participants by providing more trading opportunities, which attracts Specialists and Market Makers. An increase in the activity of these market participants in turn facilitates tighter spreads, which may cause an additional corresponding increase in order flow from other market participants. The Exchange believes that the proposed increased Category A rebates will continue to encourage members to send Customer liquidity to Phlx despite moving to Category B the cap on PIXL Complex Order rebates at the proposed 4,000 contracts per order leg. The Exchange believes that the proposed increase of three or four cents is reasonable. Additionally, the CBOE has similar [sic] rebates.21 Similarly, the Exchange believes that moving the cap regarding Customer PIXL Orders from Category A to proposed Category B, which deals with Customer PIXL Orders, is likewise reasonable under the three-Category structure according to 16 Id.
Customer order type. Category A rebates will continue to be paid to members executing electronically-delivered Customer Simple Orders in Penny Pilot Options and Customer Simple Orders in Non-Penny Pilot Options in section II symbols.

The Exchange believes that its proposal to amend Category A is equitable and not unfairly discriminatory because these proposed amendments to Category A apply uniformly to all market participants to whom Category A applies. Moreover, the Exchange believes that the proposed modest Tiers increases (to $0.15, $0.20, and $0.21) retain the existing structure of increasingly higher rebates in increasingly higher Tiers to encourage members to send greater liquidity while giving members an opportunity to receive higher Customer rebates.

The Exchange believes that its proposal to establish new Category B is reasonable. The Exchange proposes new Category B regarding Customer PIXL orders that are not complex orders (these are covered in Category C), and the proposed Tiers in Category B are exactly like the current Category A Tiers. In addition, the Exchange believes that it is reasonable to re-number the last two sentences of the explanatory note applicable to Category A, which discusses Customer PIXL Orders, so that it becomes the new note applicable to Category B, which deals with Customer PIXL Orders. The Exchange believes that its proposal to add new Category B, which is applicable to Complex PIXL orders only, adds clarity to the rebate structure. The addition of Category B establishes three different Categories for three different types of orders. This allows the Exchange to more clearly delineate how rebates apply to three types of orders: Customer Simple Orders that will be dealt with in Category A, Customer PIXL Orders that will be dealt with in Category B, and Customer Complex Orders and Customer Complex PIXL Orders that will be dealt with in Category C. Moreover, the Tiers in Category B, as also the explanatory note, are not new but rather are simply taken directly from current Category A. The Exchange believes that it is reasonable to move the current explanatory note regarding Category B, which discusses Complex Orders, to Category C, which discusses Customer Complex Orders and Customer Complex PIXL Orders.

The Exchange believes that its proposal to amend Category B is equitable and not unfairly discriminatory because these proposed amendments to Category B apply uniformly to all market participants to whom Category B applies.

The Exchange believes that its proposal to re-name Category B as Category C, which as proposed deals with Customer Complex Orders and Customer Complex PIXL Orders, and to ensure that the explanatory note to Category B is properly applicable to Category C, is reasonable under the three-Category structure according to Customer order type. These proposed changes will allow the Exchange to continue to attract Customer liquidity to the Exchange. Customer orders bring valuable liquidity to the market, which liquidity benefits other market participants. Customer liquidity benefits all market participants by providing more trading opportunities, which attracts Specialists and Market Makers. An increase in the activity of these market participants in turn facilitates tighter spreads, which may cause an additional corresponding increase in order flow from other market participants. The Exchange believes that it is reasonable to move the cap on PIXL Complex Order rebates at the proposed 4,000 contracts per order leg from Category B to Category C, which applies to Complex Orders.

The Exchange believes that its proposal to amend Category C is equitable and not unfairly discriminatory because these proposed amendments to Category C apply uniformly to all market participants to whom Category C applies.

The Exchange also believes that amending the asterisked explanatory note, which currently applies to Categories A and B, to reflect all three Categories is reasonable under the three-Category system as discussed. The portion of the note that now applies to Category A only will be expanded to Category A and B; and the portion of the note that now applies to Category B will apply to new Category C. The Exchange believes that, similarly to the other proposed changes, this adds clarity to the proposed new three-Category rebate structure (Customer Simple Orders in Category A, Customer PIXL Orders in Category B, and Customer Complex Orders and Customer Complex PIXL Orders in Category C). In addition, The Exchange believes that it is reasonable to give Specialists and Market Maker or its member of member organization affiliate under Common Ownership to earn an additional rebate under certain circumstances. An increase in the activity of these market participants may facilitate tighter spreads, which may cause an additional corresponding increase in order flow from other market participants. Moreover, Specialists and Market Makers have obligations to the market and regulatory requirements, which normally do not apply to other market participants. They have obligations to make continuous markets, engage in a course of dealings reasonably calculated to contribute to the maintenance of a fair and orderly market, and not make bids or offers or enter into transactions that are inconsistent with a course of dealings. The differentiation as between Specialists and Market Makers and other market participants (e.g., Professionals, Broker-Dealers, and Firms) recognizes the differing contributions made to the liquidity and trading environment on the Exchange by these market participants.

The Exchange believes that these last-discussed amendments are equitable and not unfairly discriminatory because they would apply uniformly to all market participants.

The Exchange believes that the proposed amendments to the rebate structure in the Pricing Structure enables the Exchange to continue to incentivize members to send order flow to the Exchange to the benefit market participants.

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 not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. The Customer Rebate Program amendments in section B of the Pricing Schedule, for example, do not create an undue burden on competition and, like all of the amendments proposed by the Exchange, will apply uniformly to all market participants. Moreover, the section B amendments will enable the Exchange to continue to attract liquidity, which benefits all market participants by providing more trading opportunities, which attracts Specialists and Market Makers. The Exchange’s proposal will allow it to continue to incentivize market participants to bring liquidity to the Exchange, as described herein.

The Exchange operates in a highly competitive market, comprised of twelve exchanges, in which market participants can easily and readily direct order flow to competing venues if they deem fee levels at a particular venue to be excessive or rebates to be inadequate. Accordingly, the fees that are assessed and the rebates paid by the

[22] See Rule 1014 titled “Obligations and Restrictions Applicable to Specialists and Registered Options Traders.”
Exchange, as described in the proposal, are influenced by these robust market forces and therefore must remain competitive with fees charged and rebates paid by other venues and therefore must continue to be reasonable and equitably allocated to those members that opt to direct orders to the Exchange rather than competing venues.

The Exchange believes that its changes are pro-competitive. The proposed rebate changes, which are part of the Exchange’s overall fee structure, are designed to ensure a fair and reasonable use of Exchange resources by allowing the Exchange to recoup costs while continuing to attract liquidity and offer connectivity at competitive rates to Exchange members and member organizations.

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.23 At any time effective pursuant to section 19(b)(4) of the Act, the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority, may summarily suspend the proposed rule change if 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 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–Phlx–2015–68 and should be submitted on or before September 10, 2015.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.24

Robert W. Errett,
Deputy Secretary.

BILLEING CODE 8011–01–P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION


Self-Regulatory Organizations; EDGA Exchange, Inc.; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of a Proposed Rule Change to Rule 11.6, Definitions; Rule 11.8, Order Types; Rule 11.9, Priority of Orders; Rule 11.10, Order Execution; and Rule 11.11, Routing to Away Trading Centers

August 14, 2015.

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 August 11, 2015, EDGA Exchange, Inc. (the “Exchange” or “EDGA”) 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 has designated this proposal as a “non-controversial” proposed rule change pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act3 and Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(ii) thereunder,4 which renders it effective upon filing with the Commission. 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 filed a proposal to align certain rules with similar rules of BATS Exchange, Inc. (“BZX”), BATS Y. Exchange, Inc., (“BYX”), and EDGX Exchange, Inc. (“EDGX”). These changes are described in detail below and include amending: (i) Rule 11.6, Definitions; (ii) Rule 11.8, Order Types; (iii) Rule 11.9, Priority of Orders; (iv) Rule 11.10, Order Execution; and (v) Rule 11.11, Routing to Away Trading Centers. The Exchange does not propose to implement new or unique functionality that has not been previously filed with the Commission or is not available on BZX, BYX, or EDGX. The Exchange notes that the proposed rule text is based on BZX, BYX, and EDGX rules and is different only to the extent necessary to conform to the Exchange’s current rules.

The text of the proposed rule change is available at the Exchange’s Web site at www.batstrading.com, at the principal office of the Exchange, and at
