Proposal to amend Rule 1014 of the Options Rules relating to Market Maker Quotations.
### Form 19b-4 Information *

The self-regulatory organization must provide all required information, presented in a clear and comprehensible manner, to enable the public to provide meaningful comment on the proposal and for the Commission to determine whether the proposal is consistent with the Act and applicable rules and regulations under the Act.

### Exhibit 1 - Notice of Proposed Rule Change *

The Notice section of this Form 19b-4 must comply with the guidelines for publication 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 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).

### Exhibit 1A- Notice of Proposed Rule Change, Security-Based Swap Submission, or Advance Notice by Clearing Agencies *

The Notice section of this Form 19b-4 must comply with the guidelines for publication 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 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, Transcripts, Other Communications

Copies of notices, written comments, transcripts, other communications. If such documents cannot be filed electronically in accordance with Instruction F, they shall be filed in accordance with Instruction G.

### 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 referred to by the proposed rule change.

### Exhibit 4 - Marked Copies

The full text shall be marked, in any convenient manner, to indicate additions to and deletions from the immediately preceding filing. The purpose of Exhibit 4 is to permit 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 of the proposed rule change.

### Partial Amendment

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) NASDAQ PHLX LLC (“Phlx” or “Exchange”), pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (“Act”)¹ and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,² is filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC” or “Commission”) a proposal to amend Rule 1014 of the Options Rules relating to Market Maker Quotations.

A notice of the proposed rule change for publication in the Federal Register is attached as Exhibit 1.

The text of the proposed rule change is attached as Exhibit 5.

(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 (the “Board”) on August 15, 2016. Exchange staff will advise the Board of any action taken pursuant to delegated authority. No other action is necessary for the filing of the rule change.

Questions and comments on the proposed rule change may be directed to:

Andrew Madar  
Senior Associate General Counsel  
Nasdaq, Inc.  
301-978-8420

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

a. **Purpose**

Phlx is proposing to amend Rule 1014(c)(i)(A)(1) of the Options Rules relating to Market Maker Quotations to amend the quote spread parameters for in-the-money series where the market for the underlying security is wider than the differentials set forth in the Rule. Currently, Rule 1014(c)(i)(A)(1)(a) provides the following bid/ask differentials for options on equities and index options: no more than $.25 between the bid and the offer for each option contract for which the prevailing bid is less than $2; no more than $.40 where the prevailing bid is $2 or more but less than $5; no more than $.50 where the prevailing bid is $5 or more but less than $10; no more than $.80 where the prevailing bid is $10 or more but less than $20; and no more than $1 where the prevailing bid is $20 or more, provided that, in the case of equity options, the bid/ask differentials stated above shall not apply to in-the-money series where the market for the underlying security is wider than the differentials set forth above. For such series, the bid/ask differentials may be as wide as the quotation for the underlying security on the primary market, or its decimal equivalent rounded up to the nearest minimum increment. The Exchange may establish differences other than the above for one or more series or classes of options.

Phlx proposes to change this provision so that, in the case of in-the-money series of equity options where the market for the underlying security is wider than the differentials set forth above, the bid/ask differential may be as wide as the spread between the national best bid and offer (“NBBO”) in the underlying security.

Phlx is proposing this change so that Rule 1014(c)(i)(A)(1)(a) will be consistent with Rule 803(b)(4)(i) of the International Securities Exchange, LLC (“ISE”) in this
Pursuant to the acquisition of the indirect parent company of ISE by Nasdaq, Inc., Nasdaq is migrating ISE platforms to Nasdaq platforms, and proposing consistent rules where appropriate. In addition to making the Phlx and ISE rules consistent with one another in this regard, Phlx believes that measuring the permissible width of a market maker’s quote against the NBBO more accurately reflects the current trading environment where multiple trading venues contribute to the prevailing market price of a security underlying an options series traded on Phlx.

b. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that its proposal is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act, in general, and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(5) of the Act, 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. The proposed change adopts a bid/ask differential for market makers for in-the-money series, where the

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3 ISE Rule 803(b)(4)(i) rule provides that (i) the bid/offer differentials stated in subparagraph (b)(4) of this Rule shall not apply to in-the-money options series where the underlying securities market is wider than the differentials set forth above. For these series, the bid/ask differential may be as wide as the spread between the national best bid and offer in the underlying security.


5 For example, if the primary market for ABC has a quote of $65 (bid) - $73 (offer), Phlx market makers currently may quote in-the-money option series on that security with a bid/offer differential of $8, even if other exchanges that trade ABC may collectively have a higher bid of $66 and a lower offer of $72. Under the proposed rule, Phlx market makers would be required to quote in-the-money option series on ABC with a bid/offer differential of no more than $6.


market for the underlying security is wider than the differentials set forth in the Rule, that is consistent with ISE Rule 803(b)(4)(i). Phlx also believes that the proposal is consistent with the Act because measuring the permissible width of a market maker’s quote against the NBBO more accurately reflects the current trading environment where multiple trading venues contribute to the prevailing market price of a security underlying an options series traded on Phlx.

4. **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 proposed change will adopt the same requirement as ISE Rule 803(b)(4)(i), and will apply the same standard to all Market Makers for in-the-money series where the market for the underlying security is wider than the differentials set forth in the Rule.

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**

   Not Applicable.

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

   The foregoing rule change has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(iii)\(^8\) of the Act and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder\(^9\) in that it effects a change that: (i) does not significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest; (ii) does not impose any significant burden on competition; and (iii) by its terms, does not

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become operative for 30 days after the date of the filing, or such shorter time as the Commission may designate if consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest.

The Exchange believes that the proposed changes benefit investors by adopting a requirement that is consistent with ISE Rule 803(b)(4)(i) and that more accurately reflects the current trading environment where multiple trading venues contribute to the prevailing market price of a security underlying an options series traded on Phlx. At the same time, the Exchange does not believe that the proposed change is of sufficient magnitude that it will significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest or impose any significant burden on competition.

Furthermore, Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii) requires a self-regulatory organization to give the Commission written notice of its intent to file a proposed rule change under that subsection at least five business days prior to the date of filing, or such shorter time as designated by the Commission. The Exchange has provided such notice.

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.

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

The proposal will adopt the standard that is set forth in ISE Rule 803(b)(4)(i).
9. **Security-Based Swap Submissions Filed Pursuant to Section 3C of the Act**
   
   Not applicable.

10. **Advance Notices Filed Pursuant to Section 806(e) of the Payment, Clearing and Settlement Supervision Act**
   
   Not applicable.

11. **Exhibits**

    
    5. Text of the proposed rule change.
Self-Regulatory Organization’s Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed Rule Change

The Exchange proposes to amend Rule 1014 of the Options Rules relating to Market Maker Quotations.

The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Exchange’s Website at http://nasdaqphlx.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 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**

Phlx is proposing to amend Rule 1014(c)(i)(A)(1) of the Options Rules relating to
Market Maker Quotations to amend the quote spread parameters for in-the-money series
where the market for the underlying security is wider than the differentials set forth in the
Rule. Currently, Rule 1014(c)(i)(A)(1)(a) provides the following bid/ask differentials for
options on equities and index options: no more than $.25 between the bid and the offer
for each option contract for which the prevailing bid is less than $2; no more than $.40
where the prevailing bid is $2 or more but less than $5; no more than $.50 where the
prevailing bid is $5 or more but less than $10; no more than $.80 where the prevailing bid
is $10 or more but less than $20; and no more than $1 where the prevailing bid
is $20 or more, provided that, in the case of equity options, the bid/ask differentials stated above
shall not apply to in-the-money series where the market for the underlying security is
wider than the differentials set forth above. For such series, the bid/ask differentials may
be as wide as the quotation for the underlying security on the primary market, or its
decimal equivalent rounded up to the nearest minimum increment. The Exchange may
establish differences other than the above for one or more series or classes of options.

Phlx proposes to change this provision so that, in the case of in-the-money series
of equity options where the market for the underlying security is wider than the
differentials set forth above, the bid/ask differential may be as wide as the spread between the national best bid and offer ("NBBO") in the underlying security.

Phlx is proposing this change so that Rule 1014(c)(i)(A)(1)(a) will be consistent with Rule 803(b)(4)(i) of the International Securities Exchange, LLC ("ISE") in this regard. Pursuant to the acquisition of the indirect parent company of ISE by Nasdaq, Inc., Nasdaq is migrating ISE platforms to Nasdaq platforms, and proposing consistent rules where appropriate. In addition to making the Phlx and ISE rules consistent with one another in this regard, Phlx believes that measuring the permissible width of a market maker’s quote against the NBBO more accurately reflects the current trading environment where multiple trading venues contribute to the prevailing market price of a security underlying an options series traded on Phlx.

2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that its proposal is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act, in general, and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(5) of the Act, in particular,

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3 ISE Rule 803(b)(4)(i) rule provides that (i) the bid/offer differentials stated in subparagraph (b)(4) of this Rule shall not apply to in-the-money options series where the underlying securities market is wider than the differentials set forth above. For these series, the bid/ask differential may be as wide as the spread between the national best bid and offer in the underlying security.


5 For example, if the primary market for ABC has a quote of $65 (bid) - $73 (offer), Phlx market makers currently may quote in-the-money option series on that security with a bid/offer differential of $8, even if other exchanges that trade ABC may collectively have a higher bid of $66 and a lower offer of $72. Under the proposed rule, Phlx market makers would be required to quote in-the-money option series on ABC with a bid/offer differential of no more than $6.


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. The proposed change adopts a bid/ask differential for market makers for in-the-money series, where the market for the underlying security is wider than the differentials set forth in the Rule, that is consistent with ISE Rule 803(b)(4)(i). Phlx also believes that the proposal is consistent with the Act because measuring the permissible width of a market maker’s quote against the NBBO more accurately reflects the current trading environment where multiple trading venues contribute to the prevailing market price of a security underlying an options series traded on Phlx.

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 proposed change will adopt the same requirement as ISE Rule 803(b)(4)(i), and will apply the same standard to all Market Makers for in-the-money series where the market for the underlying security is wider than the differentials set forth in the Rule.

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 Act\textsuperscript{8} and subparagraph (f)(6) of Rule 19b-4 thereunder.\textsuperscript{9}

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 \texttt{http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml}; or

- Send an e-mail to rule-comments@sec.gov. Please include File Number SR-Phlx-2017-16 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.


\textsuperscript{9} 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.
All submissions should refer to File Number SR-Phlx-2017-16. 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-Phlx-2017-16 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.10

Robert W. Errett
Deputy Secretary

Deleted text is [bracketed]. New text is underlined.

**EXHIBIT 5**

**NASDAQ PHLX Rules**

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**Options Rules**

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**Rule 1014. Obligations and Restrictions Applicable to Specialists and Registered Options Traders**

(a) – (b) No Change.

(c) In Classes of Option Contracts to Which Assigned—Affirmative Obligations. With respect to classes of option contracts to which his assignment extends, a Specialist and an ROT, whenever the ROT (except an RSQT) enters the trading crowd in other than a floor brokerage capacity or is called upon by an Options Exchange Official or a Floor Broker, to make a market, are expected to engage, to a reasonable degree under the existing circumstances, in dealing for his own account when there exists, or it is reasonably anticipated that there will exist, a lack of price continuity, a temporary disparity between the supply of and demand for a particular option contract, or a temporary distortion of the price relationships between option contracts of the same class. Without limiting the foregoing, a Specialist and an ROT is expected to perform the following activities in the course of maintaining a fair and orderly market:

(i) **Options on Equities (including Exchange-Traded Fund Shares), Index Options, and U.S. dollar-settled Foreign Currency Options.**

(A)(1) **Quote Spread Parameters (Bid/Ask Differentials)**

(a) Options on equities and index options bidding and/or offering so as to create differences of no more than $.25 between the bid and the offer for each option contract for which the prevailing bid is less than $2; no more than $.40 where the prevailing bid is $2 or more but less than $5; no more than $.50 where the prevailing bid is $5 or more but less than $10; no more than $.80 where the prevailing bid is $10 or more but less than $20; and no more than $1 where the prevailing bid is $20 or more, provided that, in the case of equity options, the bid/ask differentials stated above shall not apply to in-the-money series where the market for the underlying security is wider than the differentials set forth above. For such series, the bid/ask differentials may be as wide as the [quotation for the underlying security on the primary market]spread between the national best bid and offer in the underlying security, or its decimal equivalent rounded
up to the nearest minimum increment. The Exchange may establish differences other than the above for one or more series or classes of options.

(b) No Change.

(2) No Change.

(d) – (g) No Change.

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