SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. 34-52757; File No. SR-NASD-2005-125)

November 9, 2005

Self-Regulatory Organizations; National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc.; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change to Modify Pricing for NASD Members Using the Nasdaq Market Center and Nasdaq's Brut Facility

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act")<sup>1</sup> and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,<sup>2</sup> notice is hereby given that on October 26, 2005, the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc. ("NASD"), through its subsidiary, The Nasdaq Stock Market, Inc. ("Nasdaq"), filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II, and III below, which Items have been prepared by Nasdaq. Nasdaq has designated this proposal as one establishing or changing a due, fee or other charge imposed by the self-regulatory organization under Section 19(b)(3)(A)(ii)<sup>3</sup> of the Act and Rule 19b-4(f)(2) thereunder,<sup>4</sup> which renders the proposal effective upon filing with the Commission. The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

I. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Terms of the Substance of the Proposed Rule Change</u>

Nasdaq proposes to modify the pricing for NASD members using the Nasdaq Market Center and Nasdaq's Brut Facility ("Brut"). Nasdaq states that it implemented the proposed rule change on November 1, 2005.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(ii).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(2).

The text of the proposed rule change is below. Proposed new language is <a href="underlined">underlined</a>. Proposed deletions are in [brackets].

\* \* \* \* \*

## 7010. System Services

- (a) (h) No change.
- (i) Nasdaq Market Center and Brut Facility Order Execution
- (1) The following charges shall apply to the use of the order execution services of the Nasdaq Market Center and Nasdaq's Brut Facility by members for Nasdaq-listed securities subject to the Nasdaq UTP Plan and for Exchange-Traded Funds listed on a national securities exchange[the American Stock Exchange; provided, however; that Directed Orders are not available for such Exchange-Traded Funds]. The term "Exchange-Traded Funds" shall mean Portfolio Depository Receipts, Index Fund Shares, and Trust Issued Receipts as such terms are defined in Rule 4420(i), (j), and (l), respectively.

## **Order Entry**

Non-Directed Orders and	No charge
Preferenced Orders	

#### **Order Execution**

Non-Directed or	
Preferenced Order that	
accesses the Quote/Order of	
a market participant that	

does not charge an access	
fee to market participants	
accessing its Quotes/Orders	
through the Nasdaq Market	
Center and/or Nasdaq's	
Brut Facility:	
Charge to member entering	
order:	
Average daily shares of	
liquidity provided through	
the Nasdaq Market Center	
and/or Nasdaq's Brut	
Facility by the member	
during the month:	
Greater than 10 million	\$0.0027 per share executed (but no more
	than \$108 per trade for trades in securities
	executed at \$1.00 or less per share)
Greater than 2,000,000 but	\$0.0028 per share executed (but no more
less than or equal to	than \$112 per trade for trades in securities
10,000,000	executed at \$1.00 or less per share)
2,000,000 or less	\$0.0030 per share executed (but no more
	than \$120 per trade for trades in securities

	executed at \$1.00 or less per share)
Credit to member providing	
liquidity:	
Average daily shares of	
liquidity provided through	
the Nasdaq Market Center	
and/or Nasdaq's Brut	
Facility by the member	
during the month:	
Greater than 20 million	\$0.0025 per share executed (but no more
	than \$100 per trade for trades in securities
	executed at \$1.00 or less per share)
Greater than 2,000,000 but	\$0.0022 per share executed (but no more
less than or equal to	than \$88 per trade for trades in securities
20,000,000	executed at \$1.00 or less per share)
Less than or equal to	\$0.0020 per share executed (but no more
2,000,000	than \$80 per trade for trades in securities
	executed at \$1.00 or less per share)
Non-Directed or	
Preferenced Order that	
accesses the Quote/Order of	
a market participant that	

charges an access fee to	
market participants	
accessing its Quotes/	
Orders through the Nasdaq	
Market Center:	
Charge to member	
entering order:	
Average daily shares of	
liquidity provided through	
the Nasdaq Market Center	
and/or Nasdaq's Brut	
Facility by the member	
during the month:	
500,000 or less	\$0.001 per share executed (but no more
	than \$40 per trade for trades in securities
	executed at \$1.00 or less per share)
500,001 or more	\$0.001 per share executed (but no more
	than \$40 per trade for trades in securities
	executed at \$1.00 or less per share, and no
	more than \$10,000 per month)
Routed Orders	
Any order entered by a	\$0.004 per share executed

member that is routed	
outside of both the Nasdaq	
Market Center and	
Nasdaq's Brut Facility and	
that does not attempt to	
execute in Nasdaq's Brut	
Facility prior to routing	
Any other order entered by	
a member that is routed	
outside of both the Nasdaq	
Market Center and	
Nasdaq's Brut Facility	
Average daily shares of	
liquidity provided through	
the Nasdaq Market Center	
and/or Nasdaq's Brut	
Facility by the member	
during the month and	
average daily shares	
accessed through and/or	
routed from the Nasdaq	
Market Center and/or	
	l .

Nasdaq's Brut Facility by	
the member during the	
month (excluding orders	
routed outside of both the	
Nasdaq Market Center and	
Nasdaq's Brut Facility that	
do not attempt to execute in	
Nasdaq's Brut Facility prior	
to routing):	
Greater than 20 million	\$0.0025 per share executed
shares of liquidity provided	
and greater than 40 million	
shares accessed and/or	
routed	
Greater than 10 million but	\$0.0027 per share executed
less than or equal to 20	
million shares of liquidity	
provided and any amount	
accessed or routed, OR	
greater than 20 million	
shares of liquidity provided	
and 40 million or fewer	

shares accessed and/or	
routed	
Greater than 2,000,000 but	\$0.0028 per share executed
less than or equal to	
10,000,000 shares of	
liquidity provided and any	
amount accessed and/or	
routed	
Less than or equal to	\$0.0030 per share executed
2,000,000 shares of	
liquidity provided and any	
amount accessed and/or	
routed	

## **Order Cancellation**

Non-Directed and	No charge
Preferenced Orders	

- (2) (4) No change.
- (5) There shall be no charges or credits for order entry, execution, routing, or cancellation by members accessing the Nasdaq Market Center or Nasdaq's Brut Facility to buy or sell exchange-listed securities subject to the Consolidated Quotations Service and Consolidated Tape Association plans, other than: (A) the

charges in Rule 7010(i)(1) for Exchange-Traded Funds[ listed on the American Stock Exchange], (B) charges described in Rule 7010(d), (C) a fee of \$0.0004 per share executed for orders delivered by Nasdaq's Brut Facility to an exchange using the exchange's proprietary order delivery system if such orders do not attempt to execute in Nasdaq's Brut Facility or the Nasdaq Market Center prior to routing to the exchange, and (D) a fee of \$0.009 per share executed for any limit order delivered by Nasdaq's Brut Facility to the New York Stock Exchange ("NYSE") using the NYSE's proprietary order delivery system if such an order is not an on-close order, is not executed in the opening, and remains at the NYSE for more than 5 minutes.

- (6) No change.
- (j) (v) No change.

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# II. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis</u> for, the Proposed Rule Change

In its filing with the Commission, Nasdaq 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. Nasdaq has prepared summaries, set forth in sections A, B, and C below, of the most significant aspects of such statements.

# A. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis</u> for, the Proposed Rule Change

### 1. Purpose

Nasdaq is proposing to modify the fee schedule applicable to execution and routing of orders in exchange-traded funds ("ETFs") listed on exchanges other than the

American Stock Exchange ("Amex"). The change proposed by this filing applies to NASD members that use the Nasdaq Market Center and Brut; in SR-NASD-2005-126, Nasdaq is proposing to make the same change applicable to non-members that use Brut. Nasdaq states that currently, execution and routing of Nasdaq-listed stocks and Amexlisted ETFs is subject to the fee schedule in NASD Rule 7010(i)(1), whereas execution and routing of other exchange-listed securities, including other exchange-listed ETFs, is generally not subject to per order routing and execution charges. Because an increasing number of ETFs are being listed on exchanges other than the Amex, however, Nasdaq states that it has concluded that it is necessary to apply the same fee schedule to all ETFs, to ensure that its fees are commensurate with the volumes of shares being routed and executed through its systems.<sup>5</sup>

#### 2. Statutory Basis

Nasdaq believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the provisions of Section 15A of the Act,<sup>6</sup> in general, and with Section 15A(b)(5) of the Act,<sup>7</sup> in particular, in that the proposed rule change provides for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees, and other charges among members and issuers and other persons using any facility or system which the NASD operates or controls. Nasdaq states that the proposed change reflects the increased extent to which ETFs are being listed on exchanges other than the Amex and would result in the application of the same fee schedule to all ETFs, regardless of where they are listed.

The proposed rule change would also delete obsolete language regarding Directed Orders found in NASD Rule 7010(i)(1), to reflect the recent termination of Nasdaq's Directed Order functionality.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78<u>o</u>-3.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> 15 U.S.C. 780-3(b)(5).

## B. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition</u>

Nasdaq does not believe that the proposed rule change will result in any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

C. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed Rule Change Received from Members, Participants, or Others</u>

Nasdaq states that written comments were neither solicited nor received.

## III. <u>Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission Action</u>

The foregoing rule change is subject to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(ii) of the Act<sup>8</sup> and subparagraph (f)(2) of Rule 19b-4<sup>9</sup> thereunder because it establishes or changes a due, fee, or other charge imposed by the self-regulatory organization. Accordingly, the proposal is effective upon Commission receipt of the filing. At any time within 60 days of the filing of such proposed rule change, the Commission may summarily abrogate 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.<sup>10</sup>

### 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:

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<sup>8 15</sup> U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(ii).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(2).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(C).

#### Electronic comments:

- Use the Commission's Internet comment form (<a href="http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml">http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml</a>); or
- Send an e-mail to <u>rule-comments@sec.gov</u>. Please include File Number SR-NASD-2005-125 on the subject line.

#### <u>Paper comments</u>:

 Send paper comments in triplicate to Jonathan G. Katz, Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549-9303.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-NASD-2005-125. 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 (<a href="http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml">http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml</a>). 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 inspection and copying in the Commission's Public Reference Room. Copies of such filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the NASD. 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-NASD-2005-125 and should be submitted on or before [insert date 21 days from publication in the <u>Federal Register</u>].

For the Commission, by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority. <sup>11</sup>

Jonathan G. Katz Secretary

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<sup>17</sup> CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).