SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. 34-55513; File No. SR-Phlx-2007-28)

March 22, 2007

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Philadelphia Stock Exchange, Inc.; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of a Proposed Rule Change Relating to the Dissemination of Currency Spot Values

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 March 22, 2007, the Philadelphia Stock Exchange, Inc. ("Phlx" or "Exchange") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("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 proposed rule change as a "non-controversial" proposed rule change pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)<sup>3</sup> of the Act and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) 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 Substance of the Proposed</u> <u>Rule Change</u>

The Phlx proposes to disseminate a modified spot rate for its U.S. dollar-settled foreign currency options ("FCOs"). The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Phlx's Web site (<a href="http://www.phlx.com">http://www.phlx.com</a>), at the principal office of Phlx, and at the Commission's Public Reference Room.

<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).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

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

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

## 1. <u>Purpose</u>

The purpose of the proposed rule change is to permit the Exchange to disseminate over the facilities of the Consolidated Tape Association a modified spot rate for U.S. dollar-settled FCOs on the British pound and the euro, which the Exchange has listed since January 8, 2007.<sup>5</sup>

The modified spot rate will be calculated by the Exchange, based on spot prices (bids and asks) it receives from Thomson Financial LLC ("Thomson").<sup>6</sup> For each currency, the Exchange will determine the midpoint between the bid and the ask and will modify that rate by multiplying it by 100. For example, if 1.3200 U.S. dollars buys 1 euro, a modifier of 100 would be used so that the modified spot rate would become 132.00. If 1.3358 U.S. dollars buys 1 euro, the modified spot rate, using the same 100 modifier, would become 133.58. This proposed rule

See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 54989 (December 21, 2006), 71 FR 78506 (December 29, 2006) (approving File No. SR-Phlx-2006-34).

Currently, the Thomson spot prices are based on the bid/ask prices supplied to its agent Tenfore System Ltd. ("Tenfore") by contributors reporting to Tenfore. Tenfore contributors comprise 19 different banks, brokers and FX real time dealing portals. Contributors provide bid/ask prices to Tenfore which, in turn, forwards them to Thomson upon receipt. Thomson forwards those bid/ask prices to Phlx upon receipt from Tenfore. At any given time the Thomson spot rate consists of the most current bid/ask prices provided by any contributor to Tenfore and forwarded by Tenfore to Thomson.

change is merely for purposes of dissemination of the modified spot rate over the facilities of the Consolidated Tape Association and does not amend or affect the Exchange's existing rules governing U.S. dollar-settled FCOs.

#### 2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that its proposal is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act<sup>7</sup> in general, and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(5) of the Act<sup>8</sup> 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, by providing investors in U.S. dollar-settled FCOs the ability to more easily track the value of the underlying currencies in the spot market and therefore make informed trading decisions.

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

The Exchange 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.

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

No written comments were either solicited or received.

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

Because the 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 after the date of filing (or such shorter time as the Commission
may designate if consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest), the proposed

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

rule change has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the  $Act^9$  and subparagraph (f)(6) of Rule 19b-4 thereunder.  $^{10}$ 

A proposed rule change filed under Rule 19b-4(f)(6) normally may not become operative prior to 30 days after the date of filing.<sup>11</sup> However, Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii)<sup>12</sup> permits the Commission to designate a shorter time if such action is consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest. Phlx has requested that the Commission waive the 30-day operative delay. The Commission believes that waiving the 30-day operative delay is consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest because such waiver would permit the Exchange to immediately begin disseminating a modified spot rate, which would give investors another means to track the value of the currencies underlying the FCOs. For these reasons, the Commission designates the proposal to be operative upon filing with the Commission.<sup>13</sup>

At any time within 60 days of the filing of the 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 the furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

<sup>17</sup> CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6)(iii). In addition, Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii) requires that a self-regulatory organization submit to the Commission written notice of its intent to file the proposed rule change, along with a brief description and text of 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. Phlx has satisfied the five-day pre-filing requirement.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Id.

For purposes only of waiving the operative delay for this proposal, the Commission has considered the proposed rule's impact on efficiency, competition, and capital formation. 15 U.S.C. 78c(f).

### 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 (<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-Phlx-2007-28 on the subject line.

### Paper comments:

 Send paper comments in triplicate to Nancy M. Morris, Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549-1090.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-Phlx-2007-28. 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 Phlx. 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-2007-28 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.  $^{14}$ 

Florence E. Harmon Deputy Secretary

6

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).