SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. 34-59865; File No. SR-BX-2009-022)

May 5, 2009

Self-Regulatory Organizations; NASDAQ OMX BX, Inc.; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change Relating to the Volume Discount Given to Market Makers

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 April 30, 2009, NASDAQ OMX BX, Inc. (the "Exchange") 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 the Exchange. 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 purpose of the proposed rule change is to amend the Fee Schedule of the Boston Options Exchange Group, LLC ("BOX") relating to the volume discount ("Volume Discount") given to Market Makers. The text of the proposed rule change is available from the principal office of the Exchange, at the Commission's Public Reference Room and also on the Exchange's Internet website at http://nasdaqomxbx.cchwallstreet.com/NASDAQOMXBX/Filings/.

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 self-regulatory organization 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

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

specified in Item IV below. The Exchange has prepared summaries, set forth in sections A, B, and C below, of the most significant parts 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

The Exchange proposes to amend Section 3 (Market Maker Trading Fees) of the BOX Fee Schedule.³ BOX applies a Volume Discount to the fees charged to BOX Market Makers who engage in particularly active trading volume on BOX. The proposed changes will reflect that trading volume in both assigned and un-assigned classes is taken into account when determining a Market Maker's Volume Discount.

The proposed rule change will also remove the "Example" from Section 3(b) of the Fee Schedule. The Example is no longer necessary, as the differentiation between volume in assigned and un-assigned classes is no longer made for purposes of the Volume Discount. The proposed rule change will also make certain non-substantive changes by (i) correcting a cross-reference to an earlier section within the Fee Schedule regarding the pass-through of surcharge fees, and (ii) correcting the reference to the type of security (e.g. index options instead of options on exchange-traded funds ("ETF")) for which such surcharges are applicable.

2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that the proposal is consistent with the requirements of Section 6(b) of the Act,⁴ in general, and Section 6(b)(4) of the Act,⁵ in particular, in that it is designed to provide for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees, and other charges among its

³ The BOX Fee Schedule can be found on the BOX Website at <u>www.bostonoptions.com</u>.

⁴ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

⁵ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(4).

members and issuers and other persons using its facilities. The proposed change allows for a potentially greater amount of volume being factored into the Volume Discount that a Market Maker may receive, thus reducing a Market Maker's cost of transacting business on the BOX market, benefiting the Market Maker and, through better pricing, the investing public.

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

The Exchange 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>

The Exchange has neither solicited nor received comments on the proposed rule change.

III. <u>Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission Action</u>
The foregoing rule change has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(ii) of the Exchange Act⁶ and Rule 19b-4(f)(2) thereunder,⁷ because it establishes or changes a due, fee, or other charge applicable only to a member.

At any time within 60 days of the filing of the proposed rule change, the Commission may summarily abrogate the rule change if it appears to the Commission that the action is necessary or appropriate in the public interest, for the protection of investors, or would otherwise further the purposes of the Act.

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⁶ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(ii).

⁷ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(2).

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 (http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml); or
- Send an e-mail to <u>rule-comments@sec.gov</u>. Please include File Number SR-BX-2009-022 on the subject line.

Paper Comments:

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

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-BX-2009-022. 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 inspection and copying in the Commission's Public Reference Room, 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-BX-2009-022 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 Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority. 8

Florence E. Harmon Deputy Secretary

^{8 17} CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).