SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. 34-67977; File No. SR-NASDAQ-2012-110)

October 4, 2012

Self-Regulatory Organizations; The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change to Offer the ACT Reject Scan and Assess a Related Fee

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 September 28, 2012, The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC ("Nasdaq" or the "Exchange") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") a proposed rule change as described in Items I and II 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 the Substance of the Proposed</u> Rule Change

Nasdaq proposes to establish a new service, the ACT Reject Scan, and assess a related fee. Nasdaq is proposing to implement the proposed service on October 1, 2012 and implement the proposed fee on November 1, 2012. The text of the proposed rule change is available at http://nasdaq.cchwallstreet.com, at Nasdaq's principal office, and at the Commission's Public Reference Room.

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, 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 those statements may be examined at the places specified in Item III

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

[sic] 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

Nasdaq proposes to establish a new add-on service to the Nasdaq Workstation and Weblink ACT 2.0, and establish related fees. Nasdaq's ACT Reject Scan service allows a member firm, at any point during the trading day, to scan the trades it has submitted to the Automated Confirmation Transaction Service ("ACT") for all trades rejected by ACT. Currently, a member firm must investigate any trade that has been rejected by ACT and for which it has not received a control number.³ Some member firms have developed their own internal systems that record the data transmitted to ACT in a searchable database, which can aid them in assessing whether a trade was rejected by ACT. Member firms without such systems must contact Nasdaq Subscriber Services to determine the nature of the rejected trade. This manual process can be time-consuming, at a point when a member firm has limited time to report its trades. Nasdag received feedback from member firms that a reject scan feature would aid in editing and resubmitting rejected trades, a process known as submitting a "repaired" trade. In response, Nasdaq developed the ACT Reject Scan service, which automates this process by providing to a subscribing member firm a list of all of its rejected trades together with the trade report forms populated with the original data entered. Subscribing member firms may then correct the rejected trade report forms and resubmit the repaired trade reports.

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ACT provides a member firm a control number for all of its trades that are accepted by ACT.

The ACT Reject Scan service can only be accessed using a Nasdaq Workstation or Weblink ACT 2.0 user account. Member firms subscribing to the ACT Reject Scan service are charged a monthly fee per user, which provides access to the service for each Nasdaq Workstation and Weblink ACT 2.0 user account selected for subscription to the ACT Reject Scan service. Nasdaq proposes to offer the ACT Reject Scan service to each subscriber for a subscription fee of \$75 per user, per month. Use of the ACT Reject Scan service is voluntary and the subscription fee will be imposed on all purchasers equally based on the number of users selected. The proposed fee will be applied to offset the costs associated with establishing the service, responding to customer requests, configuring Nasdaq's systems, programming to user specifications, and administering the service, among other things. To the extent that costs are covered by the proposed fee, the proposed fee may also provide Nasdaq with a profit.

2. Statutory Basis

Nasdaq believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the provisions of Section 6 of the Act,⁴ in general, and Section 6(b)(4) of the Act,⁵ in particular, because 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 that Nasdaq operates or controls, and it does not unfairly discriminate between customers, issuers, brokers or dealers. As noted, use of the proposed ACT Reject Scan service is voluntary and the subscription fee will be imposed on all purchasers equally based on the number of users. The proposed fee will be allocated to cover the costs associated with establishing the service, responding to customer requests, configuring

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78f.

⁵ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(4).

Nasdaq's systems, programming to user specifications, and administering the service, among other things, and may provide Nasdaq with a profit to the extent costs are covered.

The Exchange determined that the proposed fee is reasonable based on member firm interest in ACT Reject Scan service, costs associated with developing and supporting the service, and the value that ACT Reject Scan service provides to subscribing member firms. The information provided by ACT Reject Scan service relates to the subscribing member firm's trade submission activity through ACT and the member firm may aggregate and access this information by developing its own system or by contacting Nasdaq Subscriber Services for such information. As such, the Exchange believes that if a member firm determines that the fee is not cost-efficient for its needs, it may decline to subscribe to ACT Reject Scan service and access such information from other sources.

The Exchange also believes the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 6(b)(5) of the Act, 6 which requires that the rules of an exchange be designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, promote just and equitable principles of trade, foster cooperation and coordination with persons engaged in regulating, clearing, settling, processing information with respect to, and facilitating transactions in securities, remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system, and, in general, protect investors and the public interest. The Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with these requirements because the proposed service provides subscribing members with a useful surveillance tool with which they may access information concerning the acceptance of their trade reports entered into ACT, and quickly repair and resubmit their rejected reports.

Accordingly, the Exchange believes that the proposed service will further goals of the Act by

6 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

providing subscribing members with greater transparency with respect to their trade reports and increasing efficiency with respect to the re-submission of repaired reports.

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

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, as amended.

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

Written comments were neither solicited nor 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 $19(b)(3)(A)^7$ of the Act and subparagraph (f)(6) of Rule 19b-4 thereunder.

A proposed rule change filed under Rule $19b-4(f)(6)^9$ normally does not become operative prior to 30 days after the date of the filing. However, Rule $19b-4(f)(6)(iii)^{10}$ permits the Commission to designate a shorter time if such action is consistent with the protection of

17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6)(iii). 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 the filing of the proposed rule change, or such shorter time as designated by the Commission. The Exchange has satisfied this requirement.

⁷ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

⁹ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

¹⁰ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6)(iii).

operative delay so that Nasdaq may offer the ACT Reject Scan service beginning on October 1, 2012. The Commission believes that waiving the 30-day operative delay is consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest as it will provide members with the option to obtain greater transparency with respect to their trade reports, as well as an enhanced ability to repair rejected trades. ¹¹ In addition, the Commission notes that the service is being offered at no charge for the month of October. Therefore, the Commission hereby waives the 30-day operative delay and designates the proposed rule change to be operative upon filing with the Commission.

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 necessary or appropriate in the public interest, for the protection of investors, or otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

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-NASDAQ-2012-110 on the subject line.

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. See 15 U.S.C. 78c(f).

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-NASDAQ-2012-110. 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 website (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 on official business days between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Copies of such filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal offices 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

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make available publicly. All submissions should refer to File Number SR-NASDAQ-2012-110, 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. 12

Kevin M. O'Neill Deputy Secretary

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