SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. 34-84684; File No. SR-NASDAQ-2018-098)

November 29, 2018

Self-Regulatory Organizations; The Nasdaq Stock Market LLC; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change to Relocate the Exchange's Pricing Schedule

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 November 19, 2018, The Nasdaq Stock Market LLC ("Nasdaq" or "Exchange") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC" or "Commission") the 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 Substance of the Proposed</u> <u>Rule Change</u>

The Exchange proposes to (a) relocate its current Rule 7000 Series ("Equities Pricing"), entitled "Charges for Membership, Services, and Equipment," and The Nasdaq Options Market LLC's ("NOM") rules at Chapter XV ("Options Pricing"; together, "Equities and Options Pricing") to the Exchange's rulebook's ("Rulebook") shell structure³; (b) make conforming cross-reference changes throughout the Rulebook; and (c) amend the Equity 4's title in the shell structure.

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

In 2017, the Exchange added a shell structure to its Rulebook with the purpose of improving efficiency and readability and to align its rules closer to those of its five sister exchanges, The Nasdaq Stock Market LLC; Nasdaq PHLX LLC; Nasdaq ISE, LLC; Nasdaq GEMX, LLC; and Nasdaq MRX, LLC ("Affiliated Exchanges"). See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 82174 (November 29, 2017), 82 FR 57492 (December 5, 2017) (SR-BX-2017-054).

The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Exchange's Website at http://nasdaq.cchwallstreet.com, at the principal office of the Exchange, 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, 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 Exchange proposes to (a) relocate the Equities and Options Pricing rules, currently under the Equities Rule 7000 Series and Options Chapter XV of the NOM rules, into the Rulebook's shell structure, respectively, under Equity 7 and Options 7 (both named "Pricing Schedule"); (b) make conforming cross-reference changes throughout the Rulebook; and (c) amend the Equity 4's title, "Equity Listing Rules," in the shell structure, as detailed below.

(a) Relocation of the Pricing Rules

The Exchange, as part of its continued effort to promote efficiency and the conformity of its processes with those of the Affiliated Exchanges,⁴ and the goal of harmonizing and uniformizing its rules, proposes to relocate the Equities Pricing rules, currently under the Rule 7000 Series, into Equity 7, Pricing Schedule, of the shell structure. Specifically, the Exchange

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See footnote 3.

will add the word "Section" and renumber the Equities Pricing rules as detailed in the table below:

7000 Series	Equity 7
7000	Section 1
7001	Section 10
7002	Section 20
7003	Section 30
7007	Section 70
7010	Section 100
7011	Section 111
7012	Section 112
7013	Section 113
7014	Section 114
7015	Section 115
7016	Section 116
7017	Section 117
7018	Section 118
7019	Section 119
7020	Section 120
7021	Section 121
7022	Section 122
7023	Section 123
IM-7023-1	Section 123-IM-1
7024	Section 124
7025	Section 125
7026	Section 126
IM-7026-1	Section 126-IM-1
7027	Section 127
7028	Section 128
7029	Section 129
7030	Section 130
7031	Section 131
7032	Section 132
7033	Section 133
7034	Section 134
7035	Section 135
7036	Section 136
7037	Section 137

7000 Series	Equity 7
IM-7037-1	Section 137-IM-1
7038	Section 138
7039	Section 139
IM-7039-1	Section 139-IM-1
7040	Section 140
7041	Section 141
7042	Section 142
7043	Section 143
7044	Section 144
7045	Section 145
7046	Section 146
7047	Section 147
IM-7047-1	Section 147-IM-1
7048	Section 148
7049	Section 149
7050	Section 150
7051	Section 151
7052	Section 152
7053	Section 153
7054	Section 154
7055	Section 155
7056	Section 156
7057	Section 157
IM-7057-1	Section 157-IM-1
7058	Section 158
7059	Section 159
7060	Section 160
7061	Section 161
7100	Section 200

The Exchange will also relocate the Options Pricing rules, currently under Chapter XV of the NOM rules, into Options 7, Pricing Schedule, of the shell structure. No renumbering of the Options Pricing rules will be necessary other than replacing the abbreviated word "Sec." with the full word "Section."

The Exchange believes that the relocation of the Equities and Options Pricing rules will facilitate the use of the Rulebook by Members⁵ of the Exchange, including those who are members of other Affiliated Exchanges, and other market participants. Moreover, the proposed changes are of a non-substantive nature and they will not amend the relocated rules, other than to update their numbers as previously detailed.

(b) Cross-Reference Updates

In connection with the changes described above, the Exchange proposes to update all cross-references in the Rulebook that direct the reader to the current placement of the Equities and Options Pricing rules and/or any of their subsections. Specifically, the Exchange will update the cross-references in Nasdaq Rules 1002(c)(1), IM-5220, and 8320(a)(1). Moreover, for consistency with the current title of General 8, Section 2 ("Direct Connectivity"), the Exchange proposes to update the description provided under Rule 7007(a) (to be relocated under Equity 7, Section 70(a)) by removing the text "to Nasdaq".

(c) Amendment of the Equity 4's Title

Finally, the Exchange will amend Equity 4's title in the shell structure, currently "Equity Listing Rules," and replace it with the word "Reserved," since no rules will be placed in this section of the shell structure.

2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that its proposal is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act,⁶ in general, and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(5) of the Act,⁷ in particular, in that it is designed to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to remove impediments to and perfect

Exchange Rule 0120(i).

⁶ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

⁷ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system, and, in general to protect investors and the public interest, by promoting efficiency and structural conformity of the Exchange's processes with those of the Affiliated Exchanges and to make the Exchange's Rulebook easier to read and more accessible to its Members and market participants. The Exchange believes that the relocation of the Equities and Options Pricing rules, cross-reference updates, and the amendment to the Equity 4's title are of a non-substantive nature.

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 changes do not impose a burden on competition because, as previously stated, they (i) are of a non-substantive nature, (ii) are intended to harmonize the structure of the Exchange's rules with those of its Affiliated Exchanges, and (iii) are intended to organize the Rulebook in a way that it will ease the Members' and market participants' navigation and reading of the rules.

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 from the date on which it was filed, or such shorter time as the
Commission may designate if consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest,

the proposed rule change has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act⁸ and Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii) thereunder.⁹

The Exchange has asked the Commission to waive the 30-day operative delay so that the proposal may become operative immediately upon filing. The Exchange states that waiver of the 30-day operative delay will allow it to promptly relocate the Pricing Schedule rules and continue to reorganize its Rulebook as already done in previous filings. The Commission believes that waiving the 30-day operative delay is consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest, as it would allow the Exchange, without delay, to reorganize its Rulebook in a manner that improves accessibility, readability and structural consistency with the rules of its Affiliated Exchanges. For this reason, the Commission designates the proposed rule change to be operative upon filing.¹⁰

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.

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⁸ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

⁹ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6)(iii). As required under Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii), the Exchange provided the Commission with written notice of its intent to file the proposed rule change, along with a brief description and the 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.

For purposes only of waiving the 30-day operative delay, the Commission has also considered the proposed rule's impact on efficiency, competition, and capital formation. See 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 (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-2018-098 on the subject line.

Paper Comments:

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

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-NASDAQ-2018-098. 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, 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.

Persons submitting comments are cautioned that we do not reduct or edit personal identifying information from comment submissions. You should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly. All submissions should refer to File Number SR-NASDAQ-2018-098, and should be submitted on or before [insert date 21 days from publication in the <u>Federal</u> Register].

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority. 11

Eduardo A. Aleman Assistant Secretary

9

¹¹ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).