SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. 34-65050; File No. SR-Phlx-2011-101)

August 5, 2011

Self-Regulatory Organizations; NASDAQ OMX PHLX LLC; Notice of Filing of Proposed Rule Change Regarding Streaming Quote Traders and Remote Streaming Quote Traders Entering Certain Option Day Limit Orders

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act")¹, and Rule 19b-4² thereunder, notice is hereby given that on July 27, 2011, NASDAQ OMX PHLX LLC ("Phlx" or "Exchange") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC" or "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 Rule Change</u>

The Exchange is filing with the Commission a proposal to allow entry of day limit orders for the proprietary accounts of Streaming Quote Traders and Remote Streaming Quote Traders.

The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Exchange's website at http://nasdaqomxphlx.cchwallstreet.com/NASDAQOMXPHLX/Filings/, at the principal office of the Exchange, and at the Commission's Public Reference Room.

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

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, 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</u> <u>Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change</u>

1. Purpose

The purpose of the proposal is to amend two subsections of Exchange Rule 1080 to allow entry of day limit orders for the proprietary accounts of Streaming Quote Traders (SQTs") and Remote Streaming Quote Traders ("RSQTs"). The proposal will promote consistency among Registered Options Traders ("ROT") on the Exchange by allowing SQTs and RSQTs to enter day limit orders exactly as non-SQT ROTs may currently do under the rules.

Background

There are several types of market makers on the Exchange, including ROTs,³ SQTs,⁴ RSQTs,⁵ and specialists.⁶ Each option class and series listed on the Exchange

An ROT is a regular member or a foreign currency options participant of the Exchange located on the trading floor who has received permission from the Exchange to trade in options for his own account. See Rule 1014 (b)(i).

An SQT is an ROT who has received permission from the Exchange to generate and submit option quotations electronically in options to which such SQT is assigned. An SQT may only submit such quotations while such SQT is physically present on the floor of the Exchange. See Rule 1014(b)(ii)(A).

must currently have a specialist that is either a floor-based specialist or an off-floor specialist known as a Remote Specialist. The specialist system remains un-impacted by this proposal. This proposal deals exclusively with the electronic entry of day limit orders in SQT and RSQT proprietary accounts.

Current Rule 1080 (Phlx XL and XL II) discusses the Exchange's enhanced electronic order, trading, and execution system (the "electronic interface"). The current iteration of the Exchange's electronic interface is known as Phlx XL II. Rule 1080 states that it governs the orders, execution reports and administrative order messages transmitted between the offices of member organizations and the trading floors of the Exchange. Rule 1080 also discusses what agency and proprietary orders are eligible for entry into the Exchange's electronic interface.

An RSQT is an ROT that is a member or member organization with no physical trading floor presence who has received permission from the Exchange to generate and submit option quotations electronically in options to which such RSQT has been assigned. An RSQT may only submit such quotations electronically from off the floor of the Exchange. See Rule 1014(b)(ii)(B).

A Specialist (which includes an off-floor Remote Specialist) is an Exchange member who is registered as an options specialist pursuant to Rule 1020(a).

See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 59995 (May 28, 2009), 74 FR 26750 (June 3, 2009) (SR-Phlx-2009-32)(order approving Phlx XL II). Phlx XL II is the Exchange's electronic order delivery and reporting system, which provides for the automatic entry and routing of Exchange-listed equity options, index options and U.S. dollar-settled foreign currency options orders to the Exchange trading floor. Rule 1080(a).

In addition, Rule 1080 deals with, among other things, how quotations interact with limit orders on the book, order routing through the electronic interface, Price Improvement XL (known as "PIXL"), specialized quote feed (known as "SQF"), qualified contingent cross orders, and complex orders.

Subsection (b)(i)(A) of Rule 1080 indicates the types of agency orders that are eligible for entry via electronic interface. The Exchange does not propose any changes regarding entry of agency orders.

Subsection (b)(i)(B) of Rule 1080 indicates the types of proprietary (non-agency) orders that are eligible for entry via electronic interface. This subsection states that certain types of proprietary orders are eligible for entry via electronic interface subject to Commentary .04 of Rule 1080, discussed below. ¹⁰

Subsection (b)(i)(B)(1) of Rule 1080 indicates the types of non-SQT ROTs and specialists proprietary orders that are eligible for entry via electronic interface, including GTC, day limit, IOC, ISO, limit on opening, and simple cancel orders. ¹¹ The Exchange does not propose any changes regarding this subsection. ¹²

Rule 1080(b)(i)(A). This section states that for purposes of Exchange options trading, an agency order is any order entered on behalf of a public customer, and does not include any order entered for the account of a broker-dealer, or any account in which a broker-dealer or an associated person of a broker-dealer has any direct or indirect interest.

Commentary .04 of Rule 1080 states that Orders for the proprietary accounts of SQTs, RSQTs and non-SQT ROTs that may be entered for delivery through the electronic interface (through the use of Exchange approved proprietary systems to interface with the electronic interface of the Exchange) shall be for a minimum of one (1) contract. Orders for the proprietary account(s) of non-SQT ROTs with a size of less than 10 contracts shall be submitted as IOC only. Orders for the proprietary account(s) of SQTs and RSQTs shall be submitted as IOC only.

Rule 1066 discusses certain order types.

Subsection (b)(i)(B)(1), states that the following types of orders for the proprietary account(s) of non-SQT ROTs and specialists with a size of 10 contracts or greater are eligible for entry via electronic interface with AUTOM: GTC, day limit, IOC, ISO, limit on opening and simple cancel. The subsection states also that orders for the proprietary account(s) of non-SQT ROTs and specialists with a size of less than 10 contracts shall be submitted as IOC only.

Subsection (b)(i)(B)(2) states that the following types of orders for the proprietary account(s) of SQTs and RSQTs are eligible for entry via electronic interface: limit on opening, IOC, and ISO. Currently, there is no ability for SQTs and RSQTs to enter day limit orders in their proprietary accounts. The proposal corrects this limitation by allowing day limit orders for the proprietary account(s) of SQTs and RSQTs to be entered pursuant to subsection (b)(i)(B)(2). The proposed change will promote consistency among ROTs by allowing SQTs and RSQTs to do what Commentary .04 of Rule 1080 now allows non-SQT ROTs to do: enter certain day limit orders (10 or more contracts) in their proprietary accounts. ¹³

Commentary .04 of Rule 1080 states that orders for the proprietary accounts of SQTs, RSQTs and non-SQT ROTs may be entered for delivery via electronic interface through the use of Exchange approved proprietary systems of members that interface with the Exchange's electronic interface. ¹⁴ Currently, proprietary non-SQT ROT orders with a size of less than 10 contracts have to be submitted as IOC and larger orders may be submitted as day limit and other order types; while proprietary SQT and RSQT orders may only be submitted as IOC.

The Exchange is proposing to put all the ROTs (SQTs, RSQTs and non-SQT ROTs) on an equal footing. Specifically, the Exchange proposes to state in Commentary .04 that orders for the proprietary account(s) of SQTs, RSQTs, and non-SQT ROTs with a size of less than 10 contracts shall be submitted as IOC only. Thus, where SQT and RSQT orders under the current rule could only be submitted as IOC, the proposed change

Also, subsection (b)(i)(B)(1) allows non-SQTs and specialists to enter certain day limit orders (10 or more contracts) in their proprietary accounts.

Such orders have to be for a minimum of one (1) contract.

to Commentary .04 would allow these SQTs and RSQTs to enter non IOC orders (e.g. day orders) in proprietary accounts if they are for 10 or more contracts.

The Exchange is proposing to amend subsection (b)(i)(B)(2) and Commentary.04 of Exchange Rule 1080 in order to encourage more liquidity by allowing market makers to rest more orders on the book. Initially with the onset of electronic quoting, the Exchange wanted to encourage electronic quoting and trading and thus did not accept day or day limit orders in the proprietary accounts of liquidity providers such as RSQTs and SQTs nor allow SQTs and RSQTs to submit non-IOC orders. With the extensive development of electronic market making, however, the Exchange has come to believe that allowance of day orders per subsection (b)(i)(B)(2) and Commentary .04 would enhance liquidity rather than discourage electronic quoting and trading on the Exchange, to the benefit of traders and public customers.

2. <u>Statutory Basis</u>

The Exchange believes that its proposal is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act¹⁵ in general, and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(5) of the Act¹⁶ in particular, in that it is designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to foster cooperation and coordination with persons engaged in facilitating transactions in securities, and to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanisms of a free and open market and a national market system by further enhancing liquidity to the benefit of traders and public customers. This would be achieved by conforming subsection (b)(i)(B)(2) and Commentary .04 of Rule 1080 and

¹⁵ U.S.C. 78f(b).

¹⁵ U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

thereby promoting consistency through uniformly allowing day limit orders for the proprietary account(s) of Registered Options Traders (SQTs, RSQTs, and non-SQT ROTs) to be entered via the Exchange's electronic interface. Prior to this proposal, such orders were allowed only for non-SQT ROTs.

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.

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

No written comments were either solicited or received.

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

Within 45 days of the date of publication of this notice in the Federal Register or within such longer period (i) as the Commission may designate up to 90 days of such date if it finds such longer period to be appropriate and publishes its reasons for so finding or (ii) as to which the Exchange consents, the Commission shall: (a) by order approve or disapprove such proposed rule change, or (b) institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule change should be disapproved.

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-Phlx-2011-101 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-Phlx-2011-101. 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; 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-2011-101 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. 17

Elizabeth M. Murphy Secretary

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¹⁷ CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).