SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. 34-63226; File No. SR-EDGX-2010-16)

November 2, 2010

Self-Regulatory Organizations; EDGX Exchange, Inc.; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change Relating to Amendments to the EDGX Exchange, Inc. Fee Schedule

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Act"), ¹ and Rule 19b-4 thereunder, ² notice is hereby given that on October 29, 2010, the EDGX Exchange, Inc. (the "Exchange" or the "EDGX") 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 self-regulatory organization. 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 amend its fees and rebates applicable to Members³ of the Exchange pursuant to EDGX Rule 15.1(a) and (c).

All of the changes described herein are applicable to EDGX Members. The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Exchange's Internet website at http://www.directedge.com.

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

A Member is any registered broker or dealer, or any person associated with a registered broker or dealer, that has been admitted to membership in the Exchange.

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 these statements may be examined at the places specified in Item IV below. The self-regulatory organization 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. Purpose

The Exchange's Mega Tier provides a rebate of \$0.0032 per share for adding liquidity for securities priced at or above \$1.00 and is incorporated in footnote 1 of the fee schedule. As provided in footnote 1, a Member can qualify for the Mega Tier rebate in one of two ways. The first way by which Members can qualify for the Mega Tier rebate is if they add or route at least 5,000,000 shares of average daily volume prior to 9:30 AM or after 4:00 PM (includes all flags except 6) AND add a minimum of 25,000,000 shares of average daily volume on EDGX in total. With respect to Members qualifying for the Mega Tier rebate pursuant to this first method, the Exchange proposes to add language to footnote 1 to state that such Members will pay a reduced rate for removing liquidity of \$0.0029 per share for Flags N, W, and 6.

The Exchange believes that the above pricing is appropriate since higher rebates are directly correlated with more stringent criteria. The Mega Tier rebate (\$ 0.0032 per share) has the most stringent criteria, and is \$0.0001 greater than the Ultra Tier rebate (\$0.0031 per share) and \$0.0002 greater than the Super Tier rebate. (\$0.0030 per share) For example, based on average TCV for September 2010 (7.2 billion), in order for a Member to qualify for the Mega

Tier, the Member would have to post 54 million shares on EDGX. In order to qualify for the Ultra Tier, which has less stringent criteria than the Mega Tier, the Member would have to post 36 million shares on EDGX. Finally, the Super Tier has the least stringent criteria. In order for a Member to qualify for this rebate, the Member would have to post 10 million shares on EDGX. In addition, these rebates also result, in part, from lower administrative costs associated with higher volume.

In addition, conforming amendments have been made to place references to footnote "1" on Flags N, W, and 6 since this amendment qualifies these flags by proposing an exception to the \$0.0030 per share charge for each flag. A reference to footnote 1 has also been placed on the \$0.0030 per share default rate for removing liquidity at the table on the top of the fee schedule to signify this exception.

EDGX Exchange proposes to implement these amendments to the Exchange fee schedule on November 1, 2010.

2. <u>Statutory Basis</u>

The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the objectives of Section 6 of the Act,⁴ in general, and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(4),⁵ in particular, as it is designed to provide for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees and other charges among its members and other persons using its facilities. The Exchange notes that it operates in a highly competitive market in which market participants can readily direct order flow to competing venues if they deem fee levels at a particular venue to be excessive. The proposed rule change reflects a competitive pricing structure designed to incent market participants to

⁴ 15 U.S.C. 78f.

⁵ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(4).

direct their order flow to the Exchange. Finally, the Exchange believes that the proposed rates are equitable in that they apply uniformly to all Members. The Exchange believes the fees and credits remain competitive with those charged by other venues and therefore continue to be reasonable and equitably allocated to Members.

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

The proposed rule change does not 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>

The Exchange has not solicited, and does not intend to solicit, comments on this proposed rule change. The Exchange has not received any unsolicited written comments from members or other interested parties.

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

The foregoing rule change has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3) of the Act⁶ and Rule 19b-4(f)(2)⁷ thereunder. At any time within 60 days of the filing of such 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:

⁶ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

⁷ 17 CFR 19b-4(f)(2).

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-EDGX-2010-16 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-EDGX-2010-16. 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

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The text of the proposed rule change is available on Exchange's Web site at http://www.directedge.com, on the Commission's website at http://www.sec.gov, at EDGX, and at the Commission's Public Reference Room.

to File Number SR-EDGX-2010-16 and should be submitted on or before [insert date 21 days after publication in the <u>Federal Register</u>].

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority. 9

Florence E. Harmon Deputy Secretary

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^{9 17} CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).