SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. 34-64253; File No. SR-EDGX-2011-09)

April 7, 2011

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"), <sup>1</sup> and Rule 19b-4 thereunder, <sup>2</sup> notice is hereby given that on April 6, 2011, 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> Rule Change

The Exchange proposes to amend its fees and rebates applicable to Members<sup>3</sup> 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 <a href="http://www.directedge.com">http://www.directedge.com</a>.

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

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> 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.

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 proposes to reduce the rate on Flag T from \$0.0020 per share to \$0.0012 per share for routing using the ROUD/ROUE routing strategies, as defined in Rules 11.9(b)(3)(b) and 11.9(b)(3)(c)(i).

EDGX Exchange proposes to implement this amendment to the Exchange fee schedule on April 6, 2011.

## 2. <u>Statutory Basis</u>

The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the objectives of Section 6 of the Exchange Act, <sup>4</sup> in general, and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(4), <sup>5</sup> 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 believes that the proposed reduced rate for Flag T (routing using ROUD/ROUE routing strategies) of \$0.0012 per share is an equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees, and other charges. Lower fees are directly correlated with a higher number of intermediate low cost destinations as the more intermediate low cost destinations that there are, there is a greater potential for an execution at a lower cost destination before reaching a higher

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(4).

cost destination. For example, the ROUO routing strategy, as defined in Rule 11.9(b)(3)(c)(iv). routes to the lowest number of low cost destinations compared to the ROUD/ROUE<sup>7</sup> and ROUZ<sup>8</sup> routing strategies. As a result, the Exchange charges a higher fee for such strategy of \$0.0020 per share (flag Q). The ROUD/ROUE routing strategies route to a medium number of low cost destinations and the ROUZ routing strategy routes to the highest number of low costs destinations amongst these routing strategies. As a result, the Exchange will assess a proposed fee of \$0.0012 per share for the ROUD/ROUE routing strategies and assesses the lowest fee for the ROUZ routing strategy of \$0.0010 per share. The more low cost destinations that an order routes to allows the Exchange to pass on the savings it receives from such destinations to its members in lower fees. Therefore, it is equitable that ROUQ has the highest fee of \$0.0020 per share, while ROUD/ROUE has an intermediate fee of \$0.0012 per share, and ROUZ has the lowest fee of the three strategies of \$0.0010 per share. The Exchange also notes that a difference between ROUQ and ROUZ routing strategies is that the additional routing destinations in the ROUZ routing strategy are intermediate between the routing destinations in ROUQ. This also accounts for the differences in fees. Therefore, for each additional intermediate low cost destination that an order routes to, the prices of the strategies mentioned above (ROUQ, ROUD/ROUE, ROUZ) decrease accordingly.

The Exchange believes that the rate is reasonable when compared to other market centers using similar routing strategies. The comparable routing strategy to the ROUD/ROUE routing strategies is Parallel D or Parallel 2D with the DRT (Dark routing technique) option on BATS

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> <u>See SR-EDGX-2011-08 (April 1, 2011).</u>

The Exchange notes that ROUD/ROUE routing strategies route to the identical number of low cost destinations.

<sup>8 &</sup>lt;u>See SR-EDGX -2011-08 (April 1, 2011). See Rule 11.9(b)(3)(c)(v).</u>

BZX Exchange ("BATS"). BATS charges \$0.0020 per share for its DRT option. The Exchange believes that the proposed rebate is non-discriminatory in that it applies uniformly to all Members.

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 direct their order flow to the Exchange. 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. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition</u>

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. <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) of the Act<sup>9</sup> and Rule  $19b-4(f)(2)^{10}$  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

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> 17 CFR 19b-4(f)(2).

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 (<a href="http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml">http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml</a>); or
- Send an e-mail to <u>rule-comments@sec.gov</u>. Please include File Number SR-EDGX-2011-09 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-2011-09. 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 (<a href="http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml">http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml</a>). Copies of the submission, <sup>11</sup> 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

The text of the proposed rule change is available on Exchange's website at <a href="http://www.directedge.com">http://www.directedge.com</a>, on the Commission's website at <a href="http://www.sec.gov">http://www.sec.gov</a>, at EDGX, and at the Commission's Public Reference Room.

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-EDGX-2011-09 and should be submitted on or before [insert date 21 days

after publication in the Federal Register].

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

 $authority.^{12} \\$ 

Cathy H. Ahn Deputy Secretary

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17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

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