

Note: Proposed new language is underlined. Proposed deletions are enclosed in [brackets].

Rules of BATS Exchange, Inc.

CHAPTER XII. TRADING PRACTICE RULES

Rule 12.6. [Customer Priority] Prohibition Against Trading Ahead of Customer Orders

(a) [No Member shall (i) personally buy or initiate the purchase of any security traded on the Exchange for its own account or for any account in which it or any associated person of the member is directly or indirectly interested while such a member holds or has knowledge that any person associated with it holds an unexecuted market order to buy such security in the unit of trading for a customer, or (ii) sell or initiate the sale of any such security for any such account while it personally holds or has knowledge that any person associated with it holds an unexecuted market order to sell such security in the unit of trading for a customer.] Except as provided herein, a Member that accepts and holds an order in an equity security from its own customer or a customer of another broker-dealer without immediately executing the order is prohibited from trading that security on the same side of the market for its own account at a price that would satisfy the customer order, unless it immediately thereafter executes the customer order up to the size and at the same or better price at which it traded for its own account.

(b) [No Member shall (i) buy or initiate the purchase of any such security for any account in which it or any associated person of the member is directly or indirectly interested at or below the price at which it personally holds or has knowledge that any person associated with it holds an unexecuted limit order to buy such security in the unit of trading for a customer or (ii) sell or initiate the sale of any such security for any such account at or above the price at which it personally holds or has knowledge that any person associated with it holds an unexecuted limit order to sell such security in the unit of trading for a customer.] A Member must have a written methodology in place governing the execution and priority of all pending orders that is consistent with the requirements of this Rule. A Member also must ensure that this methodology is consistently applied.

[(c) The provisions of paragraphs (a) and (b) of this Rule shall not apply: (i) to any purchase or sale of any such security in an amount less than the unit of trading made by a member to offset odd-lot orders for customers; (ii) to any purchase or sale of any such security upon terms for delivery other than those

specified in such unexecuted market or limit order; or (iii) to any unexecuted order that is subject to a condition that has not been satisfied.

(d) The provisions of paragraphs (a) and (b) of this Rule also shall not apply if a Member engages in trading activity to facilitate the execution, on a riskless principal basis, of another order from its customer (whether its own customer or the customer of another member) (the “facilitated order”). This exemption applies to both offsetting transaction legs of a riskless principal transaction but only to the extent of the actual number of shares that are required to satisfy the facilitated order. A “riskless principal transaction” is defined as two offsetting principal transaction legs in which a Member, (i) after having received an order to buy a security that it holds for execution on the Exchange, purchases the security as principal at the same price, exclusive of markups, markdowns, commissions and other fees, to satisfy all or a portion of the order to buy or (ii) after having received an order to sell a security that it holds for execution on the Exchange, sells the security as principal at the same price, exclusive of markups, markdowns, commissions and other fees, to satisfy all or a portion of the order to sell.]

Interpretations and Policies

.01 [A Member or any associated person of a Member responsible for entering orders for its own account or any account in which it is directly or indirectly interested shall be presumed to have knowledge of a particular unexecuted customer order. Such presumption can be rebutted by adequate evidence which shows, to the Exchange’s satisfaction, that the Member has implemented a reasonable system of internal policies and procedures and has an adequate system of internal controls to prevent the misuse of information about customer orders by those responsible for entering such proprietary orders.] **Large Orders and Institutional Account Exceptions.** With respect to orders for customer accounts that meet the definition of an “institutional account” or for orders of 10,000 shares or more (unless such orders are less than \$100,000 in value), a Member is permitted to trade a security on the same side of the market for its own account at a price that would satisfy such customer order, provided that the Member has provided clear and comprehensive written disclosure to such customer at account opening and annually thereafter that:

(a) _____ discloses that the Member may trade proprietarily at prices that would satisfy the customer order, and

(b) _____ provides the customer with a meaningful opportunity to opt in to the Rule 12.6 protections with respect to all or any portion of its order.

If the customer does not opt in to the Rule 12.6 protections with respect to all or any portion of its order, the Member may reasonably conclude that such customer

has consented to the Member trading a security on the same side of the market for its own account at a price that would satisfy the customer's order.

In lieu of providing written disclosure to customers at account opening and annually thereafter, a Member may provide clear and comprehensive oral disclosure to and obtain consent from the customer on an order-by-order basis, provided that the Member documents who provided such consent and such consent evidences the customer's understanding of the terms and conditions of the order.

For purposes of this Rule, "institutional account" shall mean the account of:

- (1) a bank savings and loan association, insurance company or registered investment company;
- (2) an investment adviser registered either with the SEC under Section 203 of the Investment Advisers Act or with a state securities commission (or any agency or office performing like functions); or
- (3) any other person (whether a natural person, corporation, partnership, trust or otherwise) with total assets of at least \$50 million.

.02 [A Member shall be deemed to have violated Rule 12.6 if, while holding a customer limit order (as rounded to a penny increment) representing the NBBO, the Member, for his own account, trades with an incoming market or marketable limit order at a price which is less than one penny better than the price of such customer limit order (not the quoted price) held by such Member.] **No-Knowledge Exception.**

(a) With respect to NMS stocks (as defined in Rule 600 under of the Securities and Exchange Commission's Regulation NMS), if a Member implements and utilizes an effective system of internal controls, such as appropriate information barriers, that operate to prevent one trading unit from obtaining knowledge of customer orders held by a separate trading unit, those other trading units trading in a proprietary capacity may continue to trade at prices that would satisfy the customer orders held by the separate trading unit. A Member that structures its order handling practices in NMS stocks to permit its proprietary and/or market-making desk to trade at prices that would satisfy customer orders held by a separate trading unit must disclose in writing to its customers, at account opening and annually thereafter, a description of the manner in which customer orders are handled by the Member and the circumstances under which the Member may trade proprietarily at its proprietary and/or market-making desk at prices that would satisfy the customer order.

(b) If a Member implements and utilizes appropriate information barriers in reliance on this exception, the Member must uniquely identify such

information barriers in place at the department within the Member where the order was received or originated. Appropriate information barriers must, at minimum, comply with the requirements set forth in Rule 5.5.

(c) Members must maintain records that indicate which orders rely on the No-Knowledge Exception and submit these records to the Exchange upon request.

.03 [A Member shall be deemed to have violated Rule 12.6 if, while holding a customer limit order (as rounded to a penny increment) at a price outside the NBBO, the Member, for his own account, trades with an incoming market or marketable limit order at a price which is less than the nearest penny increment to the actual price of the customer limit order (not the quoted price) held by such Member.] ***Riskless Principal Exception.*** The obligations under this Rule shall not apply to a Member's proprietary trade if such proprietary trade is for the purposes of facilitating the execution, on a riskless principal basis, of an order from a customer (whether its own customer or the customer of another broker-dealer) (the "facilitated order"), provided that the Member:

(a) submits a report, contemporaneously with the execution of the facilitated order, identifying the trade as riskless principal to the Exchange (or another self-regulatory organization if not required under Exchange rules); and

(b) has written policies and procedures to ensure that riskless principal transactions for which the Member is relying upon this exception comply with applicable Exchange rules. At a minimum these policies and procedures must require that the customer order was received prior to the offsetting principal transaction, and that the offsetting principal transaction is at the same price as the customer order exclusive of any markup or markdown, commission equivalent or other fee and is allocated to a riskless principal or customer account in a consistent manner and within 60 seconds of execution.

A Member must have supervisory systems in place that produce records that enable the Member and the Exchange to reconstruct accurately, readily, and in a time-sequenced manner all facilitated orders for which the Member relies on this exception.

.04 ISO Exception. A Member shall be exempt from the obligation to execute a customer order in a manner consistent with this Rule with regard to trading for its own account that is the result of an intermarket sweep order ("ISO") routed in compliance with Rule 600(b)(30)(ii) of Regulation NMS where the customer order is received after the Member routed the ISO. Where a Member routes an ISO to facilitate a customer order and that customer has consented to not receiving the better prices obtained by the ISO, the Member also shall be exempt with respect to any trading for its own account that is the result of the ISO with respect to the consenting customer's order.

.05 Odd Lot and Bona Fide Error Transaction Exceptions. The obligations under this Rule shall not apply to a Member's proprietary trade that is (1) to offset a customer order that is in an amount less than a normal unit of trading; or (2) to correct a bona fide error. Members are required to demonstrate and document the basis upon which a transaction meets the bona fide error exception. For purposes of this Rule, a bona fide error is:

(a) the inaccurate conveyance or execution of any term of an order, including, but not limited to, price, number of shares or other unit of trading; identification of the security; identification of the account for which securities are purchased or sold; lost or otherwise misplaced order tickets; short sales that were instead sold long or vice versa; or the execution of an order on the wrong side of a market;

(b) the unauthorized or unintended purchase, sale, or allocation of securities or the failure to follow specific client instructions;

(c) the incorrect entry of data into relevant systems, including reliance on incorrect cash positions, withdrawals, or securities positions reflected in an account; or

(d) a delay, outage, or failure of a communication system used to transmit market data prices or to facilitate the delivery or execution of an order.

.06 Minimum Price Improvement Standards. The minimum amount of price improvement necessary for a Member to execute an order on a proprietary basis when holding an unexecuted limit order in that same security, and not be required to execute the held limit order is as follows:

(a) For customer limit orders priced greater than or equal to \$1.00, the minimum amount of price improvement required is \$0.01 for NMS stocks;

(b) For customer limit orders priced greater than or equal to \$0.01 and less than \$1.00, the minimum amount of price improvement required is the lesser of \$0.01 or one-half (1/2) of the current inside spread;

(c) For customer limit orders priced less than \$0.01 but greater than or equal to \$0.001, the minimum amount of price improvement required is the lesser of \$0.001 or one-half (1/2) of the current inside spread;

(d) For customer limit orders priced less than \$0.001 but greater than or equal to \$0.0001, the minimum amount of price improvement required is the lesser of \$0.0001 or one-half (1/2) of the current inside spread;

(e) For customer limit orders priced less than \$0.0001 but greater than or equal to \$0.00001, the minimum amount of price improvement required is the lesser of \$0.00001 or one-half (1/2) of the current inside spread;

(f) For customer limit orders priced less than \$0.00001, the minimum amount of price improvement required is the lesser of \$0.000001 or one-half (1/2) of the current inside spread; and

(g) For customer limit orders priced outside the best inside market, the minimum amount of price improvement required must either meet the requirements set forth above or the Member must trade at a price at or inside the best inside market for the security.

In addition, if the minimum price improvement standards above would trigger the protection of a pending customer limit order, any better-priced customer limit order(s) must also be protected under this Rule, even if those better-priced limit orders would not be directly triggered under the minimum price improvement standards above.

.07 Order Handling Procedures. A Member must make every effort to execute a marketable customer order that it receives fully and promptly. A Member that is holding a customer order that is marketable and has not been immediately executed must make every effort to cross such order with any other order received by the Member on the other side of the market up to the size of such order at a price that is no less than the best bid and no greater than the best offer at the time that the subsequent order is received by the Member and that is consistent with the terms of the orders. In the event that a Member is holding multiple orders on both sides of the market that have not been executed, the Member must make every effort to cross or otherwise execute such orders in a manner that is reasonable and consistent with the objectives of this Rule and with the terms of the orders. A Member can satisfy the crossing requirement by contemporaneously buying from the seller and selling to the buyer at the same price.

.08 Trading Outside Normal Market Hours. Members generally may limit the life of a customer order to the period of normal market hours of 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Eastern Time. However, if the customer and Member agree to the processing of the customer's order outside normal market hours, the protections of this Rule shall apply to that customer's order at all times the customer order is executable by the Member.
