SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. 34-61085; File No. SR-NASDAQ-2009-101)

December 1, 2009

Self-Regulatory Organizations; The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of a Proposed Rule Change to the Nasdaq Rule 4000 and 5000 Series to Correct Certain Citations to Renumbered Rules

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act"), and Rule 19b-4 thereunder, notice is hereby given that on November 23, 2009, The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC ("Nasdaq") 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 Nasdaq. Nasdaq has designated the proposed rule change as constituting a noncontroversial rule change under Rule 19b-4(f)(6) under the Act, which renders the proposal effective upon filing with the Commission. 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 the Substance of the Proposed</u> Rule Change

Nasdaq proposes to correct certain citations in the Rule 4000 and 5000 Series that currently cite to rules that have been renumbered.

The text of the proposed rule change is available at http://nasdaqomx.cchwallstreet.com/, at NASDAQ's principal office, and at the Commission's Public Reference Room.

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

³ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

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, Nasdaq 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.

Nasdaq 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

Nasdaq is proposing to update rule cross-references found in the Rule 4000 and 5000 Series, which are no longer accurate due to renumbering of the cited rules. On March 12, 2009, Nasdaq filed a proposed rule change to revise the rules relating to the qualification, listing, and delisting of companies listed on, or applying to list on, Nasdaq to improve the organization of the rules, eliminate redundancies and simplify the rule language. These rules (the "New Listing Rules") were operative April 13, 2009, and resulted in the relocation of Nasdaq's listing rules from the Rule 4000 Series to the Rule 5000 Series of the Nasdaq rulebook, without changing the substance of those rules. Nasdaq inadvertently failed to change certain cross-references in Rules 4120 and 7018 to reflect this move. Accordingly, Nasdaq is proposing to update the cross-references with accurate citations.

Nasdaq has also observed that a cross-reference to a FINRA rule found in Rule 5210(h) is no longer accurate due to FINRA renumbering prior NASD Rule 2810 as it was adopted into the FINRA consolidated rulebook. Rule 2810 was renumbered by FINRA to new Rule 2310 with no

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Securities Exchange Act Release No. 59663 (March 31, 2009), 74 FR 15552 (April 6, 2009) (SR-NASDAQ-2009-018).

material changes.⁵ As a consequence, Nasdaq is proposing to update Rule 5210(h) with the correct citation to FINRA Rule 2310.

2. <u>Statutory Basis</u>

Nasdaq believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the provisions of Section 6 of the Act,⁶ in general and with Sections 6(b)(5) of the Act,⁷ 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 regulating, clearing, settling, processing information with respect to, and facilitating transactions in securities, to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system, and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest. The proposed rule change is consistent with these provisions in that it will eliminate confusion about Nasdaq rules by updating inaccurate cross-references to rules that have been renumbered, without changing the substance of those rules.

B. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition</u>

Nasdaq 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 Rule Change Received from Members, Participants or Others</u>

No written comments were either solicited or received.

Securities Exchange Act Release No. 59987 (May 27, 2009), 74 FR 26902 (June 4, 2009).

^{6 15} U.S.C. 78f.

⁷ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

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

Because the foregoing 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, it has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)⁸ of the Act and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder.⁹ At any time within 60 days of the filing of the proposed rule change, the Commission may summarily abrogate 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. Nasdaq believes that the proposed rule change does not significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest because it merely corrects cross-references to rules that have been renumbered. In each instance, the cross-referenced rule was not materially changed.

Nasdaq requests that the Commission waive the 30-day pre-operative waiting period contained in Exchange Act Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii). Nasdaq requests this waiver so that the corrected citations can be immediately operative, eliminating any potential confusion caused by the currently invalid citations.

The Commission believes that waiving the 30-day operative delay is consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest because it will eliminate confusion caused by the currently invalid citations.¹⁰ Application of the new rules should help foster consistency in the rulebook and promote clarity for market participants relying upon the rulebook. For these

⁸ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

⁹ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

For purposes only of waiving the 30-day operative delay, the Commission has considered the proposal's impact on efficiency, competition, and capital formation. 15 U.S.C. 78c(f).

reasons, the Commission designates that the proposed rule change become immediately operative.

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-2009-101 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-NASDAQ-2009-101. 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 Web site (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 inspection and copying 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 such 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 publicly available. All submissions should refer to File Number SR-NASDAQ-2009-101 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. ¹¹

Florence E. Harmon Deputy Secretary

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¹¹ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).