Jonathan G. Katz,  
Secretary.

[Release No. PA–33; File No. S7–09–03]


AGENCY: Securities and Exchange Commission.

ACTION: Notice of the establishment of a new system of records.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the requirements of the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended, 5 U.S.C. 552a, the Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC” or “Commission”) gives notice of a proposed new system of records entitled Emergency Contingency Plan System (SEC–51).

DATES: Information may be collected for the new system of records beginning on April 30, 2003. Comments on the proposed routine uses of the information must be received by May 30, 2003, and the routine uses will take effect June 9, 2003, unless the Commission receives comments that would require a different determination.

ADRESSES: Please send three copies of your comments to Jonathan G. Katz, Secretary, SEC, 450 Fifth Street, NW., Washington, DC 20549–0609. You may also send your comments electronically to the following electronic address: rule-comments@sec.gov. All comments should refer to File No. S7–09–03 and, if sent electronically, should include this file number on the subject line. Comment letters will be available for public inspection and copying at our Public Reference Room, 450 Fifth Street, NW., Washington, DC 20549. If sent electronically, comment letters will also be available on our Web site (http://www.sec.gov).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dana Schlichtmann, Office of the Executive Director, Securities and Exchange Commission, 450 5th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20549–1101. (202) 942–4305.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Commission gives notice of a new system of records, which is subject to the Privacy Act. The proposed system of records will maintain specified contact information on current members and employees of the Commission who may be contacted in emergency circumstances. The new system of records report, as required by 5 U.S.C. 552a(r) of the Privacy Act, has been submitted to the Committee on Government Reform of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Governmental Affairs of the Senate, and the Office of Management and Budget, pursuant to Appendix I to OMB Circular A–130, Federal Agency Responsibilities for Maintaining Records About Individuals, as amended on February 20, 1996 (61 FR 6435).

Accordingly, the Commission is adding the following system of records.

SEC–51

SYSTEM NAME: Emergency Contingency Plan System.

SYSTEM LOCATION: SEC, 450 Fifth Street, NW., Washington, DC 20549.

CATEGORIES OF INDIVIDUALS COVERED BY THE SYSTEM: Members and employees of the Commission.

CATEGORIES OF RECORDS IN THE SYSTEM: Name; job title; organizational code number; work and home addresses; work and personal electronic mail addresses; work, home, and cellular telephone numbers; pager numbers.


PURPOSE(S): The purpose of this system of records is to maintain emergency contact information for current members and employees of the Commission for use in developing and maintaining emergency contingency operations plans, such as a formal continuity of operations (COOP) plan, for the Commission. This data will be used for alert and notification purposes, determining team and task assignments, developing and maintaining an emergency contact system for general emergency preparedness programs and specific situations. COOP activities involve ensuring the continuity of minimum essential agency functions through plans and procedures governing succession to office and the emergency delegation of authority (where permissible). Other emergency contingency plans include plans for Commission-wide response to threat alerts issued by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS).

ROUTINE USES OF RECORDS MAINTAINED IN THE SYSTEM, INCLUDING CATEGORIES OF USERS AND THE PURPOSES OF SUCH USES:

In addition to the conditions of disclosure under 5 U.S.C. 552a(b), Commission staff may provide these records to any Federal government authority for the purpose of coordinating and reviewing agency continuity of operations plans or emergency contingency plans developed for responding to Department of Homeland Security threat alerts.

POLICIES AND PRACTICES FOR STORING, RETRIEVING, ACCESSING, RETAINING, AND DISPOSING OF RECORDS IN THE SYSTEM:

STORAGE: These records are maintained on paper and in electronic format.

RETRIEVABILITY: These records are retrievable by individual’s names, or by the categories listed above under “Categories of Records in the System.”

SAFEGUARDS: Access to the records is restricted to those who require the records in the performance of official duties related to the purposes for which the system is maintained.

RETENTION AND DISPOSAL: Periodic purging and disposal of those records concerning individuals no longer members or employees of the Commission. Otherwise, records are retained and disposed of in accordance with the appropriate National Archives and Records Administration General Records Schedules.

SYSTEM MANAGER(S) AND ADDRESS: Executive Director, Office of the Executive Director, Securities and Exchange Commission, 450 Fifth Street, NW., Washington, DC 20549–1101.

NOTIFICATION PROCEDURE:

Requests to determine whether this system of records contains a record pertaining to the requesting individual should be sent to the Privacy Act Officer, SEC, Operations Center, 6432 General Green Way, Alexandria, VA 22312–2413.

RECORDS ACCESS PROCEDURES:

Persons wishing to access or contest these records should write the Privacy Act Officer, SEC, Operations Center, 6432 General Green Way, Alexandria, VA 22312–2413.

CONTESTING RECORD PROCEDURES: See Records Access Procedures, above.
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION


Self-Regulatory Organizations; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change by the Boston Stock Exchange, Inc. Relating to Extending Its Operating Hours for the Trading of Nasdaq Securities


Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (“Act”),1 and Rule 19b–4 thereunder,2 notice is hereby given that on March 17, 2003, the date the Exchange filed Amendment No. 19 to the OTC/UTP Plan3 (the “Exchange”) 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 Exchange. On April 10, 2003, the Exchange filed Amendment No. 1 to the proposed rule change.3 The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

I. Self-Regulatory Organization’s Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed Rule Change

The Exchange seeks to amend the Nasdaq trading rules set forth in the Rules of the Board of Governors of the Exchange to allow for extended hours for the trading of Nasdaq securities. Set forth below is the text of the proposed rule change. Proposed new language is italicized; proposed deletions are in brackets.

Chapter XXXV

Trading in Nasdaq Securities

Deals on the Floor—Hours

Section 8. [Pursuant to Chapter I–B, Sec. 2, Deals on the Floor—Hours, no member or member organization shall make any bid, offer or transaction upon the floor of the Exchange, issue a commitment to trade through ITS or send an order for a Nasdaq security to a Nasdaq System market maker other than during the hours the Exchange is open for the transaction of business. Nasdaq securities will not be eligible to participate in the Post Primary Session.] For the purposes of transacting business in Nasdaq securities only, the Exchange shall be open from 7 a.m. until 6:30 p.m. Only transactions in Nasdaq securities will be permitted outside the hours of 9:30 a.m. and 4:15 p.m. in accordance with Chapter I–B, Business Hours Section 1. Primary Session, and Section 1(a) Post Primary Session.

II. Self-Regulatory Organization’s Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis 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. Self-Regulatory Organization’s Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

1. Purpose

The Exchange is proposing an alteration of the hours the Exchange is to be open for trading Nasdaq securities. Presently, Chapter XXXV of the Rules, Trading in Nasdaq Securities, Section 8, Dealing on the Floor—Hours, limits the hours of trading Nasdaq securities on the Exchange to the hours of 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Exchange would delete the present rule and replace it with one which would permit the transaction of business, in Nasdaq securities only, between the hours of 7 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. The Exchange believes that such an extension of hours would allow Exchange members who trade Nasdaq securities to remain competitive with their counterparts on other exchanges that trade Nasdaq securities pursuant to unlisted trading privileges, as well as NASD members who are permitted to conduct transactions in Nasdaq securities during this extended period. Furthermore, the Exchange believes that such extended hours are contemplated and permitted by Article XI of the Joint Self-Regulatory Organization Plan Governing the Collection, Consolidation and Dissemination of Quotation and Transaction Information for Nasdaq-Listed Securities Traded on Exchanges on an Unlisted Trading Privilege Basis (“OTC/UTP Plan”).

2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 6 of the Act,4 in general, and Section 6(b)(5) of the Act,6 in particular, in that it is designed to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to foster cooperation and coordination with persons engaged in regulating securities transactions, to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and to protect investors.  

Footnotes:


3 In Amendment No. 1, the Exchange amended the proposal to state that it deemed the proposed rule change to be non-controversial in nature (rather than concerned solely with the administration of the Exchange) and sought immediate effectiveness of the proposed rule change pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act and waiver of the 30-day operative period for the effectiveness of the rule change proposal. See Letter dated April 10, 2003, from John Bosee, Vice President, Legal and Compliance, Exchange, to Katherine England, Assistant Director, Division of Market Regulation, Commission. For purposes of calculating the 60-day period within which the Commission may summarily abrogate the proposed rule change under Section 19(b)(3)(C) of the Act, the Commission considers that the period to commence on April 10, 2003, the date the Exchange filed Amendment No. 1. See 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(C).

4 The OTC/UTP Plan was initially approved in 1990. See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 28146 (June 26, 1990), 55 FR 27917 (July 6, 1990). It has subsequently been amended. See also Securities Exchange Act Release Nos. 34371 (July 19, 1994), 59 FR 37103 (July 20, 1994); 35221 (January 11, 1995), 60 FR 3886 (January 19, 1995); 36102 (August 14, 1995), 60 FR 43626 (August 22, 1995); 36226 (September 13, 1995), 60 FR 49029 (September 21, 1995); 36368 (October 13, 1995), 60 FR 54991 (October 19, 1995); 36481 (November 13, 1995), 60 FR 58119 (November 24, 1995); 36589 (December 13, 1995), 60 FR 65096 (December 20, 1995); 36650 (December 28, 1995), 61 FR 358 (January 4, 1996); 36934 (March 6, 1996), 61 FR 10408 (March 13, 1996); 36985 (March 18, 1996), 61 FR 12122 (March 25, 1996); 37689 (September 16, 1996), 61 FR 50058 (September 24, 1996); 37772 (October 1, 1996), 61 FR 52980 (October 9, 1996); 38457 (March 31, 1997), 62 FR 16880 (April 8, 1997); 38794 (June 30, 1997), 62 FR 36586 (July 8, 1997), 63 FR 39505 (December 31, 1997), 63 FR 1515 (January 9, 1998), 40151 (July 1, 1998), 63 FR 36679 (July 8, 1998), 40896 (December 31, 1998), 64 FR 1834 (January 12, 1999); 41392 (May 12, 1999), 64 FR 27839 (May 21, 1999), 42268 (December 23, 1999), 65 FR 1202 (January 6, 2000); 43005 (June 30, 2000), 65 FR 42411 (July 10, 2000); 44099 (March 23, 2001), 66 FR 17457 (March 30, 2001); 44348 (May 24, 2001), 66 FR 29610 (May 31, 2001); 44552 (July 13, 2001), 66 FR 37712 (July 19, 2001); 44694 (August 14, 2001), 66 FR 43508 (August 20, 2001); 44804 (September 17, 2001), 66 FR 46299 (September 19, 2001); 45081 (November 19, 2001), 66 FR 59273 (November 27, 2001); 46381 (August 19, 2002), 67 FR 164 (August 23, 2002); 46729 (October 25, 2002), 67 FR 212 (November 1, 2002).
