

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
(Release No. 34-60383; File No. SR-BX-2009-042)

July 24, 2009

Self-Regulatory Organizations; NASDAQ OMX BX, Inc.; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change to Modify Its Optional Anti-Internalization Functionality

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 July 22, 2009, NASDAQ OMX BX, Inc. (“NASDAQ OMX BX” or “Exchange”) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“Commission”) the proposed rule change as described in Items I and II below, which Items have been prepared by the Exchange. The Exchange has designated the proposed rule change as effecting a change described under Rule 19b-4(f)(6) under the Act,³ 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. Self-Regulatory Organization’s Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed Rule Change

The Exchange is filing with the Commission a proposed rule change to modify its optional anti-internalization functionality.

The text of the proposed rule change is below. Proposed new language is italicized and proposed deletions are in brackets.

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4757. Book Processing

System orders shall be executed through the Book Process set forth below:

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

³ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

(a) Execution Algorithm - Price/Time — The System shall execute equally priced or better priced trading interest within the System in price/time priority in the following order:

(1) – (2) No Change.

(3) Exception: Anti-Internalization – Market participants may direct that quotes/orders entered into the System not execute against quotes/orders entered under the same MPID. [In such a case, the later entered of the quote/orders will be cancelled back to the entering party.] In such a case, if the interacting orders from the same MPID are equivalent in size, both orders will be cancelled back to their entering parties. If the interacting orders from the same MPID are not equivalent in size, share amounts equal to size of the smaller of the two orders will be cancelled back to their originating parties with the remainder of the larger order being retained by the System for potential execution.

(b) – (c) No Change.

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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

Nasdaq OMX BX is proposing to modify its voluntary anti-internalization functionality. Under the proposal, market participants entering quotes/orders under a specific market

participant identifier (“MPID”) may voluntarily direct that they not execute against other quotes/orders entered into the System under the same MPID. In such a case, if the orders from the same MPID are equivalent in size, both orders will be cancelled back to their entering parties. If the orders from the same MPID are not equivalent in size, share amounts equal to [sic] size of the smaller of the two orders will be cancelled back to their respective originating parties with the remainder of the larger order being retained by the System for potential execution.

The above replaces NASDAQ OMX BX’s ’s [sic] currently approved, but not yet operational, anti-internalization functionality that would cancel the later entered of interacting orders from the same MPID. NASDAQ OMX BX is modifying its anti-internalization functionality based on additional input from system users as well as the Commission’s recent approval of various versions of anti-internalization functionality for the BATS and NYSE Arca exchanges.⁴

Anti-internalization functionality is designed to assist market participants in complying with certain rules and regulations of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (“ERISA”) that preclude and/or limit managing broker-dealers of such accounts from trading as principal with orders generated for those accounts. It can also assist market participants in reducing execution fees potentially resulting from the interaction of executable buy and sell trading interest from the same firm. NASDAQ OMX BX notes that use of the functionality does not relieve or otherwise modify the duty of best execution owed to orders received from public customers. As such, market participants using anti-internalization functionality will need to take appropriate steps to ensure that public customer orders that do not execute because of the use of

⁴ See SR-BATS-2009-022 and SR-NYSEArca-2009-058. Nasdaq’s proposed anti-internalization functionality is similar to BAT’s MMTP Decrement and Cancel and NYSE Arca’s STP Decrement and Cancel.

anti-internalization functionality ultimately receive the same execution price (or better) they would have originally obtained if execution of the order was not inhibited by the functionality.

2. Statutory Basis

Nasdaq OMX BX believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the provisions of Section 6 of the Act,⁵ in general, and with Sections [sic] 6(b)(5) of the Act,⁶ in particular, in that the proposal 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. Nasdaq OMX BX notes that similar functionality has previously [sic] approved for other trading systems.⁷

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

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will result in any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

C. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed Rule Change Received from Members, Participants, or Others

Written comments on the proposed rule change were neither solicited nor received.

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

Because the foregoing proposed rule change: (1) does not significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest; (2) does not impose any significant burden on

⁵ 15 U.S.C. 78f.

⁶ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

⁷ See SR-NASD-2003-039.

competition; and (3) by its terms does not become operative for 30 days after the date of this filing, or such shorter time as the Commission may designate if consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest, the proposed rule change has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act⁸ and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder.⁹

A proposed rule change filed under Rule 19b-4(f)(6) normally does not become operative for 30 days after the date of filing. In addition, Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii) requires a self-regulatory organization to provide the Commission with written notice of its intent to file the proposed rule change, along with a brief description and text of the proposed rule change, at least five business days prior to the date of filing of the proposed rule change, or such shorter time as designated by the Commission. However, Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii) permits the Commission to designate a shorter time if such action is consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest. The Exchange requests that the Commission waive the 30-day operative delay as well as the five business-day pre-filing requirement so that the benefits of this functionality to NASDAQ OMX BX market participants expected from the rule change can be implemented on August 3, 2009, when the Exchange expects to have the technological changes in place to support the proposed rule change. The Commission believes that waiving the 30-day operative delay¹⁰ to make this functionality available without delay is consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest.¹¹ The Commission notes that the proposal is similar to rules of other exchanges and

⁸ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

⁹ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

¹⁰ For purposes only of waiving the 30-day operative delay, the Commission has considered the proposed rule's impact on efficiency, competition, and capital formation. See 15 U.S.C. 78c(f).

¹¹ The Commission is also waiving the five business-day pre-filing requirement.

thus does not raise any novel regulatory issues.¹² The Commission designates the proposal operative upon filing to allow the Exchange to implement the functionality without delay.

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.

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 rule-comments@sec.gov. Please include File Number SR-BX-2009-042 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-BX-2009-042. 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

¹² See BATS Exchange Rule 11.9(f) and NYSE Arca Equities Rule 7.31(qq).

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 available publicly. All submissions should refer to File Number SR-BX-2009-042 and should be submitted on or before [insert date 21 days from publication in the Federal Register].

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.¹³

Florence E. Harmon
Deputy Secretary

¹³ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).