

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
(Release No. 34-77194; File No. SR-C2-2016-002)

February 19, 2016

Self-Regulatory Organizations; C2 Options Exchange, Incorporated; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change to Amend Rule 8.2

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 February 10, 2016, C2 Options Exchange, Incorporated (“C2” or the “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 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 proposes to amend C2 Rule 8.2 relating to the Market-Maker registration cost for all option classes. The text of the proposed rule change is provided below.

(additions are underlined; deletions are [bracketed])

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**C2 Options Exchange, Incorporated
Rules**

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Rule 8.2. Continuing Market-Maker Registration

(a) – (c) No change.

(d) Market-Maker Option Class Registration. Absent an exemption by the Exchange, an option class registration of a Market-Maker confers the right to quote in that product. A Market-Maker

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

may change its registered classes upon advance notification to the Exchange in a form and manner prescribed by the Exchange.

Each Trading Permit held by a Market-Maker has a registration credit of 1.0. A Market-Maker may select for each Trading Permit the Market-Maker holds any combination of option classes, whose aggregate registration cost does not exceed 1.0. Option class “registration costs” are set forth below:

Option Class	Registration Cost
All options	[.001].0001

(e) No change.

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The text of the proposed rule change is also available on the Exchange’s website (<http://www.cboe.com/AboutCBOE/CBOELegalRegulatoryHome.aspx>), at the Exchange’s Office of the Secretary, and at the Commission’s Public Reference Room.

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 the Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

1. Purpose

The purpose of this rule change is to amend C2 Rule 8.2 relating to the Market-Maker registration cost for all option classes. All option classes on C2 currently have a registration cost of .001. C2 proposes to reduce the registration cost to .0001, effective February 22, 2016, which would apply to all existing classes that currently trade on C2 and to all classes listed in the future.

In support of this filing, the Exchange states it intends to add an additional 2,000 option classes beginning the week of February 22, 2016. By reducing the registration cost for existing classes, Market-Makers could utilize the excess registration capacity of their current trading permits to quote in these additional option classes when they begin trading without having to obtain any additional trading permits, which promotes competition and efficiency.

The Exchange will announce its plan to reduce the registration cost for all option classes via Regulatory Circular at least one business day before February 22, 2016, which the Exchange believes provides Market-Makers with sufficient notice.

2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act and the rules and regulations thereunder applicable to the Exchange and, in particular, the requirements of Section 6(b) of the Act.³ Specifically, the Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with the Section 6(b)(5)⁴ requirements that the rules of an exchange be designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable principles

³ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

⁴ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

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. Additionally, the Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with the Section 6(b)(5)⁵ requirement that the rules of an exchange not be designed to permit unfair discrimination between customers, issuers, brokers, or dealers.

In particular, the Exchange believes that reducing the registration cost for all option classes will foster competition and efficiency by enabling Market-Makers to use the excess registration capacity to quote in additional option classes. The Exchange believes this may result in more liquidity and competitive pricing, which ultimately benefits investors. Additionally, the proposed rule change does not result in unfair discrimination, as the reduced registration cost will apply to all Market-Makers.

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

C2 does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. The proposed rule change will apply to all Market-Makers (it is applicable only to Market-Makers, since only Market-Makers can register to quote in classes). C2 does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on intermarket competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act because the proposed rule change only applies to the C2 Market-Maker registration process. C2 believes that the proposed rule change will enhance competition among market participants and benefit investors and the marketplace because

⁵ Id.

Market-Makers will be able to use the excess registration capacity to quote in additional option classes and increase overall liquidity on the Exchange.

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

The Exchange neither solicited nor received comments on the proposed rule change.

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

The Exchange has filed the proposed rule change pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(iii) of the Act⁶ and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder.⁷ Because the 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 prior to 30 days from the date on which it was filed, 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 Act and Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii) thereunder.

The Exchange has asked the Commission to waive the 30-day operative delay so that the proposal may become operative immediately upon filing. The Exchange has stated that it intends to add an additional 2,000 option classes on February 22, 2016. The Exchange has argued that waiving the operative delay would allow it to reduce the registration cost for all option classes on that date, which would allow Market-Makers to utilize their excess registration capacity to quote and provide liquidity in these additional option classes on their first trading day without having to obtain additional trading permits. The Commission believes that waiving the

⁶ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(iii).

⁷ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6). In addition, Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii) requires a self-regulatory organization to give the Commission 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. The Exchange has satisfied this requirement.

30-day operative delay is consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest because it would provide Market-Makers with the ability to quote and provide liquidity in the new option classes that C2 seeks to list without necessarily requiring Market Makers to purchase an additional trading permit to do so. Market Makers could thus be incentivized to begin making markets in the new classes without delay, which could enhance liquidity in these new classes to the potential benefit of investors. For this reason, the Commission hereby waives the 30-day operative delay requirement and designates the proposed rule change as operative upon filing.⁸

At any time within 60 days of the filing of the proposed rule change, the Commission summarily may temporarily suspend 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. If the Commission takes such action, the Commission will institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule change should be approved or disapproved.

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-C2-2016-002 on the subject line.

⁸ 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).

Paper comments:

- Send paper comments in triplicate to Brent J. Fields, Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549-1090.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-C2-2016-002. 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 (<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 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 such filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal offices 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-C2-2016-002, 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.⁹

Brent J. Fields
Secretary

⁹ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).