The text of the proposed rule change is below. Proposed new language is underlined; deletions are bracketed.

4753. Nasdaq Halt [and Imbalance] Cross[es]

(a) Definitions.

For the purposes of this rule the term:

(1) “Imbalance” shall mean the number of shares of Eligible Interest that may not be matched with other order shares at a particular price at any given time.

(2) “Market Order Imbalance” shall mean the number of shares of Eligible Interest entered through market orders that would not be matched with other order shares at the time of the dissemination of an Order Imbalance Indicator.

[(2)](3) “Order Imbalance Indicator” shall mean a message disseminated by electronic means containing information about Eligible Interest and the price at which such interest would execute at the time of dissemination. The Order Imbalance Indicator shall disseminate the following information:

(A) “Current Reference Price” shall mean:

(i) The single price at which the maximum number of shares of Eligible Interest can be paired.

(ii) If more than one price exists under subparagraph (i), the Current Reference Price shall mean the price that minimizes any Imbalance.

(iii) If more than one price exists under subparagraph (ii), the Current Reference Price shall mean the entered price at which shares will remain unexecuted in the cross.

(iv) If more than one price exists under subparagraph (iii), the Current Reference Price shall mean:

(a) In the case of an IPO, the price that is closest to the Issuer’s Initial Public Offering Price;

(b) In the case of another halt type in which the security has already traded during normal market hours on that trading day, the price that is closest to the last Nasdaq execution prior to the trading halt; and

(c) In the case of another halt type in which the security has not already traded during normal market hours on that trading day, the price that is closest to the previous Nasdaq Official Closing Price.
(B) the number of shares of Eligible Interest that are paired at the Current Reference Price;

(C) the size of any Market Order Imbalance;

(D) the buy/sell direction of any Market Order Imbalance; and

(E) indicative prices at which the Nasdaq Halt Cross would occur if the Nasdaq Halt Cross were to occur at that time. The indicative prices shall be:

(i) The Far Clearing Price which shall be the same as the Current Reference Price, and

(ii) The Near Clearing Price which shall be the same as the Current Reference Price.

[(iii) If marketable buy (sell) shares would remain unexecuted above (below) the Near Clearing Price or Far Clearing Price, Nasdaq shall disseminate an indicator for “market buy” or “market sell”.

[(3)](4) “Nasdaq Halt Cross” shall mean the process for determining the price at which Eligible Interest shall be executed at the open of trading for a halted security and for executing that Eligible Interest.

[(4)](5) “Eligible Interest” shall mean any quotation or any order that may be entered into the system and designated with a time-in-force of SIOC, SDAY, SGTC, MIOC, MDAY, MGTC, SHEX, or GTMC.

[(5) “Nasdaq Imbalance Cross” shall mean the process for determining when the market for a Nasdaq security is no longer trading in an orderly fashion and for determining the price at which Eligible Interest shall be executed in order to restore orderly trading.]

(6) “Nasdaq Order Imbalance Snapshot” shall mean a message disseminated by electronic means containing a subset of information contained in the Order Imbalance Indicator using a format optimized for newswire services.

(b) Processing of Nasdaq Halt Cross. For Nasdaq-listed securities that are the subject of a trading halt or pause initiated pursuant to Rule 4120(a)(1), (4), (5), (6), (7) or (11), the Nasdaq Halt Cross shall occur at the time specified by Nasdaq pursuant to Rule 4120, and Market hours trading shall commence when the Nasdaq Halt Cross concludes.

(1) At the beginning of the Display Only Period and continuing through the resumption of trading, Nasdaq shall disseminate by electronic means an Order Imbalance Indicator every 5 seconds.

(2) (A) The Nasdaq Halt Cross shall occur at the price that maximizes the number of shares of Eligible Interest in the Nasdaq Market Center to be executed.

(B) If more than one price exists under subparagraph (A), the Nasdaq Halt Cross shall occur at the price that minimizes any Imbalance.
(C) If more than one price exists under subparagraph (B), the Nasdaq Halt Cross shall occur at the entered price at which shares will remain unexecuted in the cross.

(D) If more than one price exists under subparagraph (C), the Nasdaq Halt Cross shall occur at:

(i) In the case of an IPO, the price that is closest to the Issuer’s Initial Public Offering Price;

(ii) In the case of another halt type in which the security has already traded during normal market hours on that trading day, the price that is closest to the last Nasdaq execution prior to the trading halt; and

(iii) In the case of another halt type in which the security has not already traded during normal market hours on that trading day, the price that is closest to the previous Nasdaq Official Closing Price.

(3) If the Nasdaq Halt Cross price is selected and fewer than all shares of Eligible Interest that are available in the Nasdaq Market Center would be executed, all Eligible Interest shall be executed at the Nasdaq Halt Cross price in price/time priority.

(4) All Eligible Interest executed in the Nasdaq Halt Cross shall be executed at the Nasdaq Halt Cross price, trade reported anonymously, and disseminated via a national market system plan. The Nasdaq Halt Cross price shall be the Nasdaq Official Opening Price for stocks that participate in the Nasdaq Halt Cross unless the stock has already been traded during normal market hours on that trading day.

(c) [Reserved.]

[(d)] Nasdaq-listed securities that are the subject of a trading halt initiated pursuant to Rule 4120(a) and in which no Halt Cross occurs, shall open for trading at the time specified by Nasdaq pursuant to Rule 4120 in the following manner:

(1) Orders shall be added to the book in time priority.

(2) The Nasdaq Official Opening Price for such securities shall be the first Nasdaq market center execution following trade resumption unless the security has already traded during Market hours on that trading day.