

Additions underlined

Deletions [bracketed]

## Rules of New York Stock Exchange LLC

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### **Rule 107C. Retail Liquidity Program**

*This Rule is not applicable to trading UTP Securities on the Pillar trading platform.*

#### **(a) Definitions.**

- (1) Retail Liquidity Provider. A "Retail Liquidity Provider" or "RLP" is a member organization that is approved by the Exchange under this Rule to act as such and that is required to submit Retail Price Improvement in accordance with this Rule.
- (2) Retail Member Organization. A "Retail Member Organization" or "RMO" is a member organization (or a division thereof) that has been approved by the Exchange under this Rule to submit Retail Orders.
- (3) Retail Order. A "Retail Order" is an agency order or a riskless principal order that meets the criteria of FINRA Rule 5320.03 that originates from a natural person and is submitted to the Exchange by a Retail Member Organization, provided that no change is made to the terms of the order with respect to price or side of market and the order does not originate from a trading algorithm or any other computerized methodology.

A Retail Order is an Immediate or Cancel Order and shall operate in accordance with Rule 107C(k). A Retail Order may be an odd lot, round lot, or PRL.

- (4) Retail Price Improvement Order. A "Retail Price Improvement Order" or "RPI" consists of non-displayed interest in NYSE-listed securities that is priced better than the best protected bid ("PBB") or best protected offer ("PBO"), as such terms are defined in Regulation NMS Rule 600(b)(57), by at least \$0.001 and that is identified as such. Exchange systems will monitor whether RPI buy or sell interest, adjusted by any offset and subject to the ceiling or floor price, is eligible to interact with incoming Retail Orders. An RPI remains non-displayed in its entirety (the buy or sell interest, the offset, and the ceiling or floor). For securities to which it is assigned, an RLP shall only enter an RPI in their RLP capacity. An RLP is permitted, but not required, to submit RPIs for securities to which it is not assigned, and will be treated as a non-RLP member organization for those particular

securities. Additionally, member organizations other than RLPs are permitted, but not required, to submit RPIs. An RPI may be an odd lot, round lot, or PRL.

**(b) Retail Member Organization Qualifications and Application.**

- (1) To qualify as a Retail Member Organization, a member organization must conduct a retail business or route retail orders on behalf of another broker-dealer. For purposes of this Rule, conducting a retail business includes carrying retail customer accounts on a fully disclosed basis
- (2) To become a Retail Member Organization, a member organization must submit:
  - (A) an application form;
  - (B) supporting documentation, which may include sample marketing literature, Web site screenshots, other publicly disclosed materials describing the member organization's retail order flow, and any other documentation and information requested by the Exchange in order to confirm that the applicant's order flow would meet the requirements of the Retail Order definition; and
  - (C) an attestation, in a form prescribed by the Exchange, that substantially all orders submitted as Retail Orders will qualify as such under this Rule.
- (3) After an applicant submits the application form, supporting documentation, and attestation, the Exchange shall notify the applicant of its decision in writing.
- (4) A disapproved applicant may: (A) request an appeal of such disapproval by the Exchange as provided in paragraph (i) below; and/or (B) reapply for Retail Member Organization status 90 days after the disapproval notice is issued by the Exchange.
- (5) A Retail Member Organization may voluntarily withdraw from such status at any time by giving written notice to the Exchange.
- (6) A Retail Member Organization must have written policies and procedures reasonably designed to assure that it will only designate orders as Retail Orders if all requirements of a Retail Order are met. Such written policies and procedures must require the member organization to (i) exercise due diligence before entering a Retail Order to assure that entry as a Retail Order is in compliance with the requirements of this Rule, and (ii) monitor whether orders entered as Retail Orders meet the applicable requirements. If a Retail Member Organization does not itself conduct a retail business but routes Retail Orders on behalf of another broker-dealer, the Retail Member Organization's supervisory procedures must be reasonably designed to assure that the orders it receives from such other broker-dealer that are designated as Retail Orders meet the definition of a Retail Order. The Retail Member Organization must (i) obtain an annual written representation, in a form acceptable to the Exchange, from each other broker-dealer that sends the Retail

Member Organization orders to be designated as Retail Orders that entry of such orders as Retail Orders will be in compliance with the requirements of this Rule; and (ii) monitor whether Retail Order flow routed on behalf of such other broker-dealer meets the applicable requirements.

**(c) RLP Qualifications.** To qualify as an RLP, a member organization must:

- (1) be approved to act as a Designated Market Maker or Supplemental Liquidity Provider;
- (2) demonstrate an ability to meet the requirements of an RLP;
- (3) have mnemonics or the ability to accommodate other Exchange-supplied designations that identify to the Exchange RLP trading activity in assigned RLP securities. A member organization may not use such mnemonic or designation for non-RLP trading activity at the Exchange. A member organization shall not receive credit for its RLP trading activity for which it does not use its mnemonic or designation; and
- (4) have adequate trading infrastructure and technology to support electronic trading.

**(d) RLP Application.**

- (1) To become an RLP, a member organization must submit an RLP application form with all supporting documentation to the Exchange.
- (2) After an applicant submits an RLP application form with supporting documentation to the Exchange, the Exchange shall notify the applicant of its decision. The Exchange may approve one or more member organizations to act as an RLP for a particular security. The Exchange may also approve a particular member organization to act as RLP for one or more securities. Approved RLPs may be assigned securities according to requests made to, and approved by, the Exchange.
- (3) If an applicant is approved by the Exchange to receive RLP status, such applicant must establish connectivity with relevant Exchange systems before such applicant is permitted to trade as an RLP on the Exchange.
- (4) If an applicant is disapproved under this paragraph (d) by the Exchange, the Exchange shall provide written notice of its disapproval. The disapproved applicant may: (A) request an appeal of such disapproval by the Exchange as provided in paragraph (i) below; and/or (B) reapply for RLP status 90 days after the disapproval notice is issued by the Exchange.

**(e) Voluntary Withdrawal of RLP Status.** An RLP may withdraw from its status as an RLP by giving notice to the Exchange. Such withdrawal shall become effective when those securities assigned to the withdrawing RLP are reassigned to another RLP. After

the Exchange receives the notice of withdrawal from the withdrawing RLP, the Exchange shall reassign such securities as soon as practicable, but no later than 30 days after the date said notice is received by the Exchange. In the event the reassignment of securities takes longer than the 30-day period, the withdrawing RLP shall have no obligations under this Rule 107C and shall not be held responsible for any matters concerning its previously assigned RLP securities upon termination of this 30-day period.

**(f) RLP Requirements.**

- (1) An RLP may only enter a Retail Price Improvement Order electronically and directly into Exchange systems and facilities designated for this purpose and only in an RLP capacity for the securities to which it is assigned as RLP. An RLP entering RPIs in securities to which it is not assigned is not required to satisfy the requirements in this paragraph. An RLP must maintain:
  - (A) a Retail Price Improvement Order that is better than the PBB at least five percent of the trading day for each assigned security; and
  - (B) a Retail Price Improvement Order that is better than the PBO at least five percent of the trading day for each assigned security.
  
- (2) An RLP's five-percent requirements are calculated by determining the average percentage of time an RLP maintains a Retail Price Improvement Order in each of its RLP securities during the regular trading day on a daily and monthly basis. The Exchange shall determine whether an RLP has met this requirement by calculating the following:
  - (A) the "Daily Bid Percentage" is calculated by determining the percentage of time an RLP maintains a Retail Price Improvement Order with respect to the PBB during each trading day for a calendar month;
  - (B) the "Daily Offer Percentage" is calculated by determining the percentage of time an RLP maintains a Retail Price Improvement Order with respect to the PBO during each trading day for a calendar month;
  - (C) the "Monthly Average Bid Percentage" is calculated for each RLP security by summing the security's "Daily Bid Percentages" for each trading day in a calendar month then dividing the resulting sum by the total number of trading days in such calendar month; and
  - (D) the "Monthly Average Offer Percentage" is calculated for each RLP security by summing the security's "Daily Offer Percentage" for each trading day in a calendar month and then dividing the resulting sum by the total number of trading days in such calendar month.

(E) Only Retail Price Improvement Orders entered throughout the trading day shall be used when calculating whether an RLP is in compliance with its five-percent requirements.

(3) The five-percent requirement shall not be applicable in the first two calendar months a member organization operates as an RLP. The requirement shall take effect on the first day of the third consecutive calendar month the member organization operates as an RLP.

**(g) Failure of RLP to Meet Requirements.**

(1) If, after the first two months an RLP acts as an RLP, an RLP fails to meet any of the requirements set forth in paragraph (f) of this Rule for any assigned RLP security for three consecutive months, the Exchange may, in its discretion, take one or more of the following actions:

(A) revoke the assignment of any or all of the affected securities from the RLP;

(B) revoke the assignment of unaffected securities from the RLP; or

(C) disqualify the member organization from its status as an RLP.

(2) Disqualification Determinations. The Exchange shall determine if and when a member organization is disqualified from its status as an RLP. One calendar month prior to any such determination, the Exchange shall notify an RLP of such impending disqualification in writing. When disqualification determinations are made, the Exchange shall provide a written disqualification notice to the member organization.

(3) Appeal and/or Reapplication for RLP Status. An RLP that is disqualified under this paragraph (g) may: (A) appeal such disqualification as provided in paragraph (i) below; and/or (B) reapply for RLP status 90 days after the disqualification notice is issued by the Exchange.

**(h) Failure of RMO to Abide by Retail Order Requirements.**

(1) If a Retail Member Organization designates orders submitted to the Exchange as Retail Orders and the Exchange determines, in its sole discretion, that such orders fail to meet any of the requirements set forth in paragraph (a) of this Rule, the Exchange may disqualify a member organization from its status as a Retail Member Organization.

(2) Disqualification Determinations. The Exchange shall determine if and when a member organization is disqualified from its status as a Retail Member Organization. When disqualification determinations are made, the Exchange shall provide a written disqualification notice to the member organization.

- (3) Appeal and/or Reapplication for Retail Member Organization Status. A Retail Member Organization that is disqualified under this paragraph (h) may: (A) appeal such disqualification as provided in paragraph (i) below; and/or (B) reapply for Retail Member Organization status 90 days after the date of the disqualification notice from the Exchange.

**(i) Appeal of Disapproval or Disqualification.**

- (1) If a member organization disputes the Exchange's decision to disapprove it under Rule 107C(b) or (d) or disqualify it under Rule 107C(g) or (h), the member organization ("appellant") may request, within five business days after notice of the decision is issued by the Exchange, that the Retail Liquidity Program Panel ("RLP Panel") review the decision to determine if it was correct.
- (A) In the event a member organization is disqualified from its status as an RLP pursuant to paragraph (g) of this Rule, the Exchange shall not reassign the appellant's securities to a different RLP until the RLP Panel has informed the appellant of its ruling.
- (2) The RLP Panel shall consist of the NYSE's Chief Regulatory Officer ("CRO"), or a designee of the CRO, and two officers of the Exchange designated by the Co-Head of U.S. Listings and Cash Execution.
- (3) The RLP Panel shall review the facts and render a decision within the time frame prescribed by the Exchange.
- (4) The RLP Panel may overturn or modify an action taken by the Exchange under this Rule. A determination by the RLP Panel shall constitute final action by the Exchange.

**(j) Retail Liquidity Identifier.** An identifier shall be disseminated through proprietary data feeds or as appropriate through the Consolidation Quotation System when RPI interest priced at least \$0.001 better than the PBB or PBO for a particular security is available in Exchange systems ("Retail Liquidity Identifier"). The Retail Liquidity Identifier shall reflect the symbol for the particular security and the side (buy or sell) of the RPI interest, but shall not include the price or size of the RPI interest.

**(k) Retail Order Designation.** A Retail Member Organization can designate how a Retail Order will interact with available contra-side interest as follows:

- (1) Type 1. A Type 1-designated Retail Order will interact only with available contra-side Retail Price Improvement Orders and MPL Orders but will not interact with other available contra-side interest in Exchange systems or route to other markets. The portion of a Type 1-designated Retail Order that does not execute against contra-side Retail Price Improvement Orders will be immediately and automatically cancelled.

- (2) Type 2. A Type 2-designated Retail Order will interact first with available contra-side Retail Price Improvement Orders and MPL Orders and any remaining portion of the Retail Order will be executed as a Regulation NMS-compliant Immediate or Cancel Order pursuant to Rule 13.
- (3) Type 3. A Type 3-designated Retail Order will interact first with available contra-side Retail Price Improvement Orders and MPL Orders and any remaining portion of the Retail Order will be executed as an NYSE Immediate or Cancel Order pursuant to Rule 13.

**(l) Priority and Order Allocation.**

Retail Price Improvement Orders in the same security shall be ranked and allocated according to price then time of entry into Exchange systems. When determining the price to execute a Retail Order, Exchange systems consider all eligible RPIs and MPL Orders. If the only interest is RPIs, then the executions shall occur at the price level that completes the incoming order's execution. If the only interest is MPL Orders, the Retail Order shall execute at the midpoint of the PBBO. If both RPIs and MPL Orders are present, Exchange systems will evaluate at what price level the incoming Retail Order may be executed in full ("clean-up price"). If the clean-up price is equal to the midpoint of the PBBO, RPIs will receive priority over MPL Orders, and the Retail Order will execute against both RPIs and MPL Orders at the midpoint. If the clean-up price is worse than the midpoint of the PBBO, the Retail Order will execute first with the MPL Orders at the midpoint of the PBBO and any remaining quantity of the Retail Order will execute with the RPIs at the clean-up price. If the clean-up price is better than the midpoint of the PBBO, then the Retail Order will execute against the RPIs at the clean-up price and will ignore the MPL Orders. Any remaining unexecuted RPI interest and MPL Orders will remain available to interact with other incoming Retail Orders. Any remaining unexecuted portion of the Retail Order will cancel or execute in accordance with Rule 107C(k).

Examples of priority and order allocation are as follows:

Example 1:

PBBO for security ABC is \$10.00 - \$10.05

RLP 1 enters a Retail Price Improvement Order to buy ABC at \$10.01 for 500

RLP 2 then enters a Retail Price Improvement Order to buy ABC at \$10.02 for 500

RLP 3 then enters a Retail Price Improvement Order to buy ABC at \$10.03 for 500

An incoming Retail Order to sell ABC for 1,000 executes first against RLP 3's bid for 500, because it is the best priced bid, then against RLP 2's bid for 500, because it is the next best priced bid. RLP 1 is not filled because the entire size of the Retail Order to sell

1,000 is depleted. The Retail Order executes at the price that completes the order's execution. In this example, the entire 1,000 Retail Order to sell executes at \$10.02 because it results in a complete fill.

However, assume the same facts above, except that RLP 2's Retail Price Improvement Order to buy ABC at \$10.02 is for 100. The incoming Retail Order to sell 1,000 executes first against RLP 3's bid for 500, because it is the best priced bid, then against RLP 2's bid for 100, because it is the next best priced bid. RLP 1 then receives an execution for 400 of its bid for 500, at which point the entire size of the Retail Order to sell 1,000 is depleted. The Retail Order executes at the price that completes the order's execution, which is \$10.01.

Example 2:

PBBO for security DEF is \$10.00 - 10.01

RLP 1 enters a Retail Price Improvement Order to buy DEF at \$10.006 for 500

RLP 2 enters a Retail Price Improvement Order to buy DEF at \$10.005 for 500

MPL 1 enters an MPL Order to buy DEF at \$10.01 for 1000

RLP 3 enters a Retail Price Improvement Order to buy DEF at \$10.002 for 1000

An incoming Retail Order to sell DEF for 2,500 arrives. The clean-up price is \$10.002. Because the midpoint of the PBBO is priced better than the clean-up price, the Retail Order executes with MPL 1 for 1000 shares at \$10.005. The Retail Order then executes at \$10.002 against RLP 1's bid for 500, because it is the best-priced bid, then against RLP 2's bid for 500 because it is the next best-priced bid and then RLP 3 receives an execution for 500 of its bid for 1000, at which point the entire size of the Retail Order to sell 2,500 is depleted.

Assume the same facts above. An incoming Retail Order to sell DEF for 1,000 arrives. The clean-up price is \$10.005. Because the clean-up price is equal to the midpoint of the PBBO, RPIs will receive priority over MPL Orders. As a result, the Retail Order executes first against RLP 1's bid for 500, because it is the best-priced bid, then against RLP 2's bid for 500 because it is the next best-priced bid, at which point the entire size of the Retail Order to sell 1,000 is depleted.

**[(m) Rule Pilot Program.** This rule shall operate for a pilot period set to expire the earlier of approval of the filing to make this rule permanent or June 30, 2019. During the pilot period, t]The Program [will be ]is limited to trades occurring at prices equal to or greater than \$1.00 per share.

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