

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
(Release No. 34-52918; File No. SR-PCX-2005-113)

December 7, 2005

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Pacific Exchange, Inc.; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change and Amendment No. 1 Thereto Relating to Revisions to the Series 9/10 Examination Program

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 November 17, 2005, the Pacific Exchange, Inc. (“PCX” or “Exchange”) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC” or “Commission”) the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II, and III below, which Items have been prepared by PCX. On November 22, 2005, PCX filed Amendment No. 1 to the proposed rule change. PCX has designated the proposed rule change as constituting a stated policy, practice, or interpretation with respect to the meaning, administration, or enforcement of an existing rule of the self-regulatory organization pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(i) of the Act³ and Rule 19b-4(f)(1) thereunder,⁴ which renders the proposal effective upon filing with the Commission. The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change, as amended, from interested persons.

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

³ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(i).

⁴ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(1).

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

PCX is filing revisions to the study outline and selection specifications for the Limited Principal – General Securities Sales Supervisor (Series 9/10) examination program. The proposed revisions update the material to reflect changes to the laws, rules, and regulations covered by the examination, as well as modify the content of the examination program to track more closely the functional workflow of a Series 9/10 limited principal. PCX is not proposing any textual changes to the existing PCX rules.

The revised study outline is available on PCX's Web site (www.pacificex.com), at PCX, and at the Commission. However, PCX has omitted the Series 9/10 selection specifications from this filing and has submitted the specifications under separate cover to the Commission with a request for confidential treatment pursuant to Rule 24b-2 under the Act.⁵

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

In its filing with the Commission, PCX 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. PCX has prepared summaries, set forth in Sections A, B, and C below, of the most significant aspects of such statements.

⁵ 17 CFR 240.24b-2.

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

1. Purpose

Pursuant to Section 6(c)(3) of the Act,⁶ which allows PCX to examine and verify the standards of training, experience, and competence for persons associated with Equities Trading Permit (“ETP”) Holders, PCX has developed examinations, and requires satisfaction of examinations developed by other SROs, that are designed to establish that persons associated with ETP Holders have attained specified levels of competence and knowledge. PCX periodically reviews the content of examinations to determine whether revisions are necessary or appropriate in view of changes pertaining to the subject matter covered by the examinations.

PCXE Rule 6.18(d) states that if an ETP Holder does business with the public, the person (or persons) designated to direct day-to-day compliance activity and each other person directly supervising ten or more persons engaged in compliance activity must pass the General Securities Sales Supervisor Qualification Examination (Series 9/10). A General Securities Sales Supervisor is precluded from performing any of the following activities: supervision of the origination and structuring of underwritings; supervision of market making commitments; final approval of advertisements as these are defined in NASD Rule 2210; supervision of the custody of firm or customer funds and/or securities for purposes of Rule 15c3-3⁷ under the Act; or supervision of overall compliance with financial responsibility rules for broker-dealers promulgated pursuant to the provisions of the Act. The Series 9/10 examination, an industry-wide examination, qualifies an individual to function as a General Securities Sales Supervisor.

⁶ 15 U.S.C. 78f(c)(3).

⁷ 17 CFR 240.15c3-3.

The Series 9/10 examination tests a candidate’s knowledge of securities industry rules and regulations and certain statutory provisions pertinent to the supervision of sales activities.

The Series 9/10 examination program is shared by PCX and the following SROs: the American Stock Exchange LLC, the Chicago Board Options Exchange, Inc., the Municipal Securities Rule Making Board (“MSRB”), the New York Stock Exchange, Inc. (“NYSE”), the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc. (“NASD”), and the Philadelphia Stock Exchange, Inc.

A committee of industry representatives, together with the staff of PCX and the other SROs, recently undertook a periodic review of the Series 9/10 examination program. As a result of this review, PCX is proposing to update the content of the examination to cover Regulation S-P,⁸ MSRB Rules G-37/G-38, SRO research analyst and anti-money laundering rules, municipal fund securities (e.g., 529 college savings plans), and exchange traded funds. PCX is further proposing revisions to the study outline to reflect the SEC short sale requirements. In addition, as part of an ongoing effort to align the examination more closely to the supervisory duties of a Series 9/10 limited principal, PCX is proposing to modify the content of the examination to track the functional workflow of a Series 9/10 limited principal. Also, PCX is proposing to include questions related to parallel rules of NASD, the options exchanges, the MSRB, and the NYSE in the same section of the exam.

As a result of the revisions, PCX is proposing to modify the main section headings and the number of questions on each section of the Series 9/10 study outline as follows: Section 1 – Hiring, Qualifications, and Continuing Education, 9 questions; Section 2 – Supervision of

⁸ 17 CFR 248.1-18; 17 CFR 248.30; and 17 CFR 248, Appendix A.

Accounts and Sales Activities, 94 questions; Section 3 – Conduct of Associated Persons, 14 questions; Section 4 – Recordkeeping Requirements, 8 questions; Section 5 – Municipal Securities Regulation, 20 questions; Section 6 – Options Regulation, 55 questions. Sections 1 through 5 constitute the Series 10 portion of the examination. Section 6 constitutes the Series 9 portion of the examination. Series 10 covers general securities and municipal securities, and Series 9 covers options. The revised examination continues to cover the areas of knowledge required for the supervision of sales activities.

PCX is proposing these changes to the entire content of the Series 9/10 examination, including the selection specifications and question bank. The number of questions on the Series 9/10 examination will remain at 200, and candidates will continue to have four hours to complete the Series 10 portion and one and one-half hours to complete the Series 9 portion. Also, each question will continue to count one point, and each candidate must correctly answer 70 percent of the questions on each series, 9 and 10, to receive a passing grade.

As noted below, PCX understands that the other SROs also will file with the Commission similar proposed rule changes reflecting the revisions to the Series 9/10 examination program.

2. Statutory Basis

PCX believes that the proposed revisions to the Series 9/10 examination program are consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act,⁹ in general, and further the objectives of Section 6(b)(1)¹⁰ in particular, in that it is designed to enforce compliance by ETP Holders and persons associated with the rules of the Exchange.

⁹ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

¹⁰ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(1).

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

PCX does not believe that the proposed rule change, as amended, 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 were neither solicited nor received.

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

The proposed rule change, as amended, has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(i) of the Act¹¹ and Rule 19b-4(f)(1) thereunder,¹² in that the proposed rule change constitutes a stated policy, practice, or interpretation with respect to the meaning, administration, or enforcement of an existing rule of the self-regulatory organization. PCX will announce the implementation date in a Rule Adoption Notice to be published no later than 7 days after Notice of this filing.

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

¹¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(i).

¹² 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(1).

furtherance of the purposes of the Act.¹³

IV. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views, and arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposed rule change, as amended, 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-PCX-2005-113 on the subject line.

Paper comments:

- Send paper comments in triplicate to Jonathan G. Katz, Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549-9303.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-PCX-2005-113. 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 proposed rule change that are filed with the Commission, and all written communications

¹³ The effective date of the original proposed rule is November 17, 2005. The effective date of Amendment No. 1 is November 22, 2005. 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 the period to commence on November 22, 2005, the date on which PCX submitted Amendment No. 1. See 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(C).

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. Copies of such filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the PCX. 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-PCX-2005-113 and should be submitted on or before [insert date 21 days from publication in the Federal Register].

For the Commission, by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.¹⁴

Jonathan G. Katz
Secretary

¹⁴ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).