

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
(Release No. 34-73971; File No. SR-CTA-2014-04)

December 31, 2014

Consolidated Tape Association; Notice of Filing of the Nineteenth Substantive Amendment to the Second Restatement of the CTA Plan

Pursuant to Section 11A of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (“Act”),¹ and Rule 608 thereunder,² notice is hereby given that on December 24, 2014, the Consolidated Tape Association (“CTA”) Plan participants (“Participants”)³ filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“Commission”) a proposal to amend the Second Restatement of the CTA Plan (the “CTA Plan”).⁴ The amendment proposes to shorten the maximum time within which Participants must report trades from 90 seconds to 10 seconds, subject to the Participants' obligation to report trades as soon as practicable. The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments from interested persons on the proposed amendment.

I. Rule 608(a)

A. Purpose of the Amendment

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78k-1.

² 17 CFR 242.608.

³ Each participant executed the proposed amendment. The Participants are: BATS Exchange, Inc., BATS-Y Exchange, Inc., Chicago Board Options Exchange, Incorporated, Chicago Stock Exchange, Inc., EDGA Exchange, Inc. (“EDGA”), EDGX Exchange, Inc. (“EDGX”), Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc. (“FINRA”), International Securities Exchange, LLC, NASDAQ OMX BX, Inc. (“Nasdaq BX”), NASDAQ OMX PHLX, Inc. (“Nasdaq PSX”), Nasdaq Stock Market LLC, National Stock Exchange, New York Stock Exchange LLC (“NYSE”), NYSE MKT LLC (formerly NYSE Amex, Inc.), and NYSE Arca, Inc. (“NYSE Arca”).

⁴ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 10787 (May 10, 1974), 39 FR 17799 (declaring the CTA Plan effective). The CTA Plan, pursuant to which markets collect and disseminate last sale price information for non-NASDAQ listed securities, is a “transaction reporting plan” under Rule 601 under the Act, 17 CFR 242.601, and a “national market system plan” under Rule 608 under the Act, 17 CFR 242.608.

Currently, Section VIII(a) (Responsibility of Exchange Participants) of the CTA Plan provides that each Participant will “(i) report all last sale prices relating to transactions in Eligible Securities as promptly as possible, (ii) establish and maintain collection and reporting procedures and facilities such as to assure that under normal conditions not less than 90% of such last sale prices will be reported within that period of time (not in excess of one and one-half minutes) after the time of execution as may be determined by CTA from time to time in light of experience, and (iii) designate as “late” any last sale price not collected and reported in accordance with the above-referenced procedures.”

The amendment proposes to reduce from one-and-one-half minutes to 10 seconds the maximum amount of time by which each Participant is required to report trades. In addition to reducing the time frame, the Participants propose to revise the language of the requirement so that it requires the Participants to report "as soon as practicable, but not later than 10 seconds," after the time of execution of the trade. The amendment also proposes to remove the qualifier that called for trade reports to meet the time requirement not less than 90 percent of the time under normal conditions.

The Participants note that, during 2013, the Commission approved a FINRA rule amendment that modified FINRA’s trade reporting rules to require that FINRA members report over-the-counter transactions in Eligible Securities to FINRA as soon as practicable, but no later than 10 seconds, following execution.⁵ The FINRA rule does not qualify the 10-second requirement by providing that one must comply 90 percent of the time under normal conditions. No other Participant has a trade reporting rule that permits trade reporting more than 10 seconds

⁵ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 69561 (May 13, 2013), 78 FR 29190 (May, 17, 2013) (SR-FINRA-2013-013).

after execution. As a result, shortening the trade reporting time under the CTA Plan seems warranted.

In addition, the Participants understand that, contemporaneously with the filing of this amendment, the Participants in the UTP Plan contemplate submitting a plan amendment that would amend the trade-reporting requirement under that plan to provide for the same trade-reporting requirements as the CTA Plan Participants propose under this Agreement.

B. Additional Information Required by Rule 608(a)

1. Impact of the Proposed Amendment

The Participants report the vast majority of trade reports in well less than 10 seconds, so that the Plan amendment is not likely to have a practical impact on trade reporting.

2. Governing or Constituent Documents

Not applicable.

3. Implementation of the Amendment

All of the Participants have manifested their approval of the proposed amendment by means of their execution of the Plan amendment. The Plan amendment would become operational upon approval by the Commission.

4. Development and Implementation Phases

Not applicable.

5. Analysis of Impact on Competition

The proposed amendment does not impose any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. The Participants do not

believe that the proposed plan amendment introduces terms that are unreasonably discriminatory for the purposes of Section 11A(c)(1)(D) of the Act.⁶

6. Written Understanding or Agreements relating to Interpretation of, or Participation in, Plan

Not applicable.

7. Approval by Sponsors in Accordance with Plan

Under Section IV(b) of the CTA Plan, each Participant must execute a written amendment to the CTA Plan before the amendment can become effective. The amendment is so executed.

8. Description of Operation of Facility Contemplated by the Proposed Amendment

Not applicable.

9. Terms and Conditions of Access

Not applicable.

10. Method of Determination and Imposition, and Amount of, Fees and Charges

Not applicable.

11. Method of Frequency of Processor Evaluation

Not applicable.

12. Dispute Resolution

Not applicable.

II. Rule 601(a)

A. Equity Securities for which Transaction Reports Shall be Required by the Plan

Not applicable.

⁶ 15 U.S.C. 78k-1(c)(1)(D).

B. Reporting Requirements

As a result of the amendment, the CTA Plan would require each Participant to report each trade as soon as practicable, but no more than 10 seconds from the time of the trade. In addition, each Participant would be required to establish and maintain collection and reporting procedures and facilities reasonably designed to assure that such last sale prices will be reported within not more than 10 seconds (rather than the current 90 seconds) following execution, regardless of whether they do so 90 percent of the time under normal conditions. (Currently, each Participant has 90 seconds to report 90 percent of its trades within 10 seconds following execution under normal conditions.)

C. Manner of Collecting, Processing, Sequencing, Making Available and Disseminating Last Sale Information

Not applicable.

D. Manner of Consolidation

Not applicable.

E. Standards and Methods Ensuring Promptness, Accuracy and Completeness of Transaction Reports

The amendment will support the prompt reporting of transaction reports by reducing from 90 seconds to 10 seconds the maximum amount of time by which each Participant must report trades, subject to the Participants' obligation to report trades as soon as practicable.

F. Rules and Procedures Addressed to Fraudulent or Manipulative Dissemination

Not applicable.

G. Terms of Access to Transaction Reports

Not applicable.

H. Identification of Marketplace of Execution

Not applicable.

III. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views, and arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposed amendments are 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-CTA-2014-04 on the subject line.

Paper comments:

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

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-CTA-2014-04. 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 Amendments that are filed with the Commission, and all written communications relating to the Amendments 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 am and 3:00 pm. Copies of the Amendments also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the CTA. 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-CTA-2014-04 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.⁷

Brent J. Fields
Secretary

⁷ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(27).