SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. 34-62846; File No. SR-EDGX-2010-12)

September 3, 2010

Self-Regulatory Organizations; EDGX Exchange, Inc.; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change Relating to Amendments to the EDGX Exchange, Inc. Fee Schedule

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Act"), and Rule 19b-4 thereunder, notice is hereby given that on August 31, 2010, the EDGX Exchange, Inc. (the "Exchange" or the "EDGX") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II, and III below, which items have been prepared by the self-regulatory organization. The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

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

The Exchange proposes to amend its fees and rebates applicable to Members<sup>3</sup> of the Exchange pursuant to EDGX Rule 15.1(a) and (c) to (i) add a price guarantee to footnote 1 of its fee schedule; and (ii) make other technical amendments to its fee schedule.

All of the changes described herein are applicable to EDGX Members. The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Exchange's Internet website at <a href="http://www.directedge.com">http://www.directedge.com</a>, on the Commission's website at <a href="http://www.sec.gov">http://www.sec.gov</a>, and at the Commission's Public Reference Room.

<sup>2</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

<sup>15</sup> U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

A Member is any registered broker or dealer that has been admitted to membership in the Exchange.

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

In its filing with the Commission, the self-regulatory organization 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 self-regulatory organization has prepared summaries, set forth in sections A, B and C below, of the most significant aspects of such statements.

# A. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis</u> for, the Proposed Rule Change

### 1. Purpose

The Exchange proposes to make several amendments to its fee schedule. First, it proposes to add a price guarantee to footnote 1 of the schedule. This guarantee would state that "Any Member meeting the following criteria: (i) adding 10,000,000 shares or more of liquidity to EDGX, (ii) where such added liquidity on EDGX is at least 5,000,000 shares greater than the previous calendar month; and (iii) but for the liquidity added on EDGX, such Member would have qualified for a better rebate with respect to liquidity added on another exchange or ECN that the Member previously qualified for in the three calendar months prior to meeting the above-described criteria in (i) and (ii), shall be reimbursed the difference between the rebate received and the rebate potentially received, so long as source documentation evidencing the above is provided to the Exchange within fifteen (15) calendar days from the end of the relevant month. A Member can only receive reimbursement with respect to two consecutive calendar months. With respect to the second calendar month's reimbursement, the relevant period in determining whether criteria (iii) is satisfied is the period three calendar months prior to the first of the two consecutive calendar months the Member meets the above-described criteria in (i) and (ii)."

The Exchange believes that the price guarantee, as described above, is equitable in that it is available to all Members migrating volumes to the Exchange. Furthermore, the price guarantee limits the increase in a Members' execution costs associating with failing to meet the volume thresholds of other exchanges and ECNs while a Member is in the process of migrating volumes from one exchange to another. The Exchange believes that the difficulty in transitioning volume has incentivized Members to leave volume on certain exchanges and ECNs rather than incurring the costs of migrating volumes to the Exchange. By facilitating the migration of volumes in the short term through this guarantee, the Exchange minimizes the cost of Members pursuing the most economic execution cost model. The resulting migration of Members' volumes to the Exchange will reduce the fixed costs associated with the Exchange supporting its overall volumes and reduce costs on a per share basis. This will, in turn, facilitate the Exchange's ability to maintain lower transactional costs for all Members.

Secondly, the Exchange proposes to make a technical amendment to the schedule. The Exchange proposes to delete references in footnote 1 that describe how certain volume thresholds were pro-rated for the month of July 2010 as these descriptions are no longer relevant.

EDGX Exchange proposes to implement these amendments to the Exchange fee schedule on September 1, 2010.

## 2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the objectives of Section 6 of the Act,<sup>4</sup> in general, and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(4),<sup>5</sup> in particular, as it is designed to provide for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees and other charges among its members and other persons using its facilities. The Exchange notes that it operates in

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(4).

a highly competitive market in which market participants can readily direct order flow to competing venues if they deem fee levels at a particular venue to be excessive. The proposed rule change reflects a competitive pricing structure designed to incent market participants to direct their order flow to the Exchange. Specifically, the Exchange believes that the price guarantee, as described above, facilitates the migration of volumes to the Exchange by subsidizing the cost of migrating volumes to the Exchange. Finally, the Exchange believes that the proposed rates are equitable in that they apply uniformly to all Members. The Exchange believes the fees and credits remain competitive with those charged by other venues and therefore continue to be reasonable and equitably allocated to those members that opt to direct orders to the Exchange rather than competing venues.

## B. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition</u>

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

## C. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments Regarding the Proposed</u> <u>Rule Change Received from Members, Participants or Others</u>

The Exchange has not solicited, and does not intend to solicit, comments on this proposed rule change. The Exchange has not received any unsolicited written comments from members or other interested parties.

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

The foregoing rule change has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3) of the  $Act^6$  and Rule  $19b-4(f)(2)^7$  thereunder. At any time within 60 days of the filing of such proposed rule change, the Commission summarily may temporarily suspend such rule change if it appears to

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> 17 CFR 19b-4(f)(2).

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.

## 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 <u>rule-comments@sec.gov</u>. Please include File Number SR-EDGX-2010-12 on the subject line.

#### Paper comments:

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

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-EDGX-2010-12. 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 (<a href="http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml">http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml</a>). 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 office 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 publicly available. All submissions should refer to File Number SR-EDGX-2010-12 and should be submitted on or before [insert date 21 days from publication in the <u>Federal Register</u>].

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.<sup>8</sup>

Florence E. Harmon Deputy Secretary

\_

<sup>8 17</sup> CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).