

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
(Release No. 34-61399; File No. SR-BX-2010-007)

January 22, 2010

Self-Regulatory Organizations; NASDAQ OMX BX, Inc.; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change Relating to the Order Routing Pilot on the Boston Options Exchange Facility

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1)¹ of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the “Act”) and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,² notice is hereby given that on January 15, 2010, NASDAQ OMX BX, Inc. (the “Exchange” or “BX”) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “Commission”) the proposed rule change as described in Items I and II, below, which Items have been prepared by the self-regulatory organization. The Exchange filed the proposed rule change pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act,³ and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) 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 from interested persons.

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

The Exchange proposes to amend Chapter XII, Section 5 (Order Routing to Away Exchanges) of the Rules of the Boston Options Exchange Group, LLC (“BOX”) to extend the effective date of the Order Routing Pilot. The text of the proposed rule change is available from the principal office of the Exchange, on the Commission’s Web site at www.sec.gov and also on the Exchange’s Web Site at <http://nasdaqomxbx.cchwallstreet.com/NASDAQOMXBX/Filings/>.

¹ 15 U.S.C.78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

³ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

⁴ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

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

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

1. Purpose

On October 16, 2009 the Commission approved⁵ the Exchange’s proposal to amend Chapter XII of the BOX Rules to provide for the use by BOX of certain non-affiliated third party routing broker/dealers (“Routing Broker(s)”) to route options orders to one or more Away Exchange(s) when such Away Exchange(s) display the Best Bid or Best Offer in accordance with the Options Order Protection and Locked/Crossed Market Plan (“Decentralized Plan”).⁶ In particular, the Commission approved adding new Section 5 to Chapter XII of the BOX Rules as new rule text that would govern the outbound order routing process (“Order Routing Rule”).⁷

The Exchange requested that the proposal be approved on a pilot basis for three (3) months starting from the date of the approval of submission of filing. The Commission approved

⁵ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 60832 (October 16, 2009), 74 FR 54607 (October 22, 2009) (SR-BX-2009-066) (Notice of Filing and Order Granting Accelerated Approval of Proposed Rule Change Relating to Chapter XII of the BOX Rules). Terms not otherwise defined herein shall have the meaning proscribed in the BOX Rules.

⁶ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 60405 (July 30, 2009), 74 FR 39362 (August 6, 2009) (File No. 4-546) (Order Approving the National Market System Plan Relating to Options Order Protection and Locked/Crossed Market Plan).

⁷ See Chapter XII, Section 5 of the BOX Rules.

the Exchange's proposal on an accelerated basis for a pilot period to expire on January 15, 2010 ("Order Routing Pilot").⁸

The Exchange now proposes to extend the effective date of the Order Routing Pilot on BOX until March 15, 2010.

2. Statutory Basis

This proposed rule change seeks to extend the effective date of the Order Routing Pilot on BOX. Such an extension will afford the Commission further time to consider the merits and impact of the Order Routing Pilot in advance of any request from the Exchange that the Order Routing Pilot be made permanent. Accordingly, the Exchange believes that the proposal is consistent with the requirements of Section 6(b) of the Act,⁹ in general, and Section 6(b)(5) of the Act,¹⁰ in particular, in that it is designed to foster cooperation and coordination with persons engaged in regulating, clearing, settling, processing information with respect to, and facilitating transactions in securities, to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism for a free and open market and a national market system and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest.

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

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on competition 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

The Exchange has neither solicited nor received comments on the proposed rule change.

⁸ See supra note 5.

⁹ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

¹⁰ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

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

Because the foregoing rule change does not: (1) significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest; (2) impose any significant burden on competition; and (3) become operative for 30 days after the date of this filing, or such shorter time as the Commission may designate, it has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act¹¹ and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder.¹²

A proposed rule change filed under 19b-4(f)(6) normally may not become operative prior to 30 days after the date of filing.¹³ However, Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii)¹⁴ permits the Commission to designate a shorter time if such action is consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest. The Exchange has requested that the Commission waive the 30-day operative delay. The Exchange notes that the proposal will allow the Order Routing Pilot on BOX to remain operational on an uninterrupted basis to the benefit of investors, and does not raise any additional or substantive issues from those raised when the Exchange initially sought to implement the Order Routing Pilot.¹⁵ The Commission believes that waiving the 30-day operative delay is consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest because such waiver would allow the pilot period to be extended without interruption through March 15, 2010. For this

¹¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

¹² 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

¹³ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6)(iii). In addition, Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii) requires that a self-regulatory organization submit to the Commission written notice of its intent to file the proposed rule change, along with a brief description and text of the proposed rule change, at least five business days prior to the date of filing of the proposed rule change, or such shorter time as designated by the Commission. The Exchange has satisfied this requirement.

¹⁴ Id.

¹⁵ See SR-BX-2010-007, Item 7.

reason, the Commission designates the proposed rule change to be operative upon filing with the Commission.¹⁶

At any time within 60 days of the filing of such 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 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 rule-comments@sec.gov. Please include File Number SR-BX-2010-007 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-BX-2010-007. 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

¹⁶ For the purposes only of waiving the 30-day operative delay, the Commission has considered the proposed rule's impact on efficiency, competition, and capital formation. See 15 U.S.C. 78c(f).

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 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 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 available publicly. All submissions should refer to File Number SR-BX-2010-007 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.¹⁷

Florence E. Harmon
Deputy Secretary

¹⁷ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).