

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
(Release No. 34-68625; File No. SR-BX-2013-003)

January 11, 2013

Self-Regulatory Organizations; NASDAQ OMX BX, Inc.; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change to Reduce Fees Assessed for Certain Co-location Services

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 January 2, 2013, NASDAQ OMX BX, Inc. (“BX” or “Exchange”) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“Commission”) a proposed rule change as described in Items I, II, and III below, which Items have been prepared by the Exchange. 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 the Substance of the Proposed Rule Change

BX proposes to reduce the fees assessed under BX Rule 7034 for certain co-location services. The Exchange is proposing to implement the proposed fee beginning on January 2, 2013. The text of the proposed rule change is available at <http://nasdaqomxbx.cchwallstreet.com>, at BX’s principal office, and at the Commission’s Public Reference Room.

II. Self-Regulatory Organization’s Statement of the Purpose of, and 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 those statements may be examined at the

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

places specified in Item III [sic] below. The Exchange has prepared summaries, set forth in sections A, B, and C below, of the most significant parts of such statements.

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

1. Purpose

The Exchange proposes to amend BX Rule 7034 to reduce the monthly recurring cabinet (“MRC”) fees assessed for the installation of certain new co-location cabinets. The reduced MRC fees will apply to new cabinets ordered by customers using the CoLo Console³ during the months of January and February of 2013, provided that such cabinets are fully operational by May 31, 2013. The reduced fee shall apply to any cabinet that increases the number of dedicated cabinets beyond the total number dedicated to that customer as of December 31, 2012 (“Baseline Number”), for so long as the total number of dedicated cabinets exceeds that customer’s Baseline Number. The reduced MRC fees will apply for a period of 24 months from the date the new cabinet becomes fully operational under BX rules, provided that the customer’s total number of cabinets continues to exceed the Baseline Number.

The Exchange proposes to reduce the applicable fees as follows:

Cabinet Type	Current Ongoing Monthly Fee	Reduced Ongoing Monthly Fee
Low Density	\$4,000	\$2,000
Medium Density	\$5,000	\$2,500
Medium-High Density	\$6,000	\$3,500
High Density	\$7,000	\$4,500

³ The “CoLo Console” is BX’s web-based ordering tool, and it is the exclusive means for ordering colocation services.

Super High Density \$13,000 \$8,000

New cabinets shall be assessed standard installation fees.

BX proposes to reduce colocation cabinet fees by different amounts to maintain a sliding scale of lower fees for higher density cabinets on a per kilowatt basis. The chart below reflects this scale:

Cabinet Type	Max kW	Reduced MRC Fee	Discount %	Fee per KW
Low Density	2.88	\$2,000	50.00%	\$694.44
Medium Density	5	\$2,500	50.00%	\$500.00
Medium-High Density	7	\$3,500	41.67%	\$500.00
High Density	10	\$4,500	35.71%	\$450.00
Super High Density	17	\$8,000	38.46%	\$470.59

2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the provisions of Section 6 of the Act,⁴ in general, and with Section 6(b)(4) of the Act,⁵ in particular, in that it provides for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees and other charges among members and issuers and other persons using any facility or system which the Exchange operates or controls. The proposed reduced fee will be assessed equally on all customers that place an order for a new cabinet during the designated period. The proposed amendments will provide an incentive for customers to avail themselves of the designated co-location services.

⁴ 15 U.S.C. 78f.

⁵ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(4).

BX's proposal to reduce fees by differing amounts is fair and equitable because it reflects the economic efficiency of higher density colocation cabinets. First, the underlying costs for colocation cabinets consists [sic] of certain fixed costs for the data center facility (space, amortization, etc.) and certain variable costs (electrical power utilized and cooling required). The variable costs are in total higher for the higher power density cabinets, as reflected in their higher current prices. Second, the higher density cabinets were introduced later than the lower density cabinets (High Density cabinet was introduced in 2009 and the Super High Density cabinet was introduced in 2011). Due to the competitive pressures that existed in 2011 and 2012, the fees for Super High Density cabinets were further reduced in 2012 to be more comparable with the lower fee per kilowatt of the High Density cabinet. As a result of these already-reduced rates on higher density cabinets, BX has greater flexibility to discount fees for lower density cabinets, on a per kilowatt basis.

BX operates in a highly competitive market in which market participants can readily favor competing venues if they deem fee levels at a particular venue to be excessive. In such an environment, BX must continually adjust its fees to remain competitive with other exchanges and with alternative trading systems that have been exempted from compliance with the statutory standards applicable to exchanges. BX believes that the proposed rule change reflects this competitive environment because it is designed to ensure that the charges for use of the BX colocation facility remain competitive.

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

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will result in any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act, as amended. To the contrary, the Exchange's voluntary fee reduction is a response to increased

competition for colocation services by other exchanges and trading venues. As more venues offer colocation services, competition drives costs lower. The Exchange, in order to retain existing orders and to attract new orders, is forced to offer a lower effective rate for aggregate cabinet demand. This competition benefits users, members, and investors by lowering the average aggregate cost of trading on the Exchange.

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

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(ii) of the Act,⁶ the Exchange has designated this proposal as establishing or changing a due, fee, or other charge imposed by the self-regulatory organization on any person, whether or not the person is a member of the self-regulatory organization, which renders the proposed rule change effective upon filing.

At any time within 60 days of the filing of the proposed rule change, the Commission summarily may temporarily suspend 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. If the Commission takes such action, the Commission shall institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule should be approved or disapproved.

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:

⁶ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(ii).

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-2013-003 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-2013-003. 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 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 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 offices 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-2013-003, 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

Kevin M. O'Neill
Deputy Secretary

⁷ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).