SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. 34-58702; File No. SR-NSX-2008-16)

October 1, 2008

Self-Regulatory Organizations; National Stock Exchange, Inc.; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change to Amend NSX Rules to Provide for a Minimum Execution Quantity Instruction on Certain Pegged Zero Display Reserve Orders.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Act")<sup>1</sup> and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,<sup>2</sup> notice is hereby given that on September 19, 2008, National Stock Exchange, Inc. ("NSX" or the "Exchange") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") the proposed rule change, as described in Items I and II below, which Items have been prepared by the Exchange. The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comment on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

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

The Exchange is proposing to amend NSX Rules to allow ETP Holders the option of submitting a minimum execution quantity requirement on any Midpoint or Market Peg Zero Display Reserve Order resting in the NSX Book.

The text of the proposed rule change is below. Proposed new language is underscored.

Material proposed to be deleted is enclosed in brackets.

<sup>15</sup> U.S.C. §78s(b)(1).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> 17 CFR §240.19b-4.

## RULES OF NATIONAL STOCK EXCHANGE, INC.

### **CHAPTER XI.**

### **Trading Rules**

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### Rule 11.11. Orders and Modifiers

Users may enter into the System the types of orders listed in this Rule 11.11, subject to the limitations set forth in this Rule or elsewhere in these Rules.

- (a)-(b) No change.
- (c) Other Types of Orders and Order Modifiers
  - (1) No change.
- ("display quantity") and with a reserve portion of the quantity ("reserve quantity") that is not displayed.
- (A) A User may enter a Reserve Order with zero display quantity, in which case the Reserve Order will be known as a "Zero Display Reserve Order." The price of a Zero Display Reserve Order may be set ("pegged") to track the buy-side of the Protected BBO, the sell-side of the Protected BBO, or the midpoint of the Protected BBO. A pegged Zero Display Reserve Order which tracks the inside quote of the opposite side of the market is defined

as a Market Peg and a pegged Zero Display Reserve Order that tracks the midpoint is defined as a Midpoint Peg. A pegged Zero Display Reserve Order may have an optional limit price ("Cap") beyond which the order shall not be executed.

(B) For Market Peg and Midpoint Peg Zero Display Reserve Orders, a User may enter an optional minimum transaction quantity instruction of at least a round lot for an execution (hereinafter "Minimum Execution Quantity"). Orders with the Minimum Execution Quantity instruction will not execute unless the minimum quantity can be satisfied. However, if the residual shares of a Zero Display Reserve Order with a Minimum Execution Quantity instruction is less than the Minimum Execution Quantity on the order, the order may be executed even if the resulting execution is an odd lot.

([B]C) A Zero Display Reserve Order, pegged or otherwise, may be designated as a Post Only Order by a User. If a Zero Display Reserve Order is not designated as a Post Only Order and is entered using the Order Delivery mode of interaction described in Rule 11.13(b)(2) and the order is immediately marketable upon entry into the System, the order will have its mode of order interaction converted to Automatic Execution as described in Rule 11.13(b)(1). A Zero Display Reserve Order with a Minimum Execution Quantity instruction will be deemed a Post Only Order regardless of whether the order is designated as a Post Only Order.

([C]D) Zero Display Reserve Orders will not be eligible for routing to away trading centers pursuant to Rule 11.15(a)(ii).

(3)-(4) *No change*.

(5) Post Only Order. A limit order that is to be posted on the Exchange and not routed away to another trading center.

### (A) No change.

- (B) A Post Only Order that is a Zero Display Reserve Order and which would interact immediately with a contra-side round lot order will:
- (i) execute against a contra-side round lot order if the contra-side order is a Zero Display Reserve Order that is not designated as a Post Only Order. Upon execution, the contra-side Zero Display Reserve Order (which was not designated as a Post Only Order) will be deemed as taking liquidity from the Post Only Order that is a Zero Display Reserve Order and be liable for the applicable fee for taking liquidity that is set forth in the NSX [BLADE] Fee and Rebate Schedule even if the contra-side Zero Display Reserve Order was placed in the NSX Book prior to the Post Only Order that is a Zero Display Reserve Order;
- (ii) not execute against a contra-side round lot order if (x) the contra-side order is a displayed order that is already contained in the NSX Book or (y) the contra-side order is another Post Only Order that is a Zero Display Reserve Order that is already contained in the NSX Book. The Post Only Order that is a Zero Display Reserve Order will instead be placed in the NSX Book.

### (6)-(9) *No change*.

(d) No change.

\* \* \* \* \*

## Rule 11.14. Priority of Orders

- (a) *Ranking*. Orders of Users shall be ranked and maintained in the NSX Book based on the following priority:
  - (1) No Change.
- (2) Where orders to buy (or sell) are made at the same price, the order clearly established as the first entered into the System at such particular price shall have precedence at that price, up to the number of shares of stock specified in the order, provided that the priority between displayed and Reserve orders is set forth in subsection (4) below. A cancel and replace of an order will result in a new timestamp and change in time priority.
  - (3) No Change.
- (4) The displayed quantity of a Reserve Order shall have time priority as of the time of display. If the displayed quantity of the Reserve Order is decremented such that 99 shares or fewer would be displayed, the displayed portion of the Reserve Order shall be refreshed for (i) the original displayed quantity, or (ii) the entire reserve quantity, if the remaining reserve quantity is smaller than the original displayed quantity. After the refresh, the displayed portion of the Reserve Order shall have time priority as of the time of the refresh. The reserve quantity of a Reserve Order shall have no time priority against other displayed orders at the same price until displayed. If all displayed orders and displayed portions of Reserve Orders at a given price are executed, and following such execution any marketable contra-side orders remain

outstanding, then such contra-side orders shall be executed against the reserve portions of Reserve Orders at such price based on the time priority as determined by this paragraph (4). For purposes of the preceding sentence, a Zero Display Reserve Order without a Minimum Execution Quantity instruction will be deemed to have a displayed portion equal to one round lot. A Zero Display Reserve Order with a Minimum Execution Quantity instruction will be deemed to have a displayed portion equal to its Minimum Execution Quantity for the first pass, and for each additional pass, will be deemed to have a displayed portion equal to one round lot. Following satisfaction of the marketable contra-side orders, the NSX Book will be refreshed.

(b) No Change.

\* \* \* \* \*

# 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 Exchange 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 Exchange has prepared summaries, set forth in sections A, B, and C below, of the most significant parts 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 is proposing to amend Exchange Rule 11.11 to allow ETP Holders the option of submitting a minimum round lot execution instruction on certain Zero Display Reserve Orders posting in the NSX Book. Under current Rule 11.11(c)(2), Zero Display Reserve Orders

may be entered with either a limit price or with a "peg", which, at the ETP Holder's discretion is pegged to the buy-side, sell-side or midpoint of the Protected Best Bid or Offer ("PBBO").

In this proposal, NSX proposes to enhance its Zero Display Reserve Order functionality to allow ETP Holders seeking to post Zero Display Reserve Orders pegged to track the inside quote on the opposite side of the market (hereinafter "Market Peg") or the midpoint (hereinafter "Midpoint Peg") to stipulate a minimum transaction size of at least one round lot for an execution (hereinafter the "Minimum Execution Quantity").<sup>3</sup>

Any Midpoint or Market Peg order with a Minimum Execution Quantity instruction will be deemed a "Post Only" order, regardless of whether the order is designated as such. Thus, any Zero Display Reserve Order with a Minimum Execution Quantity instruction will never take liquidity from the NSX Book.

A Zero Display Reserve Order with a Minimum Execution Quantity instruction may only be executed if the quantity is equal to or greater than the minimum quantity amount. Thus, if an order with the Minimum Execution Quantity instruction is posted in the NSX Book and eligible for matching, it will be allocated shares in the first matching pass in accordance with the minimum quantity amount. However, in any subsequent matching pass, these orders will be allocated shares in the same method as other Zero Display Reserve Orders with a deemed display of one round lot, according to its price and time priority under NSX Rule 11.14(a). A chart reflecting the allocation method is reflected in Example 1 below.

While the minimum quantity for a Minimum Execution Quantity order is a round lot, mixed lots are permitted.

Example 1:

Book						
Time	Bid	Display	Reserve	Min Ex Qty		
	Market					
T1	Peg	0	2000	0		
	Mdpt					
T2	Mdpt Peg	0	5000	500		
	Mdpt					
T3	Mdpt Peg	0	3000	0		
	9.80					
T4		100	0			

NBBO 10 X 10.10

NBBO 10 X 10.10							
Inbound Market Sell of 3000							
			2 000 @ 10 10				
			2,000 @ 10.10				
	Pass 1-20	T1	(100 each pass)				
10.05							
	Pass 21	T2	500 @ 10.05				
		T3	100 @ 10.05				
	Pass 22	T2	100 @ 10.05				
		T3	100 @ 10.05				
	Pass 23	T2	100 @ 10.05				
		T3	100 @ 10.05				

Zero Display Reserve Orders with a Minimum Execution Quantity instruction will not execute unless the minimum quantity required can be satisfied. In the event that following a partial execution the residual order quantity is less than the Minimum Execution Quantity, the Minimum Execution Quantity will be ignored and the order may be executed, even if the resulting execution is an odd lot. In addition, as with other Zero Display Reserve Order features, the Minimum Execution Quantity instruction may be modified by entering a cancel/replace of the Zero Display Reserve Order. However, in this case, a new timestamp will be applied.

Finally, the Exchange proposes a technical change to conform Rule 11.11(c)(5)(B)(i) to the revised name of the NSX Fee and Rebate Schedule.

### **Statutory Basis**

The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the provisions of Section 6(b) of the Act,<sup>4</sup> in general, and Section 6(b)(5) of the Act,<sup>5</sup> in particular, which requires, among other things, that the rules of an exchange be designed to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system, and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest. The feature proposed in this filing promotes the foregoing objectives by facilitating executions with optional minimum quantity thresholds.

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

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

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

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

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

Because the foregoing proposed rule change: (1) does not significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest; (2) does not impose any significant burden on competition; and (3) by its terms does not become operative for 30 days after the date of this filing, or such shorter time as the Commission may designate if consistent with the protection of

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

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

investors and the public interest, the proposed rule change has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act<sup>6</sup> and Rule 19b-4(f)(6)<sup>7</sup> thereunder.

A proposed rule change filed under Rule 19b-4(f)(6) normally does not become operative for 30 days after the date of filing. However, Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii) permits the Commission to designate a shorter time if such action is consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest. The Exchange requests that the Commission waive the 30-day operative delay.

The Commission believes that waiving the 30-day operative delay is consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest.<sup>8</sup> Previously, the Commission approved an order type similar to the one proposed,<sup>9</sup> and this proposal does not raise any novel issues. For these reasons, the Commission designates the proposed rule change as operative upon 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 furtherance of the purposes of the Act.<sup>10</sup>

### IV. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views, and arguments concerning

<sup>7</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6). In addition, Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii) requires a self-regulatory organization to provide the Commission with 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 fulfilled this requirement.

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

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

See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 56072 (July 13, 2007), 72 FR 39867 (July 20, 2007), (SR-NYSEArca-2007-61) (adopting Mid-Point Passive Liquidity Order with minimum quantity; Securities Exchange Act Release No. 56790 (November 15, 2007), 72 FR 65797 (November 23, 2007), (SR-NYSEArca-2007-113) (reducing Mid-Point Passive Liquidity Order's minimum executable size from 1000 to 100).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(C).

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-NSX-2008-16 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-NSX-2008-16. 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 (<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 inspection and copying 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 the filing will also be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the self-regulatory organization. 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-NSX-2008-16 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>11</sup>

Florence E. Harmon Acting Secretary

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