SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. 34-61394; File No. SR-NYSEAmex-2010-02)

January 21, 2010

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change by NYSE Amex LLC Amending Rule 975NY

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1)<sup>1</sup> of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Act")<sup>2</sup> and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,<sup>3</sup> notice is hereby given that, on January 8, 2010, NYSE Amex LLC ("NYSE Amex" or the "Exchange") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "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 Substance of the Proposed Rule Change</u>

The Exchange proposes to amend Exchange Rule 975NY – Obvious Errors and Catastrophic Errors. The text of the proposed rule change is attached as Exhibit 5 to the 19b-4 form. A copy of this filing is available on the Exchange's Web site at <a href="www.nyse.com">www.nyse.com</a>, at the Exchange's principal office and at the Commission's Public Reference Room.

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 those statements may be examined at the places specified in Item IV below. The Exchange has prepared summaries, set forth in sections A, B, and

<sup>3</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

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

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78a.

C below, of the most significant parts of such statements.

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

## 1. Purpose

The Exchange is proposing certain changes to Rule 975NY - Obvious Errors and Catastrophic Errors. Under the current rule, an obvious error occurs when the execution price of an electronic transaction is above or below the Theoretical Price for the series by a specified amount. The "Theoretical Price" of an option series is currently defined in Rule 975NY(a)(2) as the last bid price with respect to an erroneous sell transaction and the last offer price with respect to an erroneous buy transaction, just prior to the trade, that comprise the National Best Bid/Offer ("NBBO") as disseminated by the Options Price Reporting Authority ("OPRA"). If there are no quotes for comparison, the Theoretical Price is determined by a designated Trading Official.<sup>4</sup>

The Exchange is now proposing to permit Trading Officials to establish the Theoretical Price when the NBBO for the affected series, just prior to the erroneous transaction, is at least two times the permitted bid/ask differential pursuant to the guidelines contained in Rule 925NY(b)(4)-(5). This provision is similar to Rule 1092(b)(ii) of Nasdaq OMX Phlx ("PHLX") and Rule 6.25(a)(1)(iv) of The Chicago Board Options Exchange ("CBOE").

## 2. Statutory Basis

This proposed rule change is designed to allow an Exchange officer to review a transaction in order to provide the opportunity for potential relief to a party affected by an obvious error. The Exchange believes that for these reasons the proposed rule change is

Trading Officials are employees or officers of the Exchange and are not affiliated with ATP Holders.

consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act<sup>5</sup> in general, and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(5) of the Act<sup>6</sup> in particular, because it is designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to foster cooperation and coordination with persons engaged in facilitating transactions in securities, and to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system. The proposed rule change will incorporate a uniform approach in determining obvious errors that is consistent with other national options exchanges.

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

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will 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 on the Proposed Rule Change Received from Members, Participants, or Others</u>

No written comments were solicited or received with respect to the proposed rule change.

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

The Exchange has filed the proposed rule change pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(iii) of the Act<sup>7</sup> and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder.<sup>8</sup> Because the proposed rule change does not: (i) significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest; (ii) impose any significant burden on competition; and (iii) become operative prior to 30 days from the date on which it was filed, or such shorter time as the Commission may designate, if consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest, the proposed rule change has become effective pursuant to

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

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f (b)(5).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(iii).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act<sup>9</sup> and Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii) thereunder.<sup>10</sup>

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.

### 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 No. SR-NYSEAmex-2010-02 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 No. SR-NYSEAmex-2010-02. This file number should be included on the subject line if e-mail is used. To help the Commission process and review your

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

<sup>17</sup> CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6). In addition, Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii) requires the Exchange to give the Commission written notice of the Exchange's 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 the pre-filing requirement.

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, <sup>11</sup> 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 such filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of NYSE Amex. 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 No.

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The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Commission's Web site at http://www.sec.gov.

SR-NYSEAmex-2010-02 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.  $^{12}$ 

Florence E. Harmon Deputy Secretary

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