

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
(Release No. 34-64784; File No. SR-NYSEAMEX-2011-42)

June 30, 2011

Self-Regulatory Organizations; NYSE Amex LLC; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change Deleting NYSE Amex Equities Rule 351(a)-(d) and Supplementary Material .10 and .13, Adopting the Text of FINRA Rule 4530, and Making Certain Conforming Changes

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1)¹ of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the “Act”)² and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,³ notice is hereby given that on June 20, 2011, NYSE Amex LLC (the “Exchange” or “NYSE Amex”) 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 substantially prepared by the self-regulatory organization. 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 delete NYSE Amex Equities Rule 351(a)-(d) and Supplementary Material .10 and .13, adopt the text of FINRA Rule 4530, and make certain conforming changes. The text of the proposed rule change is available at the Exchange, the Commission’s Public Reference Room, and www.nyse.com.

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

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 15 U.S.C. 78a.

³ 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

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

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

1. Purpose

The Exchange proposes to delete NYSE Amex Equities Rule 351(a)-(d) and Supplementary Material .10 and .13, adopt the text of FINRA Rule 4530, and make certain conforming changes.

Background

On July 30, 2007, FINRA’s predecessor, the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc. (“NASD”), and NYSE Regulation, Inc. (“NYSE”) consolidated their member firm regulation operations into a combined organization, FINRA.⁴ Pursuant to Rule 17d-2 under the Act, NYSE, NYSE and FINRA entered into an agreement (the “Agreement”) to reduce regulatory duplication for their members by allocating to FINRA certain regulatory responsibilities for certain NYSE rules and rule interpretations (“FINRA Incorporated NYSE Rules”). NYSE Amex became a party to the Agreement effective December 15, 2008.⁵

⁴ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 62970 (Sept. 22, 2010), 75 FR 59771 (Sept. 28, 2010) (order approving SR-FINRA-2010-37).

⁵ See Securities Exchange Act Release Nos. 56148 (July 26, 2007), 72 FR 42146 (August 1, 2007) (order approving the Agreement); 56147 (July 26, 2007), 72 FR 42166 (August 1, 2007) (SR-NASD-2007-054) (order approving the incorporation of certain NYSE Rules as “Common Rules”); and 60409 (July 30, 2009), 74 FR 39353 (August 6, 2009) (order approving the amended and restated Agreement, adding NYSE Amex LLC as a party). Paragraph 2(b) of the

As part of its effort to reduce regulatory duplication and relieve firms that are members of FINRA, NYSE and NYSE Amex of conflicting or unnecessary regulatory burdens, FINRA is now engaged in the process of reviewing and amending the NASD and FINRA Incorporated NYSE Rules in order to create a consolidated FINRA rulebook.⁶

In connection with the rule consolidation efforts between the Exchange and FINRA, the Commission has recently approved FINRA Rule 4530,⁷ which is modeled after NYSE Rule 351(a)-(d) and NASD Rule 3070.⁸ FINRA Rule 4530 requires member firms to: (1) report to FINRA certain specified events and quarterly statistical and summary information regarding written customer complaints; and (2) file with FINRA copies of certain criminal actions, civil complaints and arbitration claims. FINRA uses

Agreement sets forth procedures regarding proposed changes by FINRA, NYSE or NYSE Amex to the substance of any of the Common Rules.

⁶ FINRA's rulebook currently has three sets of rules: (1) NASD Rules, (2) FINRA Incorporated NYSE Rules, and (3) consolidated FINRA Rules. The FINRA Incorporated NYSE Rules apply only to those members of FINRA that are also members of the NYSE ("Dual Members"), while the consolidated FINRA Rules apply to all FINRA members. For more information about the FINRA rulebook consolidation process, see FINRA Information Notice, March 12, 2008.

⁷ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 63260 (November 5, 2010), 75 FR 69508 (November 12, 2010) (SR-FINRA-2010-034). See also Securities Exchange Act Release No. 64560 (May 27, 2011), 76 FR 32246 (June 3, 2011) (SR-FINRA-2011-024).

⁸ NYSE Amex Equities Rule 351(e) and NYSE Amex Equities Rule Interpretation 351(e)/01 (Reports of Investigation) govern trade investigation reporting requirements. NYSE Amex Equities Rules 351(f), 351.11 and 351.12 govern the annual attestation requirement of the research analyst conflict of interest rules. These provisions will be addressed as part of the supervision rules and research analyst conflict of interest rules, respectively. See Regulatory Notice 08-24 (Proposed Consolidated FINRA Rules Governing Supervision and Supervisory Controls) and Regulatory Notice 08-55 (FINRA Requests Comment on Proposed Research Registration and Conflict of Interest Rules). NYSE Amex Equities Rules 351(a)-(d) would be marked as "Reserved" until such time as NYSE Amex Equities Rule 351 is fully harmonized with FINRA rules.

the information for regulatory purposes to identify and initiate investigations of firms, offices and associated persons that may pose a risk. In most cases, the requirements of FINRA Rule 4530 are based on similar requirements in the NASD, NYSE and NYSE Amex rules.

Proposed Rule Change

The Exchange proposes to adopt the text of FINRA Rule 4530 as NYSE Amex Equities Rule 4530, with certain technical changes. For consistency with Exchange rules, the Exchange proposes to change all references to “members” to “member organizations” and add a definition of “person associated with a member organization.” The Exchange proposes to delete NYSE Amex Equities Rule 351(a)-(d) and Supplementary Material .10 and .13 and make conforming amendments in NYSE Amex Equities Rules 342, 401A, and 476A, which contain references to NYSE Amex Equities Rule 351, and delete an unnecessary cross-reference in NYSE Amex Equities Rule 311. The Exchange proposes to make NYSE Amex Equities Rule 4530 effective on the same date as FINRA makes FINRA Rule 4530 effective.⁹

2. Statutory Basis

The proposed rule change is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act,¹⁰ in general, and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(5),¹¹ in particular, in that it is designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable

⁹ See FINRA Regulatory Notice 11-06. The implementation date is currently scheduled for July 1, 2011. NYSE also has submitted a companion rule filing amending its rules in accordance with FINRA’s rule changes. See SR-NYSE-2010-27.

¹⁰ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

¹¹ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

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. Specifically, the Exchange believes that the proposed rule changes support the objectives of the Act by providing greater harmonization between NYSE Amex Rules and FINRA Rules of similar purpose, resulting in less burdensome and more efficient regulatory compliance. To the extent the Exchange has proposed changes that differ from the FINRA version of the Rules, such changes are technical in nature and do not change the substance of the proposed NYSE Amex Rules.

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 that is 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

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 Act¹² and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder.¹³ Because the proposed rule change does not: (i) significantly affect the protection of investors or the public

¹² 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(iii).

¹³ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

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 Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act and Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii) thereunder.

A proposed rule change filed under Rule 19b-4(f)(6)¹⁴ normally does not become operative prior to 30 days after the date of the filing. However, pursuant to Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii),¹⁵ the Commission may designate a shorter time if such action is consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest. The Exchange has asked the Commission to waive the 30-day operative delay so that the proposal may become operative immediately upon filing.¹⁶

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 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

¹⁴ Id.

¹⁵ 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.

¹⁶ For 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).

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-NYSEAMEX-2011-42 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-NYSEAMEX-2011-42. 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, 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549-1090. Copies of the filing will also be available for

inspection and copying at the NYSE's principal office and on its Internet website at www.nyse.com. 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-NYSEAMEX-2011-42 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

Cathy H. Ahn
Deputy Secretary

¹⁷ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).