SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. 34-61269; File No. SR-NYSEAmex-2009-91)

December 31, 2009

Self-Regulatory Organizations; NYSE Amex LLC; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change Extending the Pilot Period to Receive Inbound Routes of Orders from Archipelago Securities LLC

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1)<sup>1</sup> of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Act") and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,<sup>2</sup> notice is hereby given that, on December 22, 2009, 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 and II, 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 extend the pilot period of the Exchange's prior approvals to receive inbound routes of orders from Archipelago Securities LLC ("Arca Securities"), an NYSE Amex affiliated member. 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.

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

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

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

#### 1. <u>Purpose</u>

Currently, Arca Securities is the approved outbound order routing facility of the Exchange.<sup>3</sup> Arca Securities is also the approved outbound order routing facility of the New York Stock Exchange ("NYSE") and NYSE Arca, Inc. ("NYSE Arca").<sup>4</sup> The Exchange has also been previously approved to receive inbound routes of orders by Arca

See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 59009 (November 24, 2008), 73 FR 73363 (December 2, 2008) (order approving SR-NYSEALTR-2008-07); see also,

Securities and [sic] Exchange Act Release No. 59473 (February 27, 2009) 74 FR 9853 (March 6, 2009) (order approving SR-NYSEALTR-2009-18).

<sup>See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 55590 (April 5, 2007), 72 FR 18707 (April 13, 2007) (notice of immediate effectiveness of SR-NYSE-2007-29); see also, Securities and [sic] Exchange Act Release No. 58680 (September 29, 2008), 73 FR 58283 (October 6, 2008) (order approving SR-NYSE-2008-76). See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 53238 (July 28, 2006), 71 FR 44758 (August 7, 2006) (order approving SR-NYSEArca-2006-13); see also, Securities Exchange Act Release No. 52497 (September 22, 2005), 70 FR 56949 (September 29, 2005)(SR-PCX-2005-90); see also, Securities Exchange Act Release No. 44983 (October 25, 2001), 66 FR 55225 (November 1, 2001) (SR-PCX-00-25); see also, Securities Exchange Act Release No. 58681 (September 29, 2008), 73 FR 58285 (October 6, 2008) (order approving NYSEArca-2008-90).</sup> 

Securities in its capacity as an order routing facility of NYSE Arca and the NYSE.<sup>5</sup> The Exchange's authority to receive inbound routes of orders by Arca Securities is subject to a pilot period ending December 31, 2009.<sup>6</sup> The Exchange hereby seeks to extend the previously approved pilot period (with the attendant obligations and conditions) for an additional 3 months, through March 31, 2010.

#### 2. Statutory Basis

The proposed rule change is consistent with Section 6(b)<sup>7</sup> of the Securities

Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Act"), in general, and furthers the objectives of Section

6(b)(5)<sup>8</sup> in particular in that 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. Specifically, the proposed rule change will allow the Exchange to continue receiving inbound routes of equities orders from Arca Securities acting in its capacity as a facility of the NYSE and NYSE Arca, in a manner consistent with prior approvals and established protections. The Exchange believes that extending the previously approved pilot period for three months will permit both the Exchange and the Commission to further assess the impact of the Exchange's authority to receive direct

See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 58673 (September 29, 2008), 73 FR 57707 (October 3, 2008) (order approving SR-Amex-2008-62). See also, Securities Exchange Act Release No. 58705 (October 1, 2008), 73 FR 58995 (October 8, 2008) (order approving SR-AMEX-2008-63).

See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 60751 (September 30, 2009), 74 FR 51630 (October 7, 2009) (notice of immediate effectiveness of SR-NYSEAmex-2009-67).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

inbound routes of equities orders via Arca Securities (including the attendant obligations and conditions).<sup>9</sup>

#### 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</u> <u>Rule Change Received from Members, Participants, or Others</u>

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

### III. <u>Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission</u> 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 Act<sup>10</sup> and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder.<sup>11</sup>

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The Exchange is currently analyzing the condition regarding non-public information and system changes in order to better reflect the operation of Arca Securities.

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

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

A proposed rule change filed under 19b-4(f)(6) normally may not become operative prior to 30 days after the date of filing. 12 However, Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii) 13 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 Exchange to continue receiving inbound routes of equities orders from Arca Securities, in a manner consistent with prior approvals and established protections, while also permitting the Exchange and the Commission to assess the impact of the pilot. 14 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 31, 2010. For this reason, the Commission designates the proposed rule change to be operative upon filing with the Commission. 15

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

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<sup>17</sup> 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.

<sup>13 &</sup>lt;u>Id</u>.

See supra note 9 and accompanying text.

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).

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 Number
   SR-NYSEAmex-2009-91 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-2009-91. 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 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-NYSEAmex-2009-91 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. <sup>16</sup>

Florence E. Harmon Deputy Secretary

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).