

reasonable and consistent with the Act for the Exchanges to adopt new trading halt criteria for certain derivative products in the manner described in the respective proposals.

#### IV. Conclusion

*It is therefore ordered*, pursuant to Section 19(b)(2) of the Act,<sup>12</sup> that the proposed rule changes (SR-Amex-2008-40; SR-NYSE-2008-39; SR-NYSEArca-2008-50) and the proposed rule change (SR-NASDAQ-2008-046), as modified by Amendment No. 1 thereto, be, and they hereby are, approved.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.<sup>13</sup>

**Florence E. Harmon,**

*Acting Secretary.*

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## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-58117; File No. SR-CBOE-2008-69]

### Self-Regulatory Organizations; Chicago Board Options Exchange, Incorporated; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change Relating to an Extension of the Linkage Fee Pilot Program

July 8, 2008.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (“Act”),<sup>1</sup> and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,<sup>2</sup> notice is hereby given that on June 30, 2008, Chicago Board Options Exchange, Incorporated (“CBOE” or “Exchange”) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“Commission”) the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II, and III below, which Items have been prepared substantially by CBOE. 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

CBOE proposes to amend its Fees Schedule to extend through July 31, 2009 the Options Intermarket Linkage (“Linkage”) fees pilot program. The text of the proposed rule change is available at <http://www.cboe.org/legal>, the

Exchange, and 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, CBOE 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 aspects 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’s fees for Principal (“P”) and Principal Acting as Agent (“P/A”) orders<sup>3</sup> are operating under a pilot program scheduled to expire on July 31, 2008.<sup>4</sup> The Exchange proposes to amend its Fees Schedule to extend the pilot program until July 31, 2009. The Exchange is proposing no other changes to the operation of the pilot program.

The Exchange assesses its members the following Linkage order related fees: (i) \$.30 per contract transaction fee, and (ii) \$.10 per contract surcharge fee on transactions in options on the Nasdaq-100 Index (MNX and NDX) and options on the Russell 2000 Index (RUT).<sup>5</sup> Satisfaction orders are not assessed Exchange fees.

The Exchange believes that extension of the Linkage fee pilot program until July 31, 2009 will give the Commission

<sup>3</sup> Under the Plan for the Purpose of Creating and Operating an Options Intermarket Linkage (“Plan”) and Exchange Rule 6.80(12), which tracks the language of the Plan, a “Linkage Order” means an Immediate or Cancel Order routed through the Linkage as permitted under the Plan. There are three types of Linkage Orders: (i) “P/A Order”, which is an order for the principal account of a specialist (or equivalent entity on another Participant Exchange that is authorized to represent Public Customer orders), reflecting the terms of a related unexecuted Public Customer order for which the specialist is acting as agent; (ii) “P Order”, which is an order for the principal account of an Eligible Market Maker and is not a P/A Order; and (iii) “Satisfaction Order,” which is an order sent through the Linkage to notify a member of another Participant Exchange of a Trade-Through and to seek satisfaction of the liability arising from that Trade-Through.

<sup>4</sup> See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 56132 (July 25, 2007), 72 FR 42158 (August 1, 2007) (SR-CBOE-2007-71).

<sup>5</sup> See CBOE Fees Schedule, Footnote 14. Surcharge fees are also assessed on OEX, XEO, SPX, volatility index options, DJX and DXL options; however, Linkage fees do not apply to these products as they are not multiply listed.

further opportunity to evaluate the appropriateness of Linkage fees.

The Exchange also proposes to amend Section 21 of the Fees Schedule to change the Linkage fees pilot expiration date included in that section to July 31, 2009, thereby extending the term of the DPM Linkage Fees Credit program for PA orders.

###### 2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act,<sup>6</sup> in general, and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(4)<sup>7</sup> of the Act in particular, in that it is designed to provide for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees, and other charges among CBOE members and other persons using its facilities. The Exchange believes that extension of the Linkage fee pilot program until July 31, 2009 will give the Commission further opportunity to evaluate the appropriateness of Linkage fees.

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

CBOE does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of 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

Because the foregoing 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 for 30 days from the date on which it was filed, or such shorter time as the Commission may designate, it has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act<sup>8</sup> and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder.<sup>9</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,

<sup>6</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

<sup>7</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(4).

<sup>8</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

<sup>9</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

<sup>12</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2).

<sup>13</sup> 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

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

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

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 [rule-comments@sec.gov](mailto:rule-comments@sec.gov). Please include File Number SR-CBOE-2008-69 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-CBOE-2008-69. 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 (<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 inspection and copying in the Commission's Public Reference Room on official business days between the hours of 10 a.m. and 3 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-CBOE-2008-69 and should be submitted on or before August 5, 2008.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.<sup>10</sup>

**Florence E. Harmon,**

*Acting Secretary.*

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#### SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-58119; File No. SR-CBOE-2008-53]

#### Self-Regulatory Organizations; Chicago Board Options Exchange, Incorporated; Order Approving Proposed Rule Change Pertaining to the Imposition of Fines for Minor Rule Violations

July 8, 2008.

On May 19, 2008, the Chicago Board Options Exchange, Incorporated ("CBOE" or "Exchange") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission"), pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act")<sup>1</sup> and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,<sup>2</sup> a proposed rule change to amend CBOE Rule 17.50 (Imposition of Fines for Minor Rule Violations) and to revise the provisions of CBOE 17.50(g)(1) (Violations of Position Limits Rules). The proposed rule change was published for comment in the **Federal Register** on June 5, 2008.<sup>3</sup> The Commission received no comments regarding the proposal. This order approves the proposed rule change.

The proposal would, in connection with any member or customer who exceeds the Exchange's position limit in accordance with CBOE Rule 4.11, increase the fine levels specified in the Minor Rule Violation Plan ("MRVP"); consolidate individual members, member organizations, and customers into one category; and lengthen the surveillance period from a 12-month period to a rolling 24-month period.

The Commission finds that the proposed rule change is consistent with the requirements of the Act and the rules and regulations thereunder applicable to a national securities exchange.<sup>4</sup> In particular, the Commission believes that the proposal is consistent with Section 6(b)(5) of the

Act,<sup>5</sup> which requires that the rules of an exchange be designed to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to facilitate transactions in securities, 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 Commission further believes that CBOE's proposal is consistent with Sections 6(b)(1) and 6(b)(6) of the Act,<sup>6</sup> which require that the rules of an exchange enforce compliance with, and provide appropriate discipline for, violations of Commission and Exchange rules. In addition, because existing CBOE Rule 17.50 provides procedural rights to a person fined under the MRVP to contest the fine and permits a hearing on the matter, the Commission believes that the MRVP, as amended by this proposal, provides a fair procedure for the disciplining of members and persons associated with members, consistent with Sections 6(b)(7) and 6(d)(1) of the Act.<sup>7</sup> In addition, the Commission finds that the proposal is consistent with the public interest, the protection of investors, or otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act, as required by Rule 19d-1(c)(2) under the Act,<sup>8</sup> which governs minor rule violation plans. The Commission believes that the proposed rule change should strengthen the Exchange's ability to carry out its oversight and enforcement responsibilities as an SRO in cases where full disciplinary proceedings are unsuitable in view of the minor nature of the particular violation.

In approving this proposed rule change, the Commission in no way minimizes the importance of compliance with CBOE rules and all other rules subject to the imposition of fines under the MRVP. The Commission believes that the violation of any SRO rules, as well as Commission rules, is a serious matter. However, the MRVP provides a reasonable means of addressing rule violations that do not rise to the level of requiring formal disciplinary proceedings, while providing greater flexibility in handling certain violations. The Commission expects that CBOE would continue to conduct surveillance with due diligence and make a determination based on its findings, on a case-by-case basis, whether a fine of more or less than the recommended amount is appropriate for a violation under the CBOE MRVP or whether a violation requires formal

<sup>10</sup> 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

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

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

<sup>3</sup> See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 57883 (May 29, 2008), 73 FR 32065.

<sup>4</sup> In approving this proposed rule change, the Commission notes that it has considered the proposed rule's impact on efficiency, competition, and capital formation. See 15 U.S.C. 78c(f).

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

<sup>6</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(1) and 78f(b)(6).

<sup>7</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(7) and 78f(d)(1).

<sup>8</sup> 17 CFR 240.19d-1(c)(2).