

increased market transparency; and (3) heightened contra-party creditworthiness due to the role of The Options Clearing Corporation (“OCC”) as issuer and guarantor of FLEX Options. Finally, the Exchange has contacted the OCC and they have confirmed that they can configure their systems to support FLEX Options that have a maximum expiration of fifteen years.

2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act⁶ in general, and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(5) of the Act⁷ 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. Specifically, by expanding the maximum terms for Flexible Exchange Traded Options, the Exchange to [sic] will be able to offer market participants additional investment choices that come with increased market transparency and heightened contra-party creditworthiness, both of which and [sic] are consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act⁸ in general, and the objectives of Section 6(b)(5) of the Act.⁹

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 Act¹⁰ and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder.¹¹ 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 Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act¹² and Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii) thereunder.¹³

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.¹⁶

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 rule-comments@sec.gov. Please include File Number SR-NYSEArca-2009-04 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-NYSEArca-2009-04. 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 Section, 100 F Street, NE., Washington, DC 20549-1090 on official business days between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. Copies of the filing will also be available for inspection and copying at NYSE Arca’s principal office and on its Internet Web site at <http://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-NYSEArca-2009-04 and should be submitted on or before February 24, 2009.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.¹⁷

Florence E. Harmon,

Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. E9-2224 Filed 2-2-09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8011-01-P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-59308; File No. SR-NYSEArca-2009-05]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; NYSE Arca, Inc.; Notice of Filing of Proposed Rule Change to Establish Fees for NYSE Arca Trades

January 28, 2009.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

¹⁷ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

⁶ 15 U.S.C. 78f (b).

⁷ 15 U.S.C. 78f (b)(5).

⁸ *Id.*

⁹ *Id.*

¹⁰ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(iii).

¹¹ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

¹² 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

¹³ 17 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.

¹⁴ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

¹⁵ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6)(iii).

¹⁶ The Commission notes that NYSE Arca is not requesting waiver of the 30-day operative delay, despite including this language in its Notice. Telephone conference between Glenn H. Gsell, Managing Director, NYSE Regulation, and Kristie Diemer, Special Counsel, Commission, on January 8, 2009.

(“Act”)¹ and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,² notice is hereby given that on January 21, 2009, NYSE Arca, Inc. (“NYSE Arca” or the “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 by the Exchange. 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

NYSE Arca proposes to introduce its NYSE Arca Trades service and to establish fees for that service. NYSE Arca Trades is a new NYSE Arca-only market data service that allows a vendor to redistribute on a real-time basis the same last sale information that NYSE Arca reports to the Consolidated Tape Association (“CTA”) for inclusion in CTA’s consolidated data stream and certain other related data elements (“NYSE Arca Last Sale Information”).

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 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 self-regulatory organization 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

a. *The Service.* The Exchange proposes to introduce NYSE Arca Trades, a new service pursuant to which it will allow vendors, broker-dealers and others (“NYSE Arca-Only Vendors”) to make available NYSE Arca Last Sale Information on a real-time basis.³ NYSE Arca Last Sale Information would include last sale information for all

securities that are traded on the Exchange.

The Exchange will make NYSE Arca Last Sale Information available through its new NYSE Arca Trades service at the same time as it provides last sale information to the processor under the CTA Plan. In addition to the information that the Exchange provides to CTA, NYSE Arca Last Sale Information will also include a unique sequence number that the Exchange assigns to each trade and that allows an investor to track the context of the trade through such other Exchange market data products as ArcaBook®.

Contemporaneously with this proposed rule change, the Exchange submitted a proposed rule change that seeks to establish a pilot program for the receipt and redistribution of the NYSE Arca Trades datafeed(s) without charge to either the datafeed recipient or the end-user. The Exchange proposes to provide that free offering on a pilot program basis until the later of Commission approval of this proposed rule change and the end of the pilot period.

b. *The Fees.*

i. *Access Fee.* For the receipt of access to the datafeeds of NYSE Arca Last Sale Information that the Exchange will make available, the Exchange proposes to charge \$750 per month. For that fee, the datafeed recipient will receive access to each of the NYSE Arca Last Sale Information datafeeds that NYSE Arca makes available. The Exchange does not propose to impose any program classification charges for the use of NYSE Arca Trades.

ii. *Device Fee.* The Exchange proposes to charge each subscriber to an NYSE Arca-Only Vendor’s NYSE Arca Trades service:

i. \$5 per month per display device for the receipt and use of NYSE Arca Last Sale Information relating to Network A and Network B Eligible Securities (as the CTA Plan uses those terms); and

ii. \$5 per month per display device for the receipt and use of NYSE Arca Last Sale Information relating to securities listed on Nasdaq.

(The Exchange does not currently perceive a demand for a nonprofessional subscriber fee for NYSE Arca Trades, but will monitor customer response.)

c. *The Fees are Non-Discriminatory.* No investors or broker-dealers are required to subscribe to the product, as they can find the same NYSE Arca last sale prices in the Exchange’s NYSE Arca Realtime Reference Prices service.⁴ Or,

they can find them integrated with the prices that other markets make available under the CTA Plan. Indeed, even though NYSE Arca Trades’ Last Sale Information provides a less expensive alternative to the consolidated price information that investors and broker-dealers receive from CTA, the Exchange believes that the information that NYSE Arca contributes to the CTA consolidated datafeed and the low latency of the CTA datafeed will continue to satisfy the needs of the vast majority of individual and professional investors. Most investors and broker-dealers are not likely to substitute the NYSE Arca Trades datafeed for the CTA datafeed for display purposes.

Rather, the Exchange developed NYSE Arca Trades primarily at the request of traders who are very latency sensitive. The latency difference between accessing last sales through the NYSE Arca datafeed or through the CTA datafeed can be measured in tens of milliseconds. The Exchange anticipates that demand for the product will derive primarily from investors and broker-dealers who desire to use NYSE Arca Trades to power certain trading algorithms or smart order routers.

Regardless of an investor’s reasons for subscribing to the NYSE Arca Trades service, the access fee applies equally to all NYSE Arca-Only Vendors that receive the NYSE Arca Trades datafeed and the device fee applies equally to all subscribers that receive an NYSE Arca-Only Vendor’s NYSE Arca Trades service. Section 603(a)(2) of Regulation NMS requires markets to distribute market data “on terms that are not unreasonably discriminatory.” The Exchange believes that both the access fee and the device fees comply with this standard.

d. *The Fees are Fair and Reasonable.* The Exchange believes that the levels at which it proposes to set the access and device fees comport with the standard that the Commission established for determining whether market data fees relating to non-core market data products are fair and reasonable. (“Non-core products” refers to products other than the consolidated products that markets offer collectively under the joint industry plans.) In its recent “Order Setting Aside Action by Delegated Authority and Approving Proposed Rule Change Relating to NYSE Arca Data” (the “NYSE ArcaBook Approval Order”),⁵ the Commission reiterated its position from its release approving Regulation NMS that it should “allow market forces, rather than

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

³ The Exchange notes that it will make NYSE Arca Trades available to vendors no earlier than it makes its last sale information available to the processor under the CTA Plan.

⁴ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 34-58444 (August 29, 2008), 73 FR 51872 (September 5, 2008) (SR-NYSEArca-2008-96).

⁵ See Release No. 34-59039 (December 2, 2008); File No. SR-NYSE Arca-2006-21.

regulatory requirements, to determine what, if any, additional quotations outside the NBBO are displayed to investors.”⁶

The Commission went on to state that:

The Exchange Act and its legislative history strongly support the Commission’s reliance on competition, whenever possible, in meeting its regulatory responsibilities for overseeing the SROs and the national market system. Indeed, competition among multiple markets and market participants trading the same products is the hallmark of the national market system.⁷

The Commission then articulated the standard that it will apply in assessing the fairness and reasonableness of market data fees for non-core products, as follows:

With respect to non-core data, * * * the Commission has maintained a market-based approach that leaves a much fuller opportunity for competitive forces to work. This market-based approach to non-core data has two parts. The first is to ask whether the exchange was subject to significant competitive forces in setting the terms of its proposal for non-core data, including the level of any fees. If an exchange was subject to significant competitive forces in setting the terms of a proposal, the Commission will approve the proposal unless it determines that there is a substantial countervailing basis to find that the terms nevertheless fail to meet an applicable requirement of the Exchange Act or the rules thereunder.⁸

The Exchange believes that by this standard or any other standard, the proposed access and device fees are fair and reasonable. NYSE Arca and its market data products are subject to significant competitive forces and the proposed access and device fees represent responses to that competition. To start, the Exchange competes intensely for order flow. It competes with the other 10 national securities exchanges that currently trade equities, with electronic communication networks, with quotes posted in FINRA’s Alternative Display Facility and Trade Reporting Facilities, with alternative trading systems, and with securities firms that primarily trade as principal with their customer order flow “and the competition is fierce.”⁹

In addition, NYSE Arca Trades would compete with a number of alternative products. NYSE Arca Trades does not provide a complete picture of all trading activity in a security. Rather, the 12 SROs, the several Trade Reporting Facilities of FINRA, and ECNs that

produce proprietary data all produce trades and trade reports. Each is currently permitted to produce last sale information products, and many currently do, including Nasdaq and NYSE. In addition, investors can receive NYSE Arca trade reports through the consolidated CTA data stream or they can receive NYSE Arca trade reports for free by means of access to the Exchange’s NYSE Arca Realtime Reference Prices service.

In setting the level of the proposed NYSE Arca Trades access and device fees, the Exchange took into consideration several factors, including:

(1) Consultation with some of the entities that the Exchange anticipates will be the most likely to take advantage of NYSE Arca Trades;

(2) the contribution of market data revenues that the Exchange’s Board of Directors believes is appropriate for vendors and other entities that provide market data to the investing public;

(3) the contribution that revenues accruing from the proposed fees will make to meeting the overall costs of the Exchange’s operations;

(4) projected losses to the revenues accruing from the Exchange’s other market data fees, which losses are likely to result from the ability of NYSE Arca-Only Vendors to distribute NYSE Arca Trades to vendors, broker-dealers and investors in competition with the consolidated last sale information services that Participants provide under the CTA Plan; and

(5) investors’ and broker-dealers’ access to NYSE Arca last sale prices through NYSE Arca Realtime Reference Prices.

(6) the fact that the proposed fees provide an alternative to existing Network A and Network B fees under the CTA Plan and to the fees imposed under the Nasdaq/UTP Plan, alternatives that vendors will purchase only if they determine that the perceived benefits outweigh the cost.

In the aftermath of the NYSE ArcaBook Approval Order, the Exchange believes that the competition among exchanges for order flow and the competition among exchanges for market data products subject the proposed NYSE Arca Trades access and device fees to significant competitive forces.

In addition, the Exchange believes that no substantial countervailing basis exists to support a finding that the fees fail to meet the requirement of the Act.

In sum, the availability of a variety of alternative sources of information impose significant competitive pressures on NYSE Arca Trades and NYSE Arca’s compelling need to attract

order flow impose significant competitive pressure on NYSE Arca to act equitably, fairly, and reasonably in setting NYSE Arca Trades fees. The proposed NYSE Arca Trades access and device fees are, in part, responses to that pressure. The Exchange believes that the proposed NYSE Arca Trades service fees would reflect an equitable allocation of its overall costs to users of its facilities.

e. *Administrative Requirements.* The Exchange will require NYSE Arca-Only Vendors to enter into the form of “vendor” agreement into which the CTA Plan requires recipients of the Network A last sale prices information datafeeds to enter (the “Network A Vendor Form”). The Network A Vendor Form will authorize the NYSE Arca-Only Vendor to provide the NYSE Arca Trades service to its subscribers and customers.

The Network A Participants drafted the Network A Vendor Form as a one-size-fits-all form to capture most categories of market data dissemination. It is sufficiently generic to accommodate NYSE Arca Trades. The Network A Vendor Form has been in use in substantially the same form since 1990.¹⁰

Similarly, the Exchange will require professional and non-professional subscribers to NYSE Arca Trades to undertake to comply with the same contract, reporting, payment, and other administrative requirements as to which the Network A Participants subject them in respect of Network A last sale information under the CTA Plan.

2. Statutory Basis

The bases under the Act for the proposed rule change are the requirement under Section 6(b)(4) that an exchange have rules that provide for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees and other charges among its members and other persons using its facilities and the requirements under Section 6(b)(5) that the rules of an exchange be designed to promote just and equitable principles of trade and not to permit unfair discrimination between customers, issuers, brokers or dealers.

The proposed rule change would benefit investors by providing a less expensive alternative to the last sale price information than the consolidated last sale price information that they receive under the CTA Plan. In addition, for that single lower fee, vendors receive Exchange prices for all Exchange-traded securities, something that differentiates

¹⁰ See Release Nos. 34-28407 (September 10, 1990), and 34-49185 (February 4, 2004).

⁶ See Regulation NMS Release, 70 FR at 37566–37567 (addressing differences in distribution standards between core data and non-core data).

⁷ NYSE ArcaBook Approval Order at pp 46–47.

⁸ Id at pp. 48–49.

⁹ Id at p 52.

the Exchange's product from pricing under the CTA Plan.

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

In proposing and adopting Regulation NMS, the Commission rescinded the prior prohibition on SROs from disseminating their trade reports independently,¹¹ subjecting that distribution to the "fair and reasonable" and "not unreasonably discriminatory" standards that have historically governed the distribution of consolidated data.¹² The Commission stated, "Given that * * * SROs will continue to transmit trades to the Networks pursuant to the Plans * * *, the Commission believe [sic] that SROs and their members also should be free to distribute their trades independently."¹³

The Commission rescinded the prohibition in recognition of the fact that competition in the realm of SRO trade-report distribution would produce market forces and innovation that would benefit the investing public. The NYSE ArcaBook Approval Order enforces this finding. By means of NYSE Arca Trades, the Exchange would provide vendors and broker-dealers with an alternative market data product and fee structure that does not exist today, without altering or rescinding any existing market data fees or products. If they believe that the proposed product and fee structure are useful and cost-effective to their business model, they will embrace them.

Given the existence of alternative products containing NYSE Arca last sale products, the Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will result in 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

The Exchange has discussed this proposed rules change with those entities that the Exchange believes would be the most likely to take advantage of the proposed NYSE Arca Last Sale Information service by becoming NYSE Arca-Only Vendors. While those entities have not submitted formal, written comments on the proposal, the Exchange has incorporated some of their ideas into the proposal

and this proposed rule change reflects their input. The Exchange has not received any unsolicited written comments from members or other interested parties.

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

Within 35 days of the date of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register** or within such longer period (i) as the Commission may designate up to 90 days of such date if it finds such longer period to be appropriate and publishes its reasons for so finding or (ii) as to which the self-regulatory organization consents, the Commission will:

- (a) by order approve such proposed rule change, or
- (b) institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule change should be disapproved.

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. Please include File Number SR-NYSEArca-2009-05 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-NYSEArca-2009-05. 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 the 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-NYSEArca-2009-05 and should be submitted on or before February 24, 2009.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.¹⁴

Florence E. Harmon,

Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. E9-2225 Filed 2-2-09; 8:45 am]

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-59294; File No. SR-OCC-2008-20]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; The Options Clearing Corporation; Notice of Filing and Order Granting Accelerated Approval of a Proposed Rule Change Relating To Establishing a Market Loan Program

January 23, 2009.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act"),¹ notice is hereby given that on December 23, 2008, The Options Clearing Corporation ("OCC") 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 primarily by OCC. The Commission is publishing this notice and order 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 proposed rule change would create a framework for OCC to provide clearing services for stock loan and borrow transactions effected through electronic trading systems.

¹⁴ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

¹⁵ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

¹¹ See Rule 601 of Regulation NMS.

¹² See Rule 603(a) of regulation NMS.

¹³ See Footnote 638 to Regulation NMS (Release No. 34-51808; File No. S7-10-04) (June 9, 2005).