

the Act,⁹ which requires, among other things, that the rules of an exchange be designed to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to foster cooperation and coordination with persons engaged in regulating, clearing, settling, processing information with respect to, and facilitating 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; and not be designed to permit unfair discrimination between customers, issuers, brokers, or dealers.

The Exchange proposes to reduce fees for subscriptions to its historical ISE Open/Close Trade Profile by academic institutions only if they use the data for their research purposes. The proposed fees will apply equally to all academic institutions. The proposed rule change should promote academic research, which can benefit all market participants. Further, the Commission notes that Options Price Reporting Authority ("OPRA") has in place a similar Academic Waiver Policy, pursuant to which OPRA waives its fees for universities that wish to use its data for research and educational instruction purposes.¹⁰

IV. Conclusion

It is therefore ordered, pursuant to Section 19(b)(2) of the Act, that the proposed rule change (SR-ISE-2009-64), be and hereby is approved.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.¹¹

Elizabeth M. Murphy,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. E9-25832 Filed 10-27-09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8011-01-P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-60857; File No. SR-CBOE-2009-074]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Chicago Board Options Exchange, Incorporated; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change Amending Interpretation and Policy .13 to Rule 5.3

October 21, 2009.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act"),¹ and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,² notice is hereby given that on October 20, 2009, the Chicago Board Options Exchange, Incorporated ("Exchange" or "CBOE") 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 by the Exchange. The Exchange filed the proposal as a "non-controversial" proposed rule change pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act³ and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder,⁴ which renders the proposal effective upon filing with the Commission. 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 revise CBOE Rule 5.3.13(1)(E) to amend the definition of Futures-Linked Securities for the trading of options on Index-Linked Securities. The text of the rule proposal is available on the Exchange's Web site (<http://www.cboe.org/legal>), at the Exchange's Office of the Secretary and at the Commission.

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 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 Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

1. Purpose

Interpretation and Policy .13 to Rule 5.3 designates the listing and trading of options on "Equity Index-Linked Securities," "Commodity-Linked Securities," "Currency-Linked Securities," "Fixed Income Index-Linked Securities," "Futures-Linked Securities" and "Multifactor Index-Linked Securities," collectively known as "Index-Linked Securities" that are principally traded on a national securities exchange and an "NMS Stock" (as defined in Rule 600 of Regulation NMS under the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934). The Exchange proposes to amend the definition of Futures-Linked Securities for the trading of options on Index-Linked Securities to include products linked to CBOE Volatility Index ("VIX") futures. Specifically, the Exchange proposes to add VIX futures to the definition of a Futures Reference Asset in Rule 5.3.13(1)(E).

Index-Linked Securities are designed for investors who desire to participate in a specific market segment by providing exposure to one or more identifiable underlying securities, commodities, currencies, derivative instruments or market indexes of the foregoing ("Underlying Index" or "Underlying Indexes"). Index-Linked Securities are the non-convertible debt of an issuer that have a term of at least one (1) year but not greater than thirty (30) years. Despite the fact that Index-Linked Securities are linked to an underlying index, each trade as a single, exchange-listed security. Accordingly, rules pertaining to the listing and trading of standard equity options apply to Index-Linked Securities.

Currently, the Exchange will consider listing and trading options on Index-Linked Securities provided the Index-Linked Securities meet the criteria for underlying securities set forth in Interpretation and Policy .01 to Rule 5.3 or the criteria set forth in Interpretation and Policy .13(3)(B) to Rule 5.3.

Index-Linked Securities must meet the criteria and guidelines for underlying securities set forth in Interpretation and Policy .01 Rule 5.3; or the Index-Linked Securities must be redeemable at the option of the holder at least on a weekly basis through the issuer at a price related to the applicable

⁹ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

¹⁰ See Securities Exchange Act Release 58424 (August 26, 2008), 73 FR 51545 (September 3, 2008) (Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Amendment to the Options Price Reporting Authority's Academic Waiver Policy).

¹¹ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

³ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

⁴ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

underlying Reference Asset.⁵ In addition, the issuing company is obligated to issue or repurchase the securities in aggregation units for cash or cash equivalents satisfactory to the issuer of Index-Linked Securities which underlie the option as described in the Index-Linked Securities prospectus. Options on Index-Linked Securities will continue to be subject to all Exchange rules governing the trading of equity options. The current continuing or maintenance listing standards for options traded on CBOE will continue to apply.

The VIX

CBOE originally developed the VIX in 1993 and at that time the VIX was calculated using S&P 100® Index options. CBOE introduced the current methodology for the VIX in September 2003 and it is now an index that uses the quotes of certain S&P 500® Index (“SPX”) option series to derive a measure of the volatility of the U.S. equity market. The VIX measures market expectations of near term volatility conveyed by the prices of options on the SPX. It provides investors with up-to-the-minute market estimates of expected stock market volatility over the next 30 calendar days by extracting implied volatilities from real-time index option bid/ask quotes.

VIX Futures

The CBOE Futures Exchange (“CFE”) began listing and trading VIX futures on March 26, 2004 under the ticker symbol VX. VIX Futures trade between the hours of 8:30 a.m.–3:15 p.m. Central Time (Chicago Time).

2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 6(b)⁶ of the Act, in general, and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(5),⁷ 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 mechanisms of a free and open market and a national market system, and, in general, to protect

investors and the public interest. The Exchange believes that the proposed rules applicable to trading pursuant to generic listing and trading criteria, together with the Exchange’s surveillance procedures applicable to trading in the securities covered by the proposed rules, serve to foster investor protection.

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 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

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 for 30 days after the date of filing (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 Act⁸ and subparagraph (f)(6) of Rule 19b-4 thereunder.⁹

The Exchange has requested that the Commission waive the 30-day operative delay and designate the proposed rule change as operative upon filing. The Commission believes that waiving the 30-day operative delay is consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest. The proposed rule change is substantially similar to those of other options exchanges that have been previously approved by the Commission.¹⁰ Therefore, the Commission designates the proposal

⁸ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

⁹ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6). In addition, Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii) requires a self-regulatory organization to provide the Commission with 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 fulfilled this requirement.

¹⁰ See Securities Exchange Act Release Nos. 60822 (October 14, 2009), 74 FR 54114 (October 21, 2009) (SR-NYSEArca-2009-77); and 60823 (October 14, 2009), 74 FR 54112 (October 21, 2009) (SR-NYSEAmex-2009-59).

operative upon filing to enable the Exchange to list and trade options on index-linked securities without delay.¹¹

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 the 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-CBOE-2009-074 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-CBOE-2009-074. 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, 100 F Street, NE., Washington, DC 20549, on official business days between the hours of 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. Copies of such filing also will be

¹¹ For purposes only of waiving the operative delay of this proposal, the Commission has considered the proposed rule’s impact on efficiency, competition, and capital formation. See 15 U.S.C. 78c(f).

⁵ See Interpretation and Policy .13(3)(B) to Rule 5.3. For the purposes of Interpretation and Policy .13 to Rule 5.3, Equity Reference Assets, Commodity Reference Assets, Currency Reference Assets, Fixed Income Reference Assets, Futures Reference Assets and Multifactor Reference Assets, are collectively referred to as “Reference Assets.” See Rule 5.3.13(2).

⁶ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

⁷ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

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-2009-074 and should be submitted on or before November 18, 2009.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.¹²

Elizabeth M. Murphy,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. E9-25830 Filed 10-27-09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8011-01-P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-60854; File No. SR-ISE-2009-84]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change by the International Securities Exchange, LLC To Amend ISE Rules Relating to the Minimum Size Requirement for Quotations

October 21, 2009.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Act")¹ and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,² notice is hereby given that, on October 19, 2009, the International Securities Exchange, LLC (the "Exchange" or the "ISE") 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 by the Exchange. The Exchange has filed the proposal as a "non-controversial" proposed rule change pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(iii) of the Act³ and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder.⁴ 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 amend its rules pertaining to the minimum size requirement for quotations. The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Exchange's Web site www.ise.com,

at the principal office of the Exchange, and at 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, the Exchange 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

This proposed rule change is based on a filing previously submitted by the Chicago Board Options Exchange ("CBOE") that was effective on filing.⁵ ISE proposes to amend its rules pertaining to the minimum size requirement for quotations. Currently, ISE Rule 804 requires that unless the Exchange has declared a fast market pursuant to ISE Rule 704, a market maker may not initially enter a bid or offer of less than ten (10) contracts. ISE now proposes to amend its rules to allow the Exchange to set a minimum quotation size requirement on a class by class basis, provided the minimum set by the Exchange is at least one contract. ISE would not impose a minimum quotation size requirement greater than 10 contracts.

ISE recently listed options on Berkshire Hathaway Inc.'s Class B securities ("baby Berkshires") and under the Exchange's current rules, ISE market makers are required to quote in this product for at least 10 contracts. With the underlying security trading above \$3,000, the minimum value for a trade in baby Berkshire options is more than \$30,000, which effectively removes ISE's market makers from competing with the other exchanges that do not have a 10 contract minimum quotation requirement. Pursuant to this proposed rule change, ISE expects to lower the minimum quotation size requirement for baby Berkshire options from 10 contracts to one contract. Further, ISE believes it should have the flexibility to

change the minimum size requirement on a class by class basis depending on market conditions and the trading and liquidity in a particular option class and its underlying security. ISE notes that the minimum quotation size requirement for market makers on CBOE, NYSEArca and the Nasdaq Options Market is only one contract (*see* CBOE Rules 6.2B, 8.7, 8.14, 8.15A, NYSEArca Rule 6.37B and Nasdaq Options Market Rule Section 6(a)). As a result, ISE believes the proposed rule change is based on and similar to the rules of other options exchanges.

2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Act")⁶ and the rules and regulations thereunder and, in particular, the requirements of Section 6(b) of the Act.⁷ Specifically, the Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with the Section 6(b)(5)⁸ requirements that the rules of an exchange be designed to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts, to remove impediments to and to perfect the mechanism for a free and open market and a national market system, and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest, because it will permit the Exchange to set a minimum quotation size requirement on a class by class basis, provided the minimum size is at least one contract. ISE believes that this flexibility will enable the Exchange to take into consideration market conditions and the trading and liquidity in a particular option class and its underlying security.

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

The proposed rule change does not 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

The Exchange has not solicited, and does not intend to solicit, comments on this proposed rule change. The Exchange has not received any unsolicited written comments from members or other interested parties.

¹² 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

³ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

⁴ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

⁵ *See* Securities Exchange Act Release No. 58828 (October 21, 2008), 73 FR 63749 (October 27, 2008) (SR-CBOE-2008-107).

⁶ 15 U.S.C. 78a.

⁷ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

⁸ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).