

non-members and do not unfairly or unreasonably discriminate between customers, issuers, brokers, or dealers because the proposed physical port fees do not distinguish among the type of participant but rather are the same for all Members and non-members. The Commission also believes that BATS was subject to significant competitive pressure to act equitably, fairly, and reasonably in setting the physical port fees, in light of the highly competitive nature of the market for execution and routing services.¹⁴

It is therefore ordered, pursuant to Section 19(b)(2) of the Act,¹⁵ that the proposed rule change (SR-BATS-2009-032), as modified by Amendment No. 1 thereto, be, and it hereby is, approved.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.¹⁶

Florence E. Harmon,
Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2010-3822 Filed 2-24-10; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8011-01-P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-61543; File No. SR-FINRA-2010-005]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc.; Notice of Filing of Proposed Rule Change To Repeal Incorporated NYSE Rule 405(4) (Common Sales Accounts)

February 18, 2010.

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 January 21, 2010, Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc. (“FINRA”) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC” or “Commission”) the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II, and III below, which Items have been prepared by FINRA. 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

FINRA is proposing to repeal Incorporated NYSE Rule 405(4)

(Common Sales Accounts) as part of the process to develop the consolidated FINRA rulebook.

The text of the proposed rule change is available on FINRA’s Web site at <http://www.finra.org>, at the principal office of FINRA 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, FINRA 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. FINRA 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

As part of the process of developing a new consolidated rulebook (“Consolidated FINRA Rulebook”),³ FINRA is proposing to repeal NYSE Rule 405(4) (Common Sales Accounts).⁴

NYSE Rule 405(4) (Common Sales Accounts) requires proper supervision of registered representatives handling common sales accounts. The rule provides that a member may facilitate the isolated liquidation of securities valued at \$1,000 or less registered in the name of an individual who does not have an account, and which are not part of any distribution, through a common sales account set up for the specific purpose of handling such sales. The rule further provides that such sales may be effected on behalf of the customer without requiring the member to send a periodic customer account statement to the individual as otherwise generally required, provided the following conditions are satisfied: (1) The

³ The current FINRA rulebook consists of (1) FINRA Rules; (2) NASD Rules; and (3) rules incorporated from the New York Stock Exchange (“Incorporated NYSE Rules”) (together, the NASD Rules and Incorporated NYSE Rules are referred to as the “Transitional Rulebook”). While the NASD Rules generally apply to all FINRA members, the Incorporated NYSE Rules apply only to those members of FINRA that are also members of the NYSE (“Dual Members”). The FINRA Rules apply to all FINRA members, unless such rules have a more limited application by their terms. For more information about the rulebook consolidation process, see *Information Notice*, March 12, 2008 (Rulebook Consolidation Process).

⁴ For convenience, the Incorporated NYSE Rules are referred to as the “NYSE Rules.”

customer is identified as the individual in whose name the securities are registered; (2) the securities are received by the member, at or prior to the time of the entry of the order, in the exact amount to be sold in good delivery form; (3) a confirmation is sent to the customer; (4) all proceeds of such sales are paid out on or immediately following settlement date; and (5) a record is made in the common sales account that includes certain customer-specific information.

FINRA believes that the rule as written may raise potential investor protection concerns. The term “isolated” is not defined.⁵ Further, NYSE Rule 405(4) permits a member to effect sales of securities for customers without expressly requiring prior customer consent and without the need to send periodic account statements to the customer. For these reasons, FINRA proposes to eliminate NYSE Rule 405(4) and not adopt its content into the Consolidated FINRA Rulebook.⁶

FINRA will announce the implementation date of the proposed rule change in a Regulatory Notice to be published no later than 90 days following Commission approval. The implementation date will be no later than 180 days following Commission approval.

2. Statutory Basis

FINRA believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the provisions

⁵ NYSE Rule 405(4) was adopted by the NYSE in the late 1960’s. In 1977, the NYSE proposed amendments to Rule 405(4) to define the term “isolated” to mean “not exceeding five \$2,000 transactions during any twelve-month period unless otherwise approved by the NYSE,” and to allow unsolicited purchases as well as sales of securities. In late 1977, the SEC instituted proceedings to determine whether to disapprove the proposed rule change and identified the potential grounds for disapproval. See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 14143 (November 7, 1977) (Order Instituting Proceedings to Determine Whether Proposed Changes to Rule 405 Should be Disapproved; File No. SR-NYSE-76-34). The SEC expressed concern that “execution of such transactions, and in particular of purchases [as proposed], in the common purchase and sale account may permit opportunities for fraudulent and manipulative acts or practices[.]” In February 1978, the NYSE withdrew the filing. See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 14630 (April 3, 1978) (Order Approving Withdrawal of NYSE’s Proposed Changes to Rule 405; File No. SR-NYSE-76-34).

⁶ FINRA notes that in the event a member may seek permission not to send customer account statements under certain limited circumstances, proposed FINRA Rule 2231 which relates to customer account statements, would authorize FINRA to exempt members from the provisions of such rule, including the requirement to deliver periodic account statements, pursuant to the Rule 9600 Series. See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 59921 (May 14, 2009), 74 FR 23912 (May 21, 2009) (Notice of Filing; File No. SR-FINRA-2009-028).

¹⁴ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 59039 (December 2, 2008), 73 FR 74770 (December 9, 2008) (SR-NYSEArca-2006-21).

¹⁵ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2).

¹⁶ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

of Section 15A(b)(6) of the Act,⁷ which requires, among other things, that FINRA rules must be designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable principles of trade, and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest. FINRA believes that the proposed rule change will streamline and improve FINRA's rulebook by eliminating a rule that contains terms that are not clearly defined and may raise potential investor protection concerns.

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

FINRA 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

Written comments were neither solicited nor received.

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-FINRA-2010-005 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-FINRA-2010-005. 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 Web site viewing and printing 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 available for inspection and copying at the principal office of FINRA. 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-FINRA-2010-005 and should be submitted on or before March 18, 2010.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.⁸

Florence E. Harmon,

Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2010-3780 Filed 2-24-10; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8011-01-P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-61540; File No. SR-FINRA-2009-081]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc.; Order Approving Proposed Rule Change To Adopt FINRA Rule 2261 (Disclosure of Financial Condition) in the Consolidated FINRA Rulebook

February 18, 2010.

On November 18, 2009, the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc. ("FINRA") (f/k/a National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc. ("NASD")) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission"), pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act")¹ and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,² a proposed rule change to adopt FINRA Rule 2261 (Disclosure of Financial Condition) in the Consolidated FINRA Rulebook. The proposed rule change was published for comment in the **Federal Register** on January 5, 2010.³ The Commission received no comments on the proposal. This order approves the proposed rule change.

As part of the process of developing a new consolidated rulebook ("Consolidated FINRA Rulebook"),⁴ FINRA proposed adopting NASD Rule 2270 (Disclosure of Financial Condition to Customers) and NASD Rule 2910 (Disclosure of Financial Condition to Other Members), subject to certain amendments, as FINRA Rule 2261 in the Consolidated FINRA Rulebook.

NASD Rule 2270 requires members to make available for inspection, upon the request of any bona fide regular customer,⁵ the information relative to such member's financial condition as disclosed in its most recent balance sheet prepared either in accordance

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

³ See Securities Exchange Act of 1934 Release No. 61253 (December 29, 2009), 75 FR 0475.

⁴ The current FINRA rulebook consists of (1) FINRA Rules; (2) NASD Rules; and (3) rules incorporated from NYSE ("Incorporated NYSE Rules") (together, the NASD Rules and Incorporated NYSE Rules are referred to as the "Transitional Rulebook"). While the NASD Rules generally apply to all FINRA members, the Incorporated NYSE Rules apply only to those members of FINRA that are also members of the NYSE ("Dual Members"). The FINRA Rules apply to all FINRA members, unless such rules have a more limited application by their terms. For more information about the rulebook consolidation process, see *Information Notice*, March 12, 2008 (Rulebook Consolidation Process).

⁵ For purposes of the rule, "customer" means any person who, in the regular course of such member's business, has cash or securities in the possession of such member.

⁷ 15 U.S.C. 78o-3(b)(6).

⁸ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).