

*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-NYSEAmex-2010-111 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-2010-111. 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 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-NYSEAmex-2010-111 and should be submitted on or before January 3, 2011.

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

**Florence E. Harmon,**

*Deputy Secretary.*

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**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

[Release No. 34-63455; File No. SR-NYSE-2010-76]

**Self-Regulatory Organizations; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change by New York Stock Exchange LLC Extending the Operative Date of NYSE Rule 92(c)(3) From December 31, 2010 to August 1, 2011**

December 7, 2010.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1)<sup>1</sup> of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Act")<sup>2</sup> and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,<sup>3</sup> notice is hereby given that on November 29, 2010, New York Stock Exchange LLC ("NYSE" 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. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed Rule Change**

The Exchange proposes to extend the operative date of NYSE Rule 92(c)(3) from December 31, 2010 to August 1, 2011. The text of the proposed rule change is available at the Exchange, the Commission's Public Reference Room, on the Commission's Web site at <http://www.sec.gov> and <http://www.nyse.com>.

**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

The Exchange is proposing to extend the delayed operative date of NYSE Rule 92(c)(3) from December 31, 2010 to August 1, 2011. The Exchange believes that this extension will provide the time necessary for the Exchange and the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc. ("FINRA") to harmonize their respective rules concerning customer order protection to achieve a standardized industry practice.

Background

On July 5, 2007, the Commission approved amendments to NYSE Rule 92 to permit riskless principal trading at the Exchange.<sup>4</sup> These amendments were filed in part to begin the harmonization process between Rule 92 and FINRA's Manning Rule.<sup>5</sup> In connection with those amendments, the Exchange implemented for an operative date of January 16, 2008, NYSE Rule 92(c)(3), which permits Exchange member organizations to submit riskless principal orders to the Exchange, but requires them to submit to a designated Exchange database a report of the execution of the facilitated order. That rule also requires members to submit to that same database sufficient information to provide an electronic link of the execution of the facilitated order to all of the underlying orders.

For purposes of NYSE Rule 92(c)(3), the Exchange informed member organizations that when executing riskless principal transactions, firms must submit order execution reports to the Exchange's Front End Systemic Capture ("FESC") database linking the execution of the riskless principal order on the Exchange to the specific underlying orders. The information provided must be sufficient for both member firms and the Exchange to reconstruct in a time-sequenced manner all orders, including allocations to the underlying orders, with respect to which a member organization is claiming the riskless principal exception.

Because the rule change required both the Exchange and member organizations to make certain changes to their trading and order management systems, the NYSE filed to delay to May 14, 2008 the operative date of the NYSE Rule 92(c)(3)

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

<sup>2</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78a.

<sup>3</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

<sup>4</sup> See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 56017 (July 5, 2007), 72 FR 38110 (July 12, 2007) (SR-NYSE-2007-21).

<sup>5</sup> See NASD Rule 2111 and IM-2110-2.

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

requirements, including submitting end-of-day allocation reports for riskless principal transactions and using the riskless principal account type indicator.<sup>6</sup> The Exchange filed for additional extensions of the operative date of Rule 92(c)(3), the most recent of which was an extension to December 31, 2010.<sup>7</sup>

#### Request for Extension<sup>8</sup>

FINRA and the Exchange have been working diligently on fully harmonizing their respective rules, including reviewing the possibilities for a uniform reporting standard for riskless principal transactions. However, because of the complexity of the existing customer order protection rules, including the need for input from industry participants as well as Commission approval, the Exchange and FINRA will not have harmonized their respective customer order protection rules by the current December 31, 2010 date for the implementation of the FESC riskless principal reporting.

The Exchange notes that it has agreed with FINRA to pursue efforts to harmonize customer order protection rules. On December 10, 2009, FINRA filed with the Commission its rule proposal to adopt a new industry standard for customer order protection as proposed FINRA Rule 5320.<sup>9</sup> That proposed filing is based on the draft rule text that FINRA and NYSE Regulation each circulated to their respective member participants and includes copies of the comment letters that FINRA and NYSE Regulation received on the rule proposal. The Exchange intends to adopt a new customer order protection rule that is substantially identical to proposed FINRA Rule 5320.

FINRA has filed to extend the time for Commission action on its rule filing to adopt proposed FINRA Rule 5320 to December 3, 2010. As proposed by FINRA, however, its proposed new rule will not be effective upon approval. Rather, the rule filing will become

effective at a later date, not yet known, in order to provide time for FINRA, NYSE, and market participants to implement programming changes associated with the proposed new rule.

The Exchange continues to believe that pending full harmonization of the respective customer order protection rules, it would be premature to require firms to meet the current Rule 92(c)(3) FESC reporting requirements.<sup>10</sup> Indeed, having differing reporting standards for riskless principal orders would be inconsistent with the overall goal of the harmonization process.

Accordingly, to provide the Exchange and FINRA the time necessary to obtain Commission approval for and implement a harmonized rule set that would apply across their respective marketplaces, including a harmonized approach to riskless principal trade reporting, the Exchange is proposing to delay the operative date for NYSE Rule 92(c)(3) from December 31, 2010 to August 1, 2011.

Pending the harmonization of the two rules, the Exchange will continue to require that, as of the date each member organization implements riskless principal routing, the member organization have in place systems and controls that allow them to easily match and tie riskless principal execution on the Exchange to the underlying orders and that they be able to provide this information to the Exchange upon request. To make clear that this requirement continues, the Exchange proposes to amend supplementary material .95 to Rule 92 to specifically provide that the Rule 92(c)(3) reporting requirements are suspended until August 1, 2011 and that member organizations are required to have in place such systems and controls relating to their riskless principal executions on the Exchange. Moreover, the Exchange will coordinate with FINRA to examine for compliance with the rule requirements for those firms that engage in riskless principal trading under Rule 92(c).

#### 2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that its proposal is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Act"),<sup>11</sup> in general, and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(5) of the Act,<sup>12</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 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 Exchange believes the proposed extension provides the Exchange and FINRA the time necessary to develop a harmonized rule concerning customer order protection that will enable member organizations to participate in the national market system without unnecessary impediments.

#### 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

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, if consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest, it has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act<sup>13</sup> and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder.<sup>14</sup>

At any time within 60 days of the filing of the proposed rule change, the Commission summarily may temporarily suspend 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.

<sup>13</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

<sup>14</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6). In addition, Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii) requires the self-regulatory organization to 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>6</sup> See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 56968 (Dec. 14, 2007), 72 FR 72432 (Dec. 20, 2007) (SR-NYSE-2007-114).

<sup>7</sup> See Securities Exchange Act Release Nos. 57682 (Apr. 17, 2008), 73 FR 22193 (Apr. 24, 2008) (SR-NYSE-2008-29); 59621 (Mar. 23, 2009), 74 FR 14179 (Mar. 30, 2009) (SR-NYSE-2009-30); 60396 (July 30, 2009), 74 FR 39126 (Aug. 5, 2009) (SR-NYSE-2009-73); 61251 (Dec. 29, 2009), 75 FR 482 (Jan. 5, 2010) (SR-NYSE-2009-129); and 62541 (July 21, 2010), 75 FR 44042 (July 27, 2010) (SR-NYSE-2010-52).

<sup>8</sup> NYSE Amex LLC has filed a companion rule filing to conform its Equities Rules to the changes proposed in this filing. See SR-NYSEAmex-2009-111, formally submitted November 29, 2010.

<sup>9</sup> See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 61168 (Dec. 15, 2009), 74 FR 68084 (Dec. 22, 2009) (SR-FINRA-2009-90).

<sup>10</sup> The Exchange notes that it would also need to make technological changes to implement the proposed FESC reporting solution for Rule 92(c)(3).

<sup>11</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

<sup>12</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

#### 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-NYSE-2010-76 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-NYSE-2010-76. 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 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-NYSE-2010-76 and should be submitted on or before January 3, 2011

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.<sup>15</sup>

**Florence E. Harmon,**

*Deputy Secretary.*

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#### SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-63462; File No. SR-NYSEArca-2010-106]

#### Self-Regulatory Organizations; Notice of Filing of Proposed Rule Change by NYSE Arca, Inc. Amending Its Rules Regarding the Listing of Option Series With \$1 Strike Prices

December 8, 2010.

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 November 24, 2010, NYSE Arca, Inc. (the "Exchange" or "NYSE Arca") 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 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

The Exchange proposes to amend its rules regarding the listing of \$1 strike prices. The text of the proposed rule change is available at the principal office of the Exchange, the Commission's Public Reference Room, on the Commission's Web site at <http://www.sec.gov> and <http://www.nyse.com>.

##### 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 the Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

###### 1. Purpose

The Exchange proposes to amend Rule 6.4 Commentary .04 to improve the operation of the \$1 Strike Price Program.

Currently, the \$1 Strike Price Program only allows the listing of new \$1 strikes within \$5 of the previous day's closing price. In certain circumstances this has led to situations where there are no at-the-money \$1 strikes for a day, despite significant demand. For instance, on November 15, 2010, the underlying shares of Isilon Systems Inc. opened at \$33.83. It had closed the previous trading day at \$26.29. Options were available in \$1 intervals up to \$31, but because of the restriction to only listing within \$5 of the previous close, the Exchange was not able to add \$32, \$33, \$34, \$36, \$37 or \$38 strikes during the day.

The Exchange proposes that \$1 interval strike prices be allowed to be added immediately within \$5 of the official opening price in the primary listing market. Thus, on any day, \$1 Strike Program strikes may be added within \$5 of either the opening price or the previous day's closing price.

On occasion, the price movement in the underlying security has been so great that listing within \$5 of either the previous day's closing price or the day's opening price will leave a gap in the continuity of strike prices. For instance, if an issue closes at \$14 one day, and the next day opens above \$27, the \$21 and \$22 strikes will be more than \$5 from either benchmark. The Exchange proposes that any such discontinuity be avoided by allowing the listing of all \$1 Strike Program strikes between the closing price and the opening price.

Additionally, issues that are in the \$1 Strike Price Program may currently have \$2.50 interval strike prices added that are more than \$5 from the underlying price or are more than a nine months to expiration (long-term options series). In such cases, the listing of a \$2.50 interval strike may lead to discontinuities in strike prices and also a lack of parallel strikes in different expiration months of the same issue. For instance, under the current rules, the Exchange may list a \$12.50 strike in a \$1 Strike Program issue where the underlying price is \$24. This allowance was provided to avoid too large of an interval between the standard strike prices of \$10 and \$15. The unintended consequence, however, is that if the underlying price should decline to \$16, the Exchange would not be able to list a \$12 or \$13 strike. If the

<sup>15</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.