

and manipulative acts and practices, 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 municipal securities and municipal financial products, to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market in municipal securities and municipal financial products, and, in general, to protect investors, municipal entities, obligated persons, and the public interest.²⁰

The proposed rule change is consistent with Section 15B(b)(2)(C) of the Act, because it is intended to protect investors and the public interest and prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices by adding greater specificity to the public disclosures required for contributions made by covered parties to bond ballot campaigns and any municipal securities business awarded pursuant to such bond ballot measure. Market participants will have access to such public information in a centralized format on the MSRB's Web site through Form G-37, which will increase market transparency and strengthen market integrity of the municipal securities market. The information will help shed light on ongoing market concerns of pay-to-play practices with respect to bond ballot campaign contributions. The MSRB has also represented that the revisions to MSRB Rule G-37 will assist the MSRB in its continuing review of MSRB Rule G-37 and whether any additional disclosure requirements are desirable to address other practices that may present challenges to the integrity of the municipal securities market related to political contributions by dealers and dealer personnel. Furthermore, the MSRB has noted that approval of the proposed rule change does not foreclose additional rulemaking in the future. For these reasons, the Commission believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act.

V. Conclusion

For the foregoing reasons, the Commission finds that the proposed rule change is consistent with the requirements of the Act and the rules and regulations thereunder applicable to the MSRB, and in particular, Section 15B(b)(2)(C) of the Act. The proposal will become effective no later than the start of the second calendar quarter following the date of this order.

²⁰ 15 U.S.C. 78o-4(b)(2)(C).

It is therefore ordered, pursuant to Section 19(b)(2) of the Act,²¹ that the proposed rule change (SR-MSRB-2013-01) be, and hereby is, approved.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.²²

Kevin M. O'Neill,

Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2013-07711 Filed 4-2-13; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8011-01-P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-69255; File No. SR-NYSEMKY-2013-28]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; NYSE MKT LLC; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change Amending Its Option Trading Rules To Extend the Operation of Its Pilot Program Regarding Minimum Value Sizes for Flexible Exchange Options Until March 31, 2014

March 28, 2013.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1)¹ of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Act")² and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,³ notice is hereby given that on March 19, 2013, NYSE MKT LLC (the "Exchange" or "NYSE MKT") 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 amend its option trading rules to extend the operation of its pilot program ("Pilot Program") regarding minimum value sizes for flexible exchange options ("FLEX Options"), currently scheduled to expire on March 29, 2013, until March 31, 2014. The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Exchange's Web site at www.nyse.com, at the principal office of the Exchange, and at the Commission's Public Reference Room.

²¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2).

²² 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 15 U.S.C. 78a.

³ 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

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 hereby proposes to amend its option trading rules to extend the operation of its Pilot Program regarding minimum value sizes for FLEX Options, currently scheduled to expire on March 29, 2013,⁴ until March 31, 2014. This filing does not propose any substantive changes to the Pilot Program and contemplates that all other terms of FLEX Options will remain the same. Overall, the Exchange believes that extending the Pilot Program will benefit public customers and other market participants who will be able to use FLEX Options to manage risk for smaller portfolios.

In support of the proposed extension of the Pilot Program, and as required by the terms of the Pilot Program's implementation,⁵ the Exchange has submitted to the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC" or "Commission") a Pilot Program Report that provides an analysis of the Pilot Program covering the period during which the Pilot Program has been in effect. This Pilot Program Report includes (i) data and analysis on the open interest and trading volume in (a) FLEX Equity Options that have opening transactions with a minimum size of 0 to 249 contracts and less than \$1 million in underlying value; (b) FLEX Index Options that have opening transactions with a minimum opening size of less than \$10 million in underlying equivalent value; and (ii) analysis on the types of investors that initiated opening FLEX Equity and Index Options transactions (*i.e.*, institutional, high net

⁴ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 66649 (March 23, 2012), 77 FR 19047 (March 29, 2012) (SR-NYSEAmex-2012-18).

⁵ See *infra* note 6.

worth, or retail). The report has been submitted to the Commission.

The Exchange believes that there is sufficient investor interest and demand in the Pilot Program to warrant extension for another three months. The Exchange believes that the Pilot Program has provided investors with additional means of managing their risk exposures and carrying out their investment objectives. The Exchange has not experienced any adverse market effects with respect to the Pilot Program.

If, in the future, the Exchange proposes an additional extension of the Pilot Program, or should the Exchange propose to make the Pilot Program permanent, the Exchange will submit, along with any filing proposing such amendments to the Pilot Program, an additional Pilot Program Report covering the period during which the Pilot Program was in effect and including the details referenced above, along with the nominal dollar value of the underlying security of each trade. The Pilot Program Report would be submitted to the Commission at least two months prior to the expiration date of the Pilot Program.

The Exchange notes that any positions established under this Pilot Program would not be impacted by the expiration of the Pilot Program. For example, a 10-contract FLEX Equity Option opening position that overlies less than \$1 million in the underlying security and expires in January 2016 could be established during the Pilot Program. If the Pilot Program were not extended, the position would continue to exist and any further trading in the series would be subject to the minimum value size requirements for continued trading in that series.

The Exchange believes that the Pilot Program has been successful and well-received by its membership and the investing public for the period that it has been in operation as a Pilot Program.⁶

2. Statutory Basis

The proposed rule change is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act,⁷ in general, and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(5),⁸ 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 mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system. Specifically, the Exchange believes that the proposed extension of the Pilot Program, which eliminates the minimum value size applicable to FLEX Options, would provide greater opportunities for investors to manage risk through the use of FLEX Options. Further, the Exchange notes that it has not experienced any adverse effects from the operation of the Pilot Program.

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. The proposed change is being made to extend the operation of the Pilot Program to allow additional time to enable the Exchange to file to permanently adopt the elimination of the minimum value size applicable to FLEX Options. Other competing options exchanges have similar programs to the Pilot Program. Thus, the proposed changes will not impose any burden on competition while providing that the elimination of the minimum value size applicable to FLEX Options continues without interruption until permanent approval is granted by the Commission.

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 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 Act⁹ and Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii) thereunder.¹⁰

⁹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

¹⁰ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6)(iii). In addition, Rule 19b-4(f)(6) requires a self-regulatory organization to give 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

A proposed rule change filed under Rule 19b-4(f)(6)¹¹ normally does not become operative prior to 30 days after the date of the filing. However, pursuant to Rule 19b4(f)(6)(iii),¹² the Commission may designate a shorter time if such action is consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest. The Exchange has asked the Commission to waive the 30-day operative delay so that the proposal may become operative immediately upon filing. The Commission notes that waiving the 30-day operative delay would allow the Pilot Program to continue without interruption, and believes that waiving the 30-day operative delay is consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest.¹³ Therefore, the Commission hereby waives the 30-day operative delay and designates the proposal operative upon filing.

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.

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 email to rule-comments@sec.gov. Please include File Number SR-NYSEMKT-2013-28 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-NYSEMKT-2013-28. This file number should be included on the subject line if email is used. To help the

of the proposed rule change, or such shorter time as designated by the Commission. The Exchange has satisfied this requirement.

¹¹ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

¹² 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6)(iii).

¹³ For purposes only of waiving the 30-day operative delay, the Commission has considered the proposed rule's impact on efficiency, competition, and capital formation. See 15 U.S.C. 78c(f).

⁶ The Pilot Program was initiated on May 12, 2010. See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 62084 (May 12, 2010), 75 FR 28091 (May 19, 2010) (SR-NYSEAmex-2010-40).

⁷ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

⁸ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

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 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 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-NYSEMKT-2013-28 and should be submitted on or before April 24, 2013.

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

Kevin M. O'Neill,
Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2013-07724 Filed 4-2-13; 8:45 am]

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-69254; File No. SR-CME-2012-34]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Chicago Mercantile Exchange Inc.; Notice of Withdrawal of Proposed Rule Change Related to the Liquidity Factor of CME's CDS Margin Methodology

March 28, 2013.

On December 10, 2012, Chicago Mercantile Exchange Inc. ("CME") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission"), pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934¹ and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,² a proposed rule change to make adjustments to the liquidity risk

factor component of its credit default swap ("CDS") margin model. The proposed rule change would permit CME to use an index portfolio's market risk rather than its gross notional as the basis for determining the margins associated with the liquidity risk factor of CME's CDS margin methodology. Notice of the proposed rule change was published in the **Federal Register** on December 31, 2012.³ The Commission did not receive comments on the proposal.

On February 14, 2013, the Commission extended the time period in which to either approve the proposed rule change, disapprove the proposed rule change, or institute proceedings to determine whether to disapprove the proposed rule change to March 31, 2013.⁴ On March 28, 2013, CME withdrew the proposed rule change (SR-CME-2012-34).

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.⁵

Kevin M. O'Neill,
Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2013-07713 Filed 4-2-13; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8011-01-P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-69250; File No. SR-NASDAQ-2013-055]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change To Modify the Deadline for Submission of Claims Under NASDAQ Rule 4626(b)(3)

March 28, 2013.

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 March 26, 2013, The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC ("NASDAQ" or "Exchange") 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 Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

³ Securities Exchange Act Release No. 68529 (Dec. 21, 2012), 77 FR 77160 (Dec. 31, 2012).

⁴ Securities Exchange Act Release No. 68929 (Feb. 14, 2013), 78 FR 12127 (Feb. 21, 2013).

⁵ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

I. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Terms of the Substance of the Proposed Rule Change

The Exchange proposes to modify the deadline for submission of claims under NASDAQ Rule 4626(b)(3). The text of the proposed rule change is available at <http://nasdaq.cchwallstreet.com/>, at the Exchange's principal office, 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 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

On July 23, 2012, NASDAQ filed with the Commission a proposed rule change to amend NASDAQ Rule 4626 (Limitation of Liability) to establish a one-time, voluntary accommodation program for certain claims arising from the initial public offering ("IPO") of Facebook, Inc. ("FB") on May 18, 2012 (the "FB filing").³ On March 22, 2013, the Commission approved the FB filing.⁴ All claims under Rule 4626(b)(3), as adopted by the FB filing, must be submitted in writing not later than 7 days after formal approval of the FB filing by the Commission. The FB filing was approved on March 22, 2013, and therefore the current deadline for submission of claims is March 29, 2013. Because the week of March 25, 2013 contains both the Passover and Good Friday holidays, NASDAQ believes that the deadline should be extended. Accordingly, this proposed rule change would extend the deadline for submission of claims under the amended rule until 11:59 p.m. ET on April 8, 2013.

³ Securities Exchange Act Release No. 67507 (July 26, 2012), 77 FR 45706 (August 1, 2012) (SR-NASDAQ-2012-090).

⁴ <http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro/nasdaq/2013/34-69216.pdf>.

¹⁴ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.