

the United States, there are clear advantages to the company and its investors if the same security is issued in both markets. In particular, selling the same security avoids pricing confusion and, by ensuring complete fungibility, facilitates the movement of warrants between the two markets in aftermarket trading. As the ADRs would not be traded in the home market and might not be properly understood by investors there, it is clear why a company would make the decision to issue warrants to purchase a single common share in both markets rather than selling warrants to purchase ADRs in the US market and warrants to purchase a single share in the home market. While other categories of listed companies may also sometimes choose to issue warrants that are exercisable for multiple listed common shares or a fraction of a common share, their reasons for doing so are not the same unique market structural reasons that cause foreign companies to do so when their listed equity security is an ADR. Consequently, while the proposal does result in a different treatment of foreign companies with listed ADRs in a very limited circumstance, the Exchange believes that this proposed difference in treatment is not unfairly discriminatory.

The Exchange also notes that foreign companies with listed ADRs would not always pay lower fees on warrants if this proposal was adopted. Rather, the issuer would always pay fees on an ADR-equivalent basis, which would result in lower fees if the listed ADR represents multiple common shares and higher fees if it represents a fractional common share.

For the foregoing reasons, the Exchange believes that the proposal is consistent with the Act.

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 not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. The proposed modified warrant listing and annual fee for issuers whose listed ADRs represent multiple underlying common shares will be applicable to all similarly situated issuers on the same basis.

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed amended fees will have any meaningful effect on the competition among issuers listed on the Exchange. The Exchange operates in a highly competitive market in which issuers can readily choose to list new securities on other exchanges and transfer listings to other exchanges if

they deem fee levels at those other venues to be more favorable.

Because competitors are free to modify their own fees in response, and because issuers may change their listing venue, the Exchange does not believe its proposed fee change can impose any burden on intermarket competition.

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 foregoing rule change is effective upon filing pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)⁹ of the Act and subparagraph (f)(2) of Rule 19b-4¹⁰ thereunder, because it establishes a due, fee, or other charge imposed by the Exchange.

At any time within 60 days of the filing of such 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. If the Commission takes such action, the Commission shall institute proceedings under Section 19(b)(2)(B)¹¹ of the Act to determine whether the proposed rule change should be approved or 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 email to rule-comments@sec.gov. Please include File Number SR-NYSE-2021-52 on the subject line.

Paper Comments

- Send paper comments in triplicate to Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549-1090.

⁹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

¹⁰ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(2).

¹¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2)(B).

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-NYSE-2021-52. This file number should be included on the subject line if email 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 website (<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 website 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. Persons submitting comments are cautioned that we do not redact or edit personal identifying information from comment submissions. You should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly. All submissions should refer to File Number SR-NYSE-2021-52 and should be submitted on or before January 10, 2022.

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

J. Matthew DeLesDernier,
Assistant Secretary.

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-93777; File No. SR-ISE-2021-26]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Nasdaq ISE, LLC; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change To Amend ISE's Pricing Schedule at Options 7, Section 1, General Provisions

December 14, 2021.

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

¹² 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

(“Act”),¹ and Rule 19b–4 thereunder,² notice is hereby given that on December 1, 2021, Nasdaq ISE, LLC (“ISE” or “Exchange”) 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 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 ISE’s Pricing Schedule at Options 7, Section 1, General Provisions.

While the changes proposed herein are effective upon filing, the Exchange has designated the amendments become operative on December 1, 2021.

The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Exchange’s website at <https://listingcenter.nasdaq.com/rulebook/ise/rules>, 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 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

ISE proposes to amend its Pricing Schedule at Options 7, Section 1, General Provisions. Specifically, ISE proposes to amend the way an Exchange Member indicates its participation in the Affiliated Entity Program. Specifically, the Exchange proposes to amend the description of “Affiliated Entity” within Options 7, Section 1, General Provisions. Currently, the term “Affiliated Entity” is described as,

a relationship between an Appointed Market Maker and an Appointed OFP for purposes

of qualifying for certain pricing specified in the Schedule of Fees. Market Makers and OFPs are required to send an email to the Exchange to appoint their counterpart, at least 3 business days prior to the last day of the month to qualify for the next month. The Exchange will acknowledge receipt of the emails and specify the date the Affiliated Entity is eligible for applicable pricing, as specified in the Schedule of Fees. Each Affiliated Entity relationship will commence on the 1st of a month and may not be terminated prior to the end of any month. An Affiliated Entity relationship will terminate after a one (1) year period, unless either party terminates earlier in writing by sending an email to the Exchange at least 3 business days prior to the last day of the month to terminate for the next month. Affiliated Entity relationships must be renewed annually by each party sending an email to the Exchange. Affiliated Members may not qualify as a counterparty comprising an Affiliated Entity. Each Member may qualify for only one (1) Affiliated Entity relationship at any given time.

Today, Members are required to annually renew their Affiliate Entity relationship at the end of one year if they desire to continue the relationship. The parties must both send an email to the Exchange to avoid termination of the relationship, provided the relationship was not terminated earlier in the year. The Exchange believes that this process is burdensome for Members that desire to remain in the program. The consequence of not renewing is termination. The Exchange desires to remove the administrative burden associated with the requirement to annually renew and instead provide that the Affiliated Entity relationship will automatically renew each month, unless otherwise terminated. The proposed new rule text would provide,

An “Affiliated Entity” is a relationship between an Appointed Market Maker and an Appointed OFP for purposes of qualifying for certain pricing specified in the Schedule of Fees. Market Makers and OFPs are required to send an email to the Exchange to appoint their counterpart, at least 3 business days prior to the last day of the month to qualify for the next month. The Exchange will acknowledge receipt of the emails and specify the date the Affiliated Entity is eligible for applicable pricing, as specified in the Pricing Schedule. Each Affiliated Entity relationship will commence on the 1st of a month and may not be terminated prior to the end of any month. An Affiliated Entity relationship will automatically renew each month until or unless either party terminates earlier in writing by sending an email to the Exchange at least 3 business days prior to the last day of the month to terminate for the next month. Affiliated Members may not qualify as a counterparty comprising an Affiliated Entity. Each Member may qualify for only one (1) Affiliated Entity relationship at any given time.

As is the case today, parties to the Affiliated Entity relationship may decide to terminate the relationship during any month by sending an email to the Exchange at least 3 business days prior to the last day of the month to terminate for the next month. Cboe Exchange, Inc. (“Cboe”) has a similar automatic renewal process for its Appointed OFP and Appointed Market-Maker Program.³ The Exchange believes that this amendment will streamline the workflow for Members by not requiring Members to renew each year to continue the affiliated relationship.

The Exchange is also proposing to amend a reference to “Schedule of Fees” within the Affiliated Entity description to “Pricing Schedule” to update the reference to Options 7 rules.

2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that its proposal is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act,⁴ in general, and furthers the objectives of Sections 6(b)(4) and 6(b)(5) of the Act,⁵ in particular, in that it provides for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees, and other charges among members and issuers and other persons using any facility, and is not designed to permit unfair discrimination between customers, issuers, brokers, or dealers.

The Exchange’s proposal to amend the way Exchange Members indicate their participation in the Affiliated Entity Program is reasonable. Today, Members are required to annually renew their Affiliated Entity relationship at the end of one year if they desire to continue the relationship. The parties must both send an email to the Exchange to avoid termination of the relationship, provided the relationship was not terminated earlier in the year. The Exchange believes that this process

³ See Cboe’s Fees Schedule at footnote 23 “A Market-Maker may designate an Order Flow Provider (“OFP”) as its “Appointed OFP” and an OFP may designate a Market-Maker to be its “Appointed Market-Maker” for purposes of qualifying for credits under AVP. In order to effectuate the appointment, the parties would need to submit the Appointed Affiliate Form to the Exchange by 3:00 p.m. CST on the first business day of the month in order to be eligible to qualify for credits under AVP for that month. The Exchange will recognize only one such designation for each party once every calendar month, which designation will automatically renew each month until or unless the Exchange receives an email from either party indicating that the appointment has been terminated. A Market-Maker that has both an Affiliate OFP and Appointed OFP will only qualify based upon the volume of its Appointed OFP. The volume of an OFP that has both an Affiliate Market-Maker and Appointed Market-Maker will only count towards qualifying the Appointed Market-Maker. Volume executed in open outcry is not eligible to receive a credit under AVP.”

⁴ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

⁵ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(4) and (5).

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b–4.

is burdensome for Members that desire to remain in the program. The consequence of not renewing its participation in the program. The Exchange desires to remove the administrative burden associated with the requirement to annually renew and instead provide that the Affiliated Entity relationship will automatically renew each month, unless otherwise terminated. As is the case today, parties to the Affiliated Entity relationship may decide to terminate the relationship during any month by sending an email to the Exchange at least 3 business days prior to the last day of the month to terminate for the next month. Also, Cboe has a similar automatic renewal process for its Appointed OFP and Appointed Market-Maker Program.⁶ The Exchange believes that this amendment will streamline the workflow for Members by not requiring Members to renew each year to continue the affiliated relationship.

The Exchange's proposal to amend the way Exchange Member indicate their participation in the Affiliated Entity Program is equitable and not unfairly discriminatory. Today, any Member may participate in the Affiliated Entity Program. The proposed changes would impact all Members that voluntarily elect to participate in the Affiliated Entity Program in a uniform manner.

The proposal to amend a reference to "Schedule of Fees" within the Affiliated Entity description to "Pricing Schedule" to update the reference to Options 7 rules is non-substantive.

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

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose

⁶ See Cboe's Fees Schedule at footnote 23 "A Market-Maker may designate an Order Flow Provider ("OFP") as its "Appointed OFP" and an OFP may designate a Market-Maker to be its "Appointed Market-Maker" for purposes of qualifying for credits under AVP. In order to effectuate the appointment, the parties would need to submit the Appointed Affiliate Form to the Exchange by 3:00 p.m. CST on the first business day of the month in order to be eligible to qualify for credits under AVP for that month. The Exchange will recognize only one such designation for each party once every calendar month, which designation will automatically renew each month until or unless the Exchange receives an email from either party indicating that the appointment has been terminated. A Market-Maker that has both an Affiliate OFP and Appointed OFP will only qualify based upon the volume of its Appointed OFP. The volume of an OFP that has both an Affiliate Market-Maker and Appointed Market-Maker will only count towards qualifying the Appointed Market-Maker. Volume executed in open outcry is not eligible to receive a credit under AVP."

any burden on competition not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

Inter-Market Competition

The proposal does not impose an undue burden on inter-market competition. Cboe has a similar automatic renewal process for its Appointed OFP and Appointed Market-Maker Program⁷ as proposed herein for the Affiliated Entity Program.

Intra-Market Competition

The Exchange's proposal to amend the way Exchange Members indicate their participation in the Affiliated Entity Program does not impose an undue burden on competition. Today, any Member may participate in an Affiliated Entity relationship. The proposed changes would impact all Members that voluntarily elect to participate in the Affiliated Entity Program in a uniform manner.

C. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed Rule Change Received From Members, Participants, or Others

No written comments were either solicited or received.

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

The foregoing rule change has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(ii) of the Act.⁸ 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: (i) Necessary or appropriate in the public interest; (ii) for the protection of investors; or (iii) otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. If the Commission takes such action, the Commission shall institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule should be approved or 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:

⁷ *Id.*

⁸ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(ii).

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-ISE-2021-26 on the subject line.

Paper Comments

- Send paper comments in triplicate to Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549-1090.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-ISE-2021-26. This file number should be included on the subject line if email 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 website (<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 website 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. Persons submitting comments are cautioned that we do not redact or edit personal identifying information from comment submissions. You should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly. All submissions should refer to File Number SR-ISE-2021-26 and should be submitted on or before January 10, 2022.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.⁹

J. Matthew DeLesDernier,

Assistant Secretary.

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⁹ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).