

Additional Circuit/SDP Charge if the subscriber does not exceed the minimum number of T1 circuits needed to support its SDP, assuming an eighteen-to-one ratio.]

(g)-(u) No change.

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II. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

In its filing with the Commission, Nasdaq 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. Nasdaq 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

The NWII service allows market participants to access SuperMontage and other Nasdaq facilities through Nasdaq's Enterprise Wide Network II ("EWN II"). Each NWII subscriber location has at least one service delivery platform ("SDP") that connects to the EWN II by a dedicated T1 circuit pair. The subscriber then connects the workstations used by its employees to the SDP. Workstations may be either Nasdaq Workstation presentation devices ("PDs") provided by Nasdaq, or workstations and software supplied by the subscriber (often referred to as an "application programming interface" device, or an "NWII substitute").

Nasdaq currently allows subscribers to contract with Nasdaq for maintenance of their NWII PDs and SDPs on a monthly basis, at the rate of \$55 per PD logon or SDP per month. Maintenance is provided by Nasdaq personnel in the New York metropolitan area and by a contractor in other areas of the country. Nasdaq is now proposing to supplement this monthly maintenance option with an hourly maintenance option for subscribers that may not wish to commit to a monthly maintenance agreement. The fee for maintenance provided without a monthly maintenance agreement will be \$195 per hour, with a two-hour minimum charge for all service calls, plus the cost of parts supplied.

2. Statutory Basis

Nasdaq believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the provisions of Section 15A of the Act,⁵ in general, and Section 15A(b)(5) of the Act,⁶ 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 or system which the NASD operates or controls.

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

Nasdaq 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

The foregoing proposed rule change has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(ii) of the Act⁷ and subparagraph (f)(2) of Rule 19b-4⁸ thereunder, because it establishes or changes a due, fee, or other charge. At any time within 60 days of August 6, 2003, 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 furtherance of the purposes of the Act.⁹

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. Persons making written submissions should file six copies thereof with the Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 450 Fifth Street, NW., Washington DC 20549-0609. 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. Copies of such filings will also be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the NASD. All submissions should refer to File No. SR-NASD-2003-123 and should be submitted by September 17, 2003.

For the Commission, by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.¹⁰

J. Lynn Taylor,

Assistant Secretary.

[FR Doc. 03-21945 Filed 8-26-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8010-01-P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-48363; File No. SR-PCX-2003-39]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change Relating to Changes in Schedule of Fees and Charges

August 19, 2003.

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 July 28, 2003, the Pacific Exchange, Inc. ("PCX") submitted to the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II, and III below, which the PCX has prepared. 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 PCX is proposing to amend its schedule of rates and charges in order to provide a limit on the fees that it collects with regard to certain options strategy executions.

The text of the proposed rule change is available at the PCX 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 PCX included statements concerning the

⁵ 15 U.S.C. 78o-3.

⁶ 15 U.S.C. 78o-3(b)(5).

⁷ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(ii).

⁸ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(2).

⁹ See 15 U.S.C. 78(b)(3)(C).

¹⁰ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

¹¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

¹² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

purpose of and basis for the proposed rule change and discussed any comments it had received on the proposed rule change. The text of these statements may be examined at the places specified in Item IV below. The PCX 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

The PCX currently assesses the following trade-related charges on transactions involving equity or index options:³

Transaction fees: \$0.21 per contract side.
Comparison fees: \$0.05 per contract.
Ticket data entry fees: \$0.25 per firm trade and \$0.50 per market maker trade.

From time to time, market participants engage in financing strategies known as option strategy plays for the purpose of reducing risk. These transactions include reversals and conversions,⁴ dividend spreads,⁵ and box spreads.⁶ Because the referenced options strategy transactions are generally executed by professionals whose profit margins are generally narrow, the PCX proposes to cap the transaction fees associated with such executions at \$2,000.⁷ The PCX believes that, by keeping fees low, it will be able to attract liquidity by accommodating these transactions. By adopting the \$2,000 cap on fees, the PCX focuses on

³ The PCX also provides a volume discount program that reduces the fees as market makers increase their quarterly average daily contract volume.

⁴ Reversals and conversions are transactions that employ calls, puts and the underlying stock to lock in a nearly risk free profit. Reversals are established by combining a short stock position with a short put and a long call position that shares the same strike and expiration. Conversions employ long positions in the underlying stock that accompany long puts and short calls sharing the same strike and expiration.

⁵ Dividend spreads are trades involving deep in the money options that exploit pricing differences arising around the time a stock goes ex-dividend.

⁶ The Box Spread strategy synthesizes long and short stock positions to create a profit. Specifically, a long call and short put at one strike are combined with a short call and long put at a different strike to create synthetic long and synthetic short stock positions, respectively.

⁷ According to the PCX, the \$2,000 cap applies to the transaction fees arising from a set of executions forming a single strategy play. The PCX also represents that a member executing such a strategy submits to the PCX a record of the strategy play after it has been executed. The PCX then reviews the submission for accuracy. Conversation between Mai Shiver, Senior Attorney, Regulatory Policy, PCX and Tim Fox, Attorney, Division of Market Regulation, Commission, on August 14, 2003.

the size of the particular order rather than the aggregate monthly volume of the routing firm.⁸ Therefore, the PCX believes that the proposal will not have a disparate impact on members and will not favor any member over another.

2. Statutory Basis

The PCX believes that its proposal is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act⁹ in general, and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(4) of the Act¹⁰ in particular, in that it provides for the equitable allocation of reasonable fees among its members.

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

The PCX 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

The PCX neither solicited nor received written comments concerning the proposed rule change.

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

Because the foregoing rule change establishes or changes a due, fee, or other charge imposed by the PCX, it has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act¹¹ and Rule 19b-4(f)(2)¹² thereunder. At any time within 60 days after the filing of the proposed rule change, the Commission may summarily abrogate the 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. Persons making written submissions should file six copies thereof with the Secretary, Securities and Exchange

⁸ The PCX represents that member firms of all sizes can execute transactions large enough to benefit from the proposed fee cap. Conversation between Mai Shiver, Senior Attorney, Regulatory Policy, PCX and Tim Fox, Attorney, Division of Market Regulation, Commission, on August 14, 2003.

⁹ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

¹⁰ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(4).

¹¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

¹² 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(2).

Commission, 450 Fifth Street, NW., Washington, DC 20549-0609. 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. Copies of such filings will also be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the PCX. All submissions should refer to File No. SR-PCX-2003-39 and should be submitted by September 17, 2003.

For the Commission, by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.¹³

J. Lynn Taylor,

Assistant Secretary.

[FR Doc. 03-21946 Filed 8-26-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8010-01-P

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

[Psilos Group Partners II SBIC, L.P., License No. 02/72-0617]

Notice Seeking Exemption Under Section 312 of the Small Business Investment Act, Conflicts of Interest

Notice is hereby given that Psilos Group Partners II SBIC, L.P., 625 Avenue of the Americas, Fourth Floor, New York, NY 10011, a Federal Licensee under the Small Business Investment Act of 1958, as amended ("the Act"), in connection with the financing of a small concern, has sought an exemption under Section 312 of the Act and Section 107.730, Financials which Constitute Conflicts of Interest of the Small Business Administration ("SBA") Rules and Regulations (13 CFR 107.730 (2000)). Psilos Group Partners II SBIC, L.P. proposes to provide equity/debt security financing to Definity Health Corporation. The financing is contemplated for national sales force expansion and working capital.

The financing is brought within the purview of Sec. 107.730(a)(1) of the Regulations because Psilos Group Partners II, L.P. and Psilos Group Partners IIA, L.P., Associates of Psilos Group Partners II SBIC, L.P., collectively own more than ten percent of Definity Health Corporation.

¹³ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).