substantially the same form as the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc. ("FINRA") Rule 4360.5 The Supplementary Material to Exchange Rule 705 is being replaced, along with the remainder of Rule 705, by a new Rule 705, as of April 2, 2012. The title of Exchange Rule 705 will also be changed from "Members Must Carry" to "Fidelity Bonds." The Exchange intended to delete the current Rule 705 in its entirety and rename the rule and add new text similar to that in FINRA Rule 4360. The Exchange inadvertently did not place the Supplementary Material section of the Rule in that filing to be deleted. The Exchange proposes to delete the current Supplementary Material to Exchange Rule 705 as of April 2, 2012, to correspond with the operative date of SR-Phlx-2012-13.

#### 2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that its proposal is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act 6 in general, and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(5) of the Act 7 in particular, in that it is designed 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, by correcting an error in the Exchange's Rules in order that the Rule properly reflect the correct text. The Exchange's proposal will correct the text of the Rule so that the new text will be properly reflected as of April 2, 2012.

## 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.

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**

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act<sup>8</sup> and Rule 19b–4(f)(1)<sup>9</sup> thereunder, the Exchange has designated this proposal as one that constitutes a stated policy, practice or interpretation with

respect to the meaning, administration, or enforcement of an existing rule of the self-regulatory organization, and therefore has become effective.

The Exchange intends for Rule 705 to become operative on April 2, 2012. This operative delay will allow members or member organizations that are not exempt from the Rule to comply with the requirements set forth under the

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. 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:

## Electronic Comments

- Use the Commission's Internet comment form (http://www.sec.gov/ rules/sro.shtml); or
- Send an email to rulecomments@sec.gov. Please include File Number SR-Phlx-2012-21 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-Phlx-2012-21. 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 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 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-Phlx-2012-21 and should be submitted on or before March 15,

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.10

## Kevin M. O'Neill,

Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2012-4148 Filed 2-22-12; 8:45 am]

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## **SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE** COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-66411; File No. SR-NYSE-2012-04]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; New York Stock Exchange LLC; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of **Proposed Rule Change Deleting NYSE** Rule 319 and its Interpretation, Which Address Fidelity Bond Requirements, and Adopt New Rule Text That Is Substantially Similar to FINRA Rule 4360

February 16, 2012.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Act") 2 and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,3 notice is hereby given that on February 3, 2012, 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, II, and III below, which Items have been prepared by the selfregulatory organization. The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> See FINRA Rule 4360 "Fidelity Bonds."

<sup>6 15</sup> U.S.C. 78f(b).

<sup>7 15</sup> U.S.C. 78f(b)(5). 8 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

<sup>9 17</sup> CFR 240.19b-4(f)(1).

<sup>10 17</sup> CFR 200.30–3(a)(12).

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

<sup>215</sup> U.S.C. 78a.

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

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

The Exchange proposes to delete NYSE Rule 319 and its Interpretation, which address fidelity bond requirements, and adopt new rule text that is substantially similar to FINRA Rule 4360. The text of the proposed rule change is available at the Exchange, the Commission's Public Reference Room, and 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 proposes to delete NYSE Rule 319 and its Interpretation, which address fidelity bond requirements, and adopt new rule text that is substantially similar to FINRA Rule 4360.4

# Background

On July 30, 2007, FINRA's predecessor, the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc. ("NASD"), and NYSE Regulation, Inc. ("NYSER") consolidated their member firm regulation operations into a combined organization, FINRA. Pursuant to Rule 17d-2 under the Act, NYSE, NYSER and FINRA entered into an agreement (the "Agreement") to reduce regulatory duplication for their members by allocating to FINRA certain regulatory responsibilities for certain NYSE rules and rule interpretations ("FINRA Incorporated NYSE Rules"). NYSE Amex LLC ("NYSE Amex") became a party to the Agreement effective December 15, 2008.5

As part of its effort to reduce regulatory duplication and relieve firms that are members of FINRA, NYSE and NYSE Amex of conflicting or unnecessary regulatory burdens, FINRA is now engaged in the process of reviewing and amending the NASD and FINRA Incorporated NYSE Rules in order to create a consolidated FINRA rulebook.<sup>6</sup>

Proposed Conforming Amendments to NYSE Rules

The Exchange proposes to delete NYSE Rule 319 and its Interpretation and adopt new Rule 4360 to conform to the changes adopted by FINRA for fidelity bonds.7 FINRA adopted NASD Rule 3020 as FINRA Rule 4360, taking into account NYSE Rule 319 and its Interpretation. FINRA Rule 4360 updates and clarifies fidelity bond requirements for member firms and better reflects current industry practices. The Rule requires each FINRA member that is required to join Securities **Investor Protection Corporation to** maintain blanket fidelity bond coverage with specified amounts of coverage based on the member organization's net capital requirement, with certain exceptions, and to maintain fidelity bond coverage that provides for per loss coverage without an aggregate limit of liability.

Because it covers the same topic as the new FINRA rule, FINRA deleted FINRA Incorporated NYSE Rule 319 and its Interpretation. In particular, NYSE Rule 319 and its Interpretation generally require member organizations to maintain minimum amounts of fidelity bond coverage for officers and employees, and that such coverage address losses incurred due to certain specified events. To harmonize the NYSE Rules with the approved FINRA

approving the Agreement); 56147 (July 26, 2007), 72 FR 42166 (August 1, 2007) (SR–NASD–2007–054) (order approving the incorporation of certain NYSE Rules as "Common Rules"); and 60409 (July 30, 2009), 74 FR 39353 (August 6, 2009) (order approving the amended and restated Agreement, adding NYSE Amex LLC as a party). Paragraph 2(b) of the Agreement sets forth procedures regarding proposed changes by FINRA, NYSE or NYSE Amex to the substance of any of the Common Rules.

Rules, the Exchange correspondingly proposes to delete Rule 319 and its Interpretation and to adopt proposed NYSE Rule 4360. The text of proposed NYSE Rule 4360 would be the same as FINRA Rule 4360, except that the Exchange would substitute the term "member organization" for "member" and "Exchange" for "FINRA."

# 2. Statutory Basis

The proposed rule change is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act 8 in general, and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(5) 9 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 rule change supports the objectives of the Act by providing greater harmonization between NYSE Rules and FINRA Rules of similar purpose, resulting in less burdensome and more efficient regulatory compliance. In particular, all NYSE member organizations that are subject to NYSE Rule 319 are also subject to FINRA Rule 4360 and harmonizing these two rules would promote just and equitable principles of trade by requiring a single standard for fidelity bonds. To the extent the Exchange has proposed changes that differ from the FINRA version of the Rules, such changes are technical in nature and do not change the substance of the proposed NYSE Rules. The Exchange also believes that the proposed rule change will update and clarify the requirements governing fidelity bonds, which will promote just and equitable principles of trade and help to protect investors.

# 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.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 63961 (February 24, 2011), 76 FR 11542 (March 2, 2011) (SR-FINRA-2010-059). FINRA's rule change became effective on January 1, 2012. See FINRA Regulatory Notice 11–21.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> See Securities Exchange Act Release Nos. 56148 (July 26, 2007), 72 FR 42146 (August 1, 2007) (order

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup>FINRA's rulebook currently has three sets of rules: (1) NASD Rules, (2) FINRA Incorporated NYSE Rules, and (3) consolidated FINRA Rules. The FINRA Incorporated NYSE Rules apply only to those members of FINRA that are also members of the NYSE ("Dual Members"), while the consolidated FINRA Rules apply to all FINRA members. For more information about the FINRA rulebook consolidation process, see FINRA Information Notice, March 12, 2008.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup>The purpose of a fidelity bond is to protect a member organization against certain types of losses, including, but not limited to, those caused by the malfeasance of its officers and employees, and the effect of such losses on the member organization's capital.

<sup>8 15</sup> U.S.C. 78f(b).

<sup>9 15</sup> U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

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

The Exchange has filed the proposed rule change pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(iii) of the Act 10 and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder.<sup>11</sup> 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 Act and Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii) thereunder.

A proposed rule change filed under Rule 19b–4(f)(6) <sup>12</sup> normally does not become operative prior to 30 days after the date of the filing. However, pursuant to Rule 19b–4(f)(6)(iii), <sup>13</sup> 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.

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.

## **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–2012–04 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-2012-04. 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 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 Section, 100 F Street NE., Washington, DC 20549-1090. Copies of the filing will also be available for inspection and copying at the NYSE's principal office and on its Internet Web site at www.nyse.com. 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–2012–04 and should be submitted on or before March 15,

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

## Kevin M. O'Neill,

Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2012–4194 Filed 2–22–12; 8:45 am]

# 2012–4194 Filed 2–22–12; 8:45 am] removal of references

# SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-66408; File No. SR-CBOE-2011-126]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Chicago Board Options Exchange, Incorporated; Order Approving Proposed Rule Change Relating to the CBOE Stock Exchange Request for Quote Rules

February 16, 2012.

On December 27, 2011, Chicago Board Options Exchange, Incorporated ("Exchange") 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,<sup>2</sup> a proposed rule change to modify its rules relating to requests for quotes ("RFQs") on the CBOE Stock Exchange ("CBSX"). The proposal removes the rule provisions affording CBSX participants the ability to submit RFQs. The proposed rule change was published for comment in the Federal Register on January 13, 2012.3 The Commission received no comments on the proposal.

After careful review, the Commission finds that the proposed rule change is consistent with the requirements of the Act and the rules and regulations thereunder applicable to a national securities exchange 4 and, in particular, the requirements of Section 6(b)(5) of the Act,5 which requires that the Commission determine that the rules of the Exchange are designed to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism for a free and open market. The proposal removes references pertaining to RFQs in the CBSX rules because the method of trading on CBSX obviates the need for an RFQ process. The Exchange represents that participants have not used, or inquired about using, RFQs on CBSX. Moreover, the systems of CBSX do not fully support transmitting RFQ messages. Given that the CBSX system for submitting RFQs is not currently functional, the Commission believes the removal of references to RFQs in the CBSX rules may prevent confusion among participants who may otherwise expect to be able to submit RFQs. For the foregoing reasons, the Commission

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(iii).

<sup>11 17</sup> CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

<sup>12 17</sup> CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

<sup>13 17</sup> CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6)(iii).

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

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

 $<sup>^3</sup>$  See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 66119 (January 9, 2012), 77 FR 2112.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> In approving this proposed rule change, the Commission has considered the proposed rule's impact on efficiency, competition, and capital formation. *See* 15 U.S.C. 78c(f).

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

<sup>14 17</sup> CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).