

facilitate appropriate liquidity during a Limit State or Straddle State.

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 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, the proposed rule change has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act¹¹ and Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii) thereunder.¹²

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 believes that waiving the 30-day operative delay is consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest, as it will allow the obvious error pilot program to continue uninterrupted while the industry gains further experience operating under the Plan, and avoid any investor confusion that could result from a temporary interruption in the pilot program. For this reason, the Commission designates the proposed rule change to be operative upon filing.¹³

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 rule-comments@sec.gov. Please include File Number SR-NYSEArca-2015-101 on the subject line.

Paper Comments

- Send paper comments in triplicate to Brent J. Fields, Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street NE., Washington, DC 20549-1090. All submissions should refer to File Number SR-NYSEArca-2015-101. 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 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 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-NYSEArca-2015-101, and should be submitted on or before November 19, 2015.

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

Robert W. Errett,
Deputy Secretary.

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-76247; File No. SR-CBOE-2015-094]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Chicago Board Options Exchange, Incorporated; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of a Proposed Rule Change Relating To Qualification and Registration of Trading Permit Holders and Associated Persons

October 23, 2015.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Act"),¹ and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,² notice is hereby given that on October 9, 2015, Chicago Board Options Exchange, Incorporated (the "Exchange" or "CBOE") 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 Exchange. The Exchange filed the proposal as a "non-controversial" proposed rule change pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(iii) of the Act³ and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder.⁴ 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 Interpretation and Policy .08 to Rule 3.6A (Qualifications and Registration of Trading Permit Holders and Associated Persons) regarding the categories of registration and respective qualification examinations required for Trading Permit Holders ("TPHs") and associated persons that engage in trading activities on the Exchange. Specifically, the Exchange proposes to replace the Proprietary Trader registration category and the Series 56 Proprietary Trader registration qualification examination for Proprietary Traders with the Securities Trader category of registration and the Series 57 Securities Trader

¹¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

¹² 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6)(iii). As required under Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii), the Exchange provided the Commission with written notice of its intent to file the proposed rule change, along with a brief description and the 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.

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

¹⁴ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

³ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(iii).

⁴ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

registration qualification examination for Securities Traders respectively. The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Exchange's Web site (<http://www.cboe.com/AboutCBOE/CBOELegalRegulatoryHome.aspx>), at the Exchange's Office of the Secretary, 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

The Exchange proposes to amend Interpretation and Policy .08 to Rule 3.6A (Qualification and Registration of Trading Permit Holders and Associated Persons) to replace the Proprietary Trader (PT) registration category and qualification examination (Series 56) with the Securities Trader (TD) registration category and qualification examination (Series 57). In addition, the Exchange proposes to replace the Proprietary Trader Principal (TP) registration category with a Securities Trader Principal (TP) registration category for individual TPHs or associated person [sic] who either: (i) Supervise or monitor proprietary trading, market-making and/or brokerage activities for broker-dealers; (ii) supervise or train those engaged in proprietary trading, market-making and/or effecting transactions on behalf of a broker-dealer, with respect to those activities; and/or (iii) are officers, partners or directors of a TPH or TPH organization, as described in paragraph (a)(2)(i) of current Interpretation and Policy .08 to Rule 3.6A. The Exchange also proposes to replace the Proprietary Trader Compliance Officer (CT) registration category with the Securities Trader Compliance Officer (CT) registration category for Chief Compliance Officers (or individuals performing similar functions) of a TPH or TPH organization. This filing is, in all

material respects, based upon SR-FINRA-2015-017, which was recently approved by the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC" or "Commission").⁵

Rule 3.6A sets forth various qualification and registration requirements that individual TPHs and associated persons must satisfy in order to transact business on the Exchange. Among the qualification and registration requirements set forth in Rule 3.6A, Interpretation and Policy .08 provides that individual TPHs and associated persons that engage in proprietary trading, market-making, or effect transactions on behalf of a broker-dealer must register and qualify as a Proprietary Trader in WebCRD.⁶ To qualify as a Proprietary Trader, individual TPHs and associated persons must either pass the Series 56 Proprietary Trader qualification examination⁷ or Series 7 General Securities Representative qualification examination.⁸ Several exchanges, including CBOE currently use the Series 56 examination as a qualification standard.⁹

Interpretation and Policy .08 to Rule 3.6A further requires that individual TPHs and associated persons with supervisory responsibility over proprietary trading activities and

⁵ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 75783 (August 28, 2015) (Order Approving a Proposed Rule Change to Establish the Securities Trader and Securities Trader Principal Registration Categories) (SR-FINRA-2015-017).

⁶ WebCRD is a secure registration and licensing system operated by FINRA and is the central licensing and registration system for the U.S. securities industry and its regulators. The system contains the registration records of more than 6,500 registered broker-dealers, and the qualification, employment and disclosure histories of more than 650,000 active registered individuals. In addition, Web CRD facilitates the processing and payment of FINRA registration-related fees such as form filings, fingerprint submissions, qualification exams and continuing education sessions.

⁷ The Series 56 Proprietary Trader Examination is a two hour and thirty minute exam, consisting of 100 scored multiple-choice questions. The Series 56 examination is administered by FINRA, but is not recognized by FINRA as an acceptable qualification examination for associated persons engaged in securities trading. Under FINRA rules, associated persons of FINRA members that engage in over-the-counter securities trading are required to pass the Series 55 Equity Trader Exam. Nevertheless, as FINRA has recognized, because the Series 55 and Series 56 are intended to test the core knowledge required of individuals engaged in trading activities as well as self-regulatory organization ("SRO") rules, including trading rules that are common across all SROs, there is significant overlap in the content of the Series 55 and Series 56 qualification examinations.

⁸ See Interpretation and Policy .08 to Rule 3.6A.

⁹ See, e.g., BATS Exchange, Inc. ("BATS") Interpretation and Policy .01 to Rule 2.5 (Proficiency Examinations); Miami International Securities Exchange, LLC ("MIAX") Rule 1302 (Registration of Representatives). See also Interpretation and Policy .08 to Rule 3.6A.

officers, partners, and directors of a TPH or TPH organization qualify and register as a Proprietary Trader Principal. Specifically, under paragraph (a)(2) of Interpretation and Policy .08 to Rule 3.6A, an individual TPH or associated person who either: (i) Supervises or monitors proprietary trading, market-making and/or brokerage activities for broker-dealers; (ii) supervises or trains those engaged in proprietary trading, market-making and/or effecting transactions on behalf of a broker-dealer, with respect to those activities; and/or (iii) is an officer, partner or director of a TPH or TPH organization must register and qualify as a Proprietary Trader Principal in WebCRD and satisfy prerequisite [sic] registration and qualification requirements, including, but not limited to passing the Series 24 General Securities Principal Examination or an acceptable alternative qualification examination.¹⁰ An individual TPH or associated person who is a Chief Compliance Officer (or performs similar functions) for a TPH or TPH organization that engages in proprietary trading, market-making, or effecting transactions on behalf of a broker-dealer is also required to register and qualify as a Proprietary Trader Compliance Officer in WebCRD and satisfy the prerequisite [sic] registration and qualification requirements, including, but not limited to passing the Series 14 Compliance Official Examination.¹¹

The Exchange proposes to replace the Series 56 qualification examination with the Series 57 qualification examination for those registration categories where the Series 56 is currently an acceptable qualification standard.¹² Specifically, with respect to the Proprietary Trader registration categories identified in Interpretation and Policy .08 to Rule 3.6A, the Exchange proposes to replace

¹⁰ Under current Interpretation and Policy .08 to Rule 3.6A, the Series 9 and 10 General Securities Sales Supervisor Examination and Series 23 General Securities Principal Exam—Sales Supervisor Module are acceptable alternative qualification examinations to the Series 24 General Securities Principal Examination. Because the Series 23 is not available in WebCRD, however, each applicant that chooses to take the Series 23 module as an alternative to the Series 24 qualification examination must provide documentation of a valid Series 23 license to the Registration Services Department upon request for proof of licensure.

¹¹ Under current Interpretation and Policy .08 to Rule 3.6A, the Series 24 General Securities Principal Examination is considered an acceptable alternative qualification examination for the Series 14 Compliance Official Examination and registered General Securities Principals may register as Proprietary Trader Compliance Officers subject to applicable provisions under the Rules. See Interpretation and Policy .08(b) to Rule 3.6A.

¹² See Interpretation and Policy .08 to Rule 3.6A.

the Proprietary Trader (PT) registration category with the Securities Trader (TD) registration category as well as eliminate the current Series 56 Proprietary Trader Exam prerequisite [sic] and, instead, include a Series 57 Securities Trader qualification examination in its place.¹³ The Proprietary Trader Principal and Proprietary Trader Compliance Officer registration categories would be replaced with the renamed registration categories of Securities Trader Principal and Securities Trader Compliance Officer respectively.¹⁴

The Exchange will announce the effective date of the proposed rule change in a Regulatory Circular. Currently, the Exchange intends for the effective date to be January 4, 2016. Under the proposed rule, individual TPHs and associated persons who have passed the Proprietary Trader (Series 56) qualification examination and who have registered as Proprietary Trader (PT) [sic] in WebCRD on or before the effective date of the proposed rule change and individual TPHs and associated persons who have passed the General Securities Representative (Series 7) qualification examination and who have registered as Proprietary Traders (PT) in WebCRD on or before the effective date of the proposed rule change would be grandfathered as Securities Traders (TDs) without having to take any additional examinations and without having to take any other action), provided that the individual TPH's or associated person's registration has not been revoked by the Exchange as a disciplinary sanction and no more than two years have passed between the date that the individual TPH or associated person last registered as a Proprietary Trader (PT) and the effective date. After the effective date, an individual TPH or associated person would need to pass

the new Series 57 Securities Trader qualification examination and register as a Securities Trader in WebCRD.

In addition, individual TPHs and associated persons who have either passed the Proprietary Trader (PT) qualification examination or the General Securities Representative (Series 7) qualification examination and who have registered as Proprietary Traders (PT) in WebCRD on or before the effective date of the proposed rule change and who have also passed the General Securities Principal (Series 24) qualification examination (or have completed any of the alternative acceptable qualifications requirements as defined in current Interpretation and Policy .08(b) to Rule 3.6A) and who have also registered as Proprietary Trader Principals (TP) in WebCRD on or before the effective date of the proposed rule change would be eligible to register as Securities Trader Principals (TPs), provided that the individual TPH's or associated person's registration has not been revoked by the Exchange as a disciplinary sanction and no more than two years have passed between the date that the individual TPH or associated person last registered as a Proprietary Trader Principal (TP) and the date they register as a Securities Trader Principal (TP).¹⁵ After the effective date, a Securities Trader Principal would need to pass the Securities Trader (Series 57) qualification examination and the General Securities Principal (Series 24) qualification examination (or have completed any of the alternative acceptable qualifications as defined in current Interpretation and Policy .08(b) to Rule 3.6A) and be registered as such in order to register as a Securities Trader Principal (TP).¹⁶

2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act and the rules and regulations thereunder applicable to the Exchange and, in particular, the requirements of Section 6(b) of the Act.¹⁷ Specifically, the Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with the Section 6(b)(5) ¹⁸ requirements that the rules of

an exchange be 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 regulating, clearing, settling, processing information with respect to, and facilitating transactions in securities, 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. Additionally, the Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with the Section 6(b)(5) ¹⁹ requirement that the rules of an exchange not be designed to permit unfair discrimination between customers, issuers, brokers, or dealers.

In particular, the Exchange believes that adoption of the Securities Trader registration category and Series 57 Securities Trader qualification examination registration requirement is consistent with the Act. FINRA has indicated that the Series 57 qualification examination is being developed in an effort to adopt a more tailored examination. The Exchange believes that a more tailored qualification examination for individual TPHs and associated persons engaged in trading activities is a measure designed to help ensure professionalism among market participants, prevent fraudulent and manipulative practices, and promote just and equitable principles of trade. The Exchange also believes that it is in the interests of investors and the general public to develop a more tailored qualification examination for proprietary traders and that a more uniform qualification standard may help ensure fair and orderly markets. Furthermore, the Exchange believes that it is in the interests of all market participants to provide consistent qualification and registration requirements across markets. The Exchange believes that harmonizing the Exchange's qualification and registration requirements with those of FINRA and the other national securities exchanges would further such interests.

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 Exchange believes that the proposed rule change relating to Securities Traders, which is, in all material respects, based upon and substantially similar to, recent rule changes adopted

¹³ Neither the Exchange's current Rules nor the proposed rule would require that a Proprietary Trader or Securities Trader work at, or be associated with, a "proprietary trading firm." Rather, both the current Rules and the proposed rule would require that individual TPHs and associated persons that engage in proprietary trading, market-making, or effect transactions on behalf of a broker-dealer register to qualify and register as a Proprietary Trader (or Securities Trader) in WebCRD. Whereas the current rule allows individual TPHs and associated persons to qualify as a Proprietary Trader by either passing the Series 56 Proprietary Trader qualification examination or Series 7 General Securities Representative qualification examination, the proposed rule would require individual TPHs and associated persons to pass the Series 57 Securities Trader qualification examination in order to qualify as a Securities Trader after the effective date of the proposed rule change.

¹⁴ As is the case under the current Rules, under the proposed rule, only individuals qualified and registered as a Proprietary Trader Principal (Securities Trader Principal) would be permitted to supervise a Proprietary Trader (Securities Trader).

¹⁵ See Rule 3.6A(e) (Requirement for Examination on Lapse of Registration).

¹⁶ The Exchange also proposes to add text to Interpretation and Policy .08(b) to Rule 3.6A regarding the supervisory responsibilities of the Securities Trader Principals, which would limit Securities Trader Principals' supervisory responsibilities to supervision of the securities trading functions of TPHs as described in paragraph (a)(2)(i) of Interpretation and Policy .08 to Rule 3.6A, and the activities of officers, partners, and directors of TPHs or TPH organizations.

¹⁷ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

¹⁸ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

¹⁹ *Id.*

by FINRA and which is being filed in conjunction with similar filings by the other national securities exchanges, will reduce the regulatory burden placed on market participants engaged in trading activities across different markets. The Exchange believes that the harmonization of these registration requirements across the various markets will reduce burdens on competition by removing impediments to participation in the national market system and promoting competition among participants across the multiple national securities exchanges.

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

The Exchange neither solicited nor received written comments on 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:

A. Significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest;

B. impose any significant burden on competition; and

C. become operative for 30 days from the date on which it was filed, or such shorter time as the Commission may designate, it has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act²⁰ and Rule 19b-4(f)(6)²¹ thereunder. 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 will institute proceedings 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-CBOE-2015-094 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-CBOE-2015-094. 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 10:00 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-CBOE-2015-094 and should be submitted on or before November 19, 2015.

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

Robert W. Errett,

Deputy Secretary.

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-76251; File No. SR-CBOE-2015-026]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Chicago Board Options Exchange, Incorporated; Notice of Withdrawal of a Proposed Rule Change Relating to Rules 6.74A and 6.74B

October 23, 2015.

On March 6, 2015, the Chicago Board Options Exchange, Incorporated (the "Exchange" or "CBOE") 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 amend its rules regarding the solicitation of Market-Makers as the contra party to an agency order entered into the Exchange's Automated Improvement Mechanism and Solicitation Auction Mechanism auctions. The proposed rule change was published for comment in the **Federal Register** on March 23, 2015.³ On May 4, 2015, the Commission extended the time period within which to approve the proposed rule change, disapprove the proposed rule change, or institute proceedings to determine whether to disapprove the proposed rule change, to June 21, 2015.⁴ On June 18, 2015, the Commission instituted proceedings to determine whether to approve or disapprove the proposed rule change.⁵ On July 21, 2015, the Commission received a letter from the Exchange responding to the Order Instituting Proceedings.⁶ Subsequently, the Commission received two other comment letters on the proposed rule change.⁷ On September 14, 2015, the Commission issued a notice of designation of a longer period for Commission action on proceedings to determine whether to approve or

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

³ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 74519 (March 17, 2015), 80 FR 15264.

⁴ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 74862 (May 4, 2015), 80 FR 26599 (May 8, 2015).

⁵ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 75245 (June 18, 2015), 80 FR 36386 (June 24, 2015) ("Order Instituting Proceedings").

⁶ See Letter to Brent J. Fields, Secretary, Commission, from Kyle Edwards, Attorney, CBOE, dated July 21, 2015.

⁷ See Letter to Brent J. Fields, Secretary, Commission, from Gavin Rowe, Senior Director, Dash Financial LLC, dated August 11, 2015; Letter to Brent J. Fields, Secretary, Commission, from Benjamin Londergan, Executive Managing Director, Convergen Execution Solutions, dated September 15, 2015.

²⁰ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

²¹ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

²² 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).