

change, 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 purpose 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 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, 450 Fifth Street, NW, Washington, DC. Copies of such filing will also be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the Exchange. All submissions should refer to File No. SR-CHX-00-21 and should be submitted by July 17, 2000.

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

Margaret H. McFarland,
Deputy Secretary.

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-42961; File No. SR-MBSCC-00-01]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; MBS Clearing Corporation; Notice of Filing of Proposed Rule Change Relating to Letters of Credit

June 20, 2000.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)¹ of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act"), notice is hereby given that on April 11, 2000, the MBS Clearing Corporation ("MBSCC") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission

("Commission") and on June 13, 2000, amended the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II, and III below, which Items have been prepared primarily by MBSCC. 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 proposed rule change will prohibit MBSCC from accepting a letter of credit from a participant when the participant or an affiliate of that participant issues the letter of credit.

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

In its filing with the Commission, MBSCC 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. MBSCC has prepared summaries, set forth in sections (A), (B), and (C) below, of the most significant aspects of such statements.²

(A) Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

The purpose of the proposed rule change is to modify Article IV, Rule 2, Section 9 of MBSCC's rules, which governs deposits of letters of credit by participants to the participants fund for margin purposes. This rule provides that MBSCC may approve as the issuer of a letter of credit any domestic or foreign bank or trust company meeting the requirements set forth in procedures adopted from time to time by MBSCC.

The proposed rule change will amend Article IV, Rule 2, Section 9 by adding a new subsection (b) which will prohibit MBSCC from accepting a letter of credit from a participant that is issued by that participant or by an affiliate of that participant.³ The proposed rule change

will codify MBSCC's historical practice of requiring that a letter of credit deposited by a participant to the participants fund be issued by an approved letter of credit issuer other than the participant or an affiliate of the participant.

The proposed rule change also makes a technical modification to Article III, Rule 5 of MBSCC's rules to correct the reference contained within such rule from "Rule 4" to "Rule 5."

MBSCC believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the requirements of Section 17A(b)(3)(A)⁴ of the Act and the rules and regulations thereunder because it is designed to assure the safeguarding of securities and funds that are in the custody or control of MBSCC or for which it is responsible.

(B) Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition

MBSCC does not believe that the proposed rule change will have an impact on or impose a burden on competition.

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

No written comments relating to the proposed rule change have been solicited or received. MBSCC will notify the Commission of any written comments received by MBSCC.

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

Within thirty-five days of the date of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register** or within such longer period (i) as the Commission may designate up to ninety days of such date if it finds such longer period to be appropriate and publishes its reasons for so finding or (ii) as to which the self-regulatory organization consents, the Commission will:

(a) By order approve such proposed rule change or

(b) Institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule change should be 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. Persons making written submissions should file six copies thereof with the

ownership of voting securities, by contract, or otherwise."

⁴ 15 U.S.C. 78q-1(b)(3)(A).

² The Commission has modified the text of the summaries prepared by MBSCC.

³ Article I, Rule 1 of MBSCC's rules will be amended as follows. "The term an 'Affiliate' of, or a person 'Affiliated' with, a specified person, means a person that directly, or indirectly, through one or more intermediaries, controls, or is controlled by, or is under common control with, the person specified. For purposes of this definition, the term 'control' (including the terms 'controls,' 'controlled by,' and 'under common control with') means the possession, direct or indirect, of the power to direct or cause the direction of the management and policies of a person, whether through the

¹⁰ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

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 in Washington, D.C. Copies of such filing will also be available for inspection and copying at MBSCC's principal office. All submissions should refer to File No. SR-MBSCC-00-01 and should be submitted by July 17, 2000.

For the Commission by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.⁵

Margaret H. McFarland,

Deputy Secretary.

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-42958; File No. SR-NASD-00-20]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Notice of Filing of Proposed Rule Change by the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc. Relating to Amendments to Rule 2320(g) and Rule 3110(b)

June 20, 2000.

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 April 13, 2000, the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc. ("NASD" or "Association"), through its wholly owned subsidiary, NASD Regulation, Inc. ("NASD Regulation") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II, and III below, which Items have been prepared by NASD Regulation. 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

NASD Regulation is proposing to amend NASD Rules 2320(g) and 3110(b): (1) To require that members executing a customer order in a non-Nasdaq security contact and obtain quotations from three dealers (or all dealers if three or less) to determine the best inter-dealer market for security, unless two or more priced quotations are displayed in an inter-dealer quotation system that permits quotation updates on a real-time basis (such as the OTC Bulletin Board ("OTCBB") or the electronic pink sheets); (2) to require that members that display priced quotations for the same non-Nasdaq security in two or more quotation mediums that permit quotation updates on a real-time basis display the same priced quotations for the security in each quotation medium; (3) to eliminate the requirement that a member indicate on the order ticket for each transaction in a non-Nasdaq security the name of each broker-dealer contacted and the quotations received, if two or more priced quotations are displayed and NASD Regulation has access, on a historical basis, to the quotation data; and (4) to define the terms *inter-dealer quotation system* and *quotation medium* for the purposes of the proposed rule change.

Below is the text of the proposed rule change. Proposed new language is in *italics*; proposed deletions are in brackets.

2320. Best Execution and Interpositioning

(a) through (f) No Change.

(g)(1) *Unless two or more priced quotations for a non-Nasdaq security (as defined in the Rule 6700 Series) are displayed in an inter-dealer quotation system that permits quotation updates on a real-time basis, [I]n any transaction for or with a customer pertaining to the execution of an order in a non-Nasdaq security [(as defined in the Rule 6700 Series)], a member or person associated with a member, shall contact and obtain quotations from three dealers (or all dealers if three or less) to determine the best inter-dealer market for the subject security.*

(2) *Members that display priced quotations on a real-time basis for a non-Nasdaq security in two or more quotation mediums that permit quotation updates on a real-time basis must display the same priced quotations for the security in each medium.*

(3) *For purposes of this paragraph, the term "inter-dealer quotation system"*

means any system of general circulation to brokers or dealers that regularly disseminates quotations of identified brokers or dealers.

(4) *For purposes of this paragraph, the term "quotation medium" means any inter-dealer quotation system or any publication or electronic communications network or other device that is used by brokers or dealers to make known to others their interest in transactions in any security, including offers to buy or sell at a stated price or otherwise, or invitations of offers to buy or sell.*

(5) Pursuant to the Rule 9600 Series, the staff, for good cause shown, after taking into consideration all relevant factors, may exempt any transaction or classes of transactions, either unconditionally or on specified terms, from any or all of the provisions of this paragraph if it determines that such exemption is consistent with the purpose of this Rule, the protection of investors, and the public interest.

* * * * *

3110. Books and Records

(a) No Change

(b)(1) No Change

(b)(2) A person associated with a member shall indicate on the memorandum for each transaction in a non-Nasdaq security, as that term is defined in the Rule 6700 Series, the name of each dealer contacted and the quotations received to determine the best inter-dealer market; *however, the requirements of this subparagraph shall not apply if two or more priced quotations for the security are displayed in an inter-dealer quotation system, as defined in Rule 2320(g), that permits quotation updates on a real-time basis for which NASD Regulation has access to historical quotation information.*

* * * * *

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

In its filing with the Commission, NASD Regulation included statements concerning the purposes 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. NASD Regulation has prepared summaries, set forth in Sections A, B, and C below, of the most significant aspects of such statements.

⁵ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.