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.

IV. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views and arguments concerning the proposed rule change. Persons making written submissions should file six copies thereof with the Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 450 Fifth Street, NW., Washington, DC 20549. 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 450 Fifth Street, NW., Washington, DC 20549–0609. 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–NYSE–00–29 and should be submitted by September 7, 2000.

For the Commission, by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.[6]

Margaret H. McFarland,

Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 00–20884 Filed 8–16–00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8010–01–M

[6] 17 CFR 200.30–3(a)(12).

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34–43145; File No. SR–PHLX–00–35]

Self Regulatory Organizations; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change by the Philadelphia Stock Exchange, Inc., Relating to an Increase in the Maximum Size of Options Orders Eligible for Delivery Through the Automated Options Market System

August 10, 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 July 10, 2000, the Philadelphia Stock Exchange, Inc. (''Phlx'' or ''Exchange'') 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 the Phlx. 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 Phlx proposes to change the text of Phlx Rule 1080(b)(ii) to reflect an increase in the maximum order size for the delivery of option orders through its Automated Options Market (''AUTOM'') System. Currently, orders up to 500 contracts are permissible for delivery through AUTOM. The Exchange is proposing to increase the maximum order size to 1,000 contracts.

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

In its filing with the Commission, the Phlx 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 Phlx 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

AUTOM is the Exchange's electronic order routing, delivery, execution and reporting system for equity and index options. Orders are routed from member firms directly to the appropriate specialist on the Exchange's trading floor. AUTOM orders of 50 contracts or fewer are currently eligible for AUTO–X, the automatic execution feature of AUTOM. These AUTO–X orders are executed automatically at the disseminated quotation price on the Exchange and reported to the originating firm. Those orders that are not eligible for AUTO–X are handled manually by the specialist. The current proposal does not affect AUTO–X order size eligibility.

The Exchange proposes to increase the maximum eligible size of AUTOM orders from 500 to 1,000 contracts. This change is intended to extend the use of the AUTOM system to larger sized orders, which would provide more efficient order handling and processing for those orders. The Exchange notes that the maximum AUTOM order size has remained the same since 1995, when it increased from 100 to 500 contracts.[3]

In light of the Phlx's experience with AUTOM over the past five years, during which the maximum AUTOM order size has been 500 contracts, the Exchange believes that it is appropriate, at this time, to increase the maximum size of the option orders eligible for routing and delivery through AUTOM to 1,000 contracts. The Phlx states that the AUTOM system has the capacity to operate with a maximum order size of 1,000 contracts without adversely affecting the functioning of AUTOM and AUTO–X.

2. Statutory Basis

The Phlx believes that the proposal is consistent with Section 6(b)(5) of the Act[4] in that it is designed to promote just and equitable principles of trade and to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, as well as to protect investors and the public interest by extending the benefits of AUTOM, including prompt and efficient order handling, to orders for up to 1,000 contracts. The Phlx believes that the proposal should also further increase efficiency through automation from order delivery to execution to reporting, as these orders may currently be delivered by floor brokers.

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

The Phlx does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any inappropriate 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 were either solicited or 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) of the Act[5] and Rule 19b-4(b)(f)(6) thereunder[6] because the proposed rule change (1) does not significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest; (2) does

[1] 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

[2] 17 CFR 240.19b–4.

[3] *See* Securities Exchange Act Release No. 35782 (May 30, 1995), 60 FR 109 (June 7, 1995).

[4] 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5)

[5] 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

[6] 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

not impose any significant burden on competition; (3) by its terms, does not become operative until 30 days after 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; and (4) the Phlx has provided the Commission with written notice of its intent to file the proposed rule change at least five days prior to the filing date. At any time within 60 days of the filing of such proposed rule change, the Commission may summarily abrogate this rule change if it appears to the Commission that the 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. 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 at the Commission's Public Reference Room. Copies of such filing will also be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the Phlx. All submissions should refer to File No. SR–PHLX–00–35 and should be submitted by September 7, 2000.

For the Commission, by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.[7]

Margaret H. McFarland,

Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 00–20883 Filed 8–16–00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8010–01–M

[7] 17 CFR 200.30–3(a)(12).

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Data Collection Available for Public Comments and Recommendations

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the Small Business Administration's intentions to request approval on a new, and/or currently approved information collection.

DATES: Submit comments on or before October 16, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Send all comments regarding whether this information collection is necessary for the proper performance of the function of the agency, whether the burden estimate is accurate, and if there are ways to minimize the estimated burden and enhance the quality of the collection, to Jane Palsgrove Butler, Associate Administrator, Office of Financial Assistance, Small Business Administration, 409 3rd Street, SW, Suite 8300, Washington, DC 20416

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Stephen Kucharski, Financial System Specialist 202–205–7551 or Curtis B. Rich, Management Analyst, 202–205–7030.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: ''SBA Loan Application.''
Form No: 4M.
Description of Respondents: Participating Lenders, Certified Development Companies, and Small Businesses.
Annual Responses: 60,000.
Annual Burden: 10,000.

Curtis B. Rich,

Acting Chief, Administrative Information Branch.

[FR Doc. 00–20871 Filed 8–16–00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8025–01–P

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Novus Ventures II, L.P.

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

Notice is hereby given that Novus Ventures II, L.P., 20111 Stevens Creek Blvd., Suite 130, Cupertino, California 95014, a Federal Applicant 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, Financings which Constitute Conflicts of Interest of the Small Business Administration (''SBA'') rules and regulations (13 CFR 107.730 (2000)). Novus Ventures II, L.P. proposes to provide equity financing to Taviz Technologies, Inc. (''Taviz''), 1121 San Antonio Rd., B101, Palo Alto, California 94303. The financing is contemplated for product development and working capital.

The financing is brought within the purview of Sec. 107.730(a)(1) of the Regulations because Novus Ventures I, L.P., an Associate of Novus Ventures II, L.P. currently owns greater than 10 percent of Taviz Technologies, Inc. and therefore Novus Ventures I, L.P. is considered an Associate of Novus Ventures II, L.P. as defined in Sec. 107.50 of the regulations.

Notice is hereby given that any interested person may submit written comments on the transaction to the Associate Administrator for Investment, U.S. Small Business Administration, 409 Third Street, SW, Washington, DC 20416.

Dated: August 9, 2000.

Don A. Christensen,

Associate Administrator for Investment.

[FR Doc. 00–20868 Filed 8–16–00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8025–01–P

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

[Declaration of Economic Injury Disaster #9I06]

State of Alaska

The Regional Education Attendance Areas (REAAs) of Bering Straits (#2), Lower Yukon (#3), Lower Kuskokwim (#4), Kuspuk (#5), Iditarod (#11), Yukon-Koyukuk (#12), Yukon Flats (13), and Yupiit (#23), as well as the contiguous Boroughs of Bristol Bay, Denali, Fairbanks North Star, Kenai Peninsula, Lake and Peninsula, Matanuska Susitna, North Slope, and Northwest Arctic, and the contiguous REAAs of Alaska Gateway (#16) and Kashunamiut (#22) constitute an economic injury disaster area as a result of a fishery resource disaster, as determined by the Secretary of Commerce, due to extremely low salmon returns beginning in 1997 and continuing. Eligible small businesses and small agricultural cooperatives without credit available elsewhere may file applications for economic injury assistance for this disaster until the close of business on May 9, 2001 at the address listed below or other locally announced locations: U.S. Small Business Administration, Disaster Area 4 Office, P.O. Box 13795, Sacramento, CA 95853–4795.

The interest rate for eligible small businesses and small agricultural cooperatives is 4 percent.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program No. 59002)