

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 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 Section, 450 Fifth Street, NW., Washington, DC 20549. Copies of such filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of OCC. All submissions should refer to File No. SR-OCC-2001-03 and should be submitted by September 14, 2001.

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

Jonathan G. Katz,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 01-21421 Filed 8-23-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8010-01-M

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-44722; File No. SR-SCCP-2001-04]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; The Stock Clearing Corporation of Philadelphia; Order Granting Approval of a Proposed Rule Change Establishing Fines for Late Margin Call Payments and an Appeal for Such Fines

August 20, 2001.

On February 27, 2001, the Stock Clearing Corporation of Philadelphia ("SCCP") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") a proposed rule change (File No. SR-

SCCP-2001-04) pursuant to section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act").¹ Notice of the proposed rule change was published in the **Federal Register** on May 29, 2001.² No comment letters were received. For the reasons discussed below, the Commission is granting approval of the proposed rule change.

I. Description

The purpose of the filing is to implement a fine schedule for SCCP margin members who are late meeting a margin call payment. The proposed rule change is intended to encourage the timely payments of margin calls. Rule 9 provides, in part, that SCCP will provide margin accounts for margin members that clear and settle their transactions through SCCP's omnibus clearance and settlement account. SCCP provides margin for such accounts based on its procedures and Regulation T of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System. Margin members who are designated as specialists or alternate specialists in a security receive margin credit of 15% with respect to positions in that security held in their specialist accounts. Members holding positions for which they are not designated as a specialist or alternate specialist receive non-specialist margin credit of 50%. SCCP may issue margin calls to any margin member when the margin requirement exceeds the account equity. Pursuant to SCCP procedures, margin call payments are due by 12:00 p.m. EST the business day of the call. Late margin payments are not currently subject to a specific late fine although members may be subject to possible disciplinary action pursuant to SCCP Rule 22.

SCCP believes that implementation of the proposed fine schedule will reduce the number of incidents of later margin call payments by members. Notwithstanding the late margin call payment fine, members would continue to be subject to possible disciplinary action pursuant to SCCP Rule 22.

Currently, Rule 23 provides, in relevant part, a SCCP participant³ with the right to appeal from any decision or decisions of SCCP resulting in sanctions or penalties imposed under Rule 20 or 22.⁴ SCCP proposes to include fines

imposed under Rule 9 to the list of applicable actions specified in Rule 23.

II. Discussion

Section 17A(b)(3)(F) of the Act requires that the rules of a clearing agency be designed to assure the safeguarding of securities and funds which are in the clearing agency's custody or control or for which it is responsible. The rule change allows SCCP to fine members for making later margin payments. Implementing the fine schedule should encourage margin members to submit margin payments in a timely manner thereby providing SCCP with adequate collections so that it may fulfill its safeguarding obligations. Therefore, the Commission finds that SCCP's proposed rule change is consistent with section 17A of the Act and the rules and regulations thereunder.

III. Conclusion

On the basis of the foregoing, the Commission finds that the proposed rule change is consistent with the requirements of the Act and in particular section 17A of the Act and the rules and regulations thereunder.

It Is Therefore Ordered, pursuant to section 19(b)(2) of the Act, that the proposed rule change (File No. SR-SCCP-2001-04) be and hereby is approved.

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

Jonathan G. Katz,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 01-21420 Filed 8-23-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8010-01-M

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Office of the National Ombudsman

Tri-Regional Regulatory Fairness Board Town Hall Meeting

The Office of the National Ombudsman, U.S. Small Business Administration, will convene a Town Hall Meeting on Wednesday, August 29, 2001, from 3:00-5:30 pm EST, at the Hyatt Regency, One Goat Island, Newport, RI, 02840, to hear comments and/or complaints from small businesses and representatives of trade associations concerning potentially unfair regulatory enforcement or compliance actions taken by Federal agencies.

Anyone wishing to attend and make comments must contact James Van

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² Securities Exchange Act Release No. 44334 (May 22, 2001), 66 FR 29199.

³ The term "participants" means persons or organizations which have qualified for membership in SCCP pursuant to SCCP Rules 2 and 3. Participants are also referred to in SCCP Rules as "members."

⁴ SCCP Rule 23 Section 1(c).

⁵ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

Wert, Acting National Ombudsman,
U.S. Small Business Administration,
409 3rd Street, SW, Washington, DC
20416, no later than August 24, 2001 via
telephone (202) 205-2417 e-mail
ombudsman@sba.gov or fax (202) 481-
5719.

Steve Tupper,

Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 01-21350 Filed 8-23-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8025-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Maritime Administration

[Docket No. MARAD-2001-10456]

**Information 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 Maritime
Administration's (MARAD's) intentions
to request extension of approval for
three years of a currently approved
information collection.

DATES: Comments should be submitted
on or before October 23, 2001.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Philip Budwick, Maritime
Administration, MAR 226, 400 Seventh
Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590.
Telephone: 202-366-5167 or FAX: 202-
366-7485. Copies of this collection can
also be obtained from that office.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title of Collection: Requirements for
Establishing U.S. Citizenship.

Type of Request: Extension of
currently approved information
collection.

OMB Control Number: 2133-0012.

Form Numbers: Special Format.

Expiration Date of Approval: March
31, 2002.

Summary of Collection of

Information: In accordance with the
Merchant Marine Act, 1936, participants
in the various programs offered by the
Maritime Administration (MARAD)
must be citizens of the United States
within the meaning of Section 2 of the
Shipping Act, 1916, as amended. In
addition, the participants in the
programs must file annually an affidavit
with MARAD attesting to their
continuing citizenship.

Need and Use of the Information:
MARAD will review the Affidavits of
U.S. Citizenship to determine if the
applicants are eligible to participate in
the programs offered by agency.

Annual Responses: 300.

Annual Burden: 1,500 hours.

Comments: Comments should refer to
the docket number that appears at the
top of this document. Written comments
may be submitted to the Docket Clerk,
U.S. DOT Dockets, Room PL-401, 400
Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC
20590. Comments may also be
submitted by electronic means via the
Internet at <http://dmses.dot.gov/submit>.
Specifically address whether this
information collection is necessary for
proper performance of the functions of
the agency and will have practical
utility, accuracy of the burden
estimates, ways to minimize this
burden, and ways to enhance the
quality, utility, and clarity of the
information to be collected. All
comments received will be available for
examination at the above address
between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. EDT,
Monday through Friday, except Federal
Holidays. An electronic version of this
document is available on the World
Wide Web at <http://dms.dot.gov>.

Dated: August 20, 2001.

By order of the Maritime Administrator.

Joel C. Richard,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 01-21463 Filed 8-23-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-81-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

**National Highway Traffic Safety
Administration**

[Docket NHTSA-99-5087]

**Safety Performance Standards
Program Meeting**

AGENCY: National Highway Traffic
Safety Administration (DOT).

ACTION: Notice of NHTSA Rulemaking
Status Meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice announces a
public meeting at which NHTSA will
answer questions from the public and
the automobile industry regarding the
agency's vehicle regulatory program.

DATES: The Agency's regular public
meeting relating to its vehicle regulatory
program will be held on Wednesday,
November 14, 2001, beginning at 9:45
a.m. and ending at approximately 12:00
p.m. at the Best Western Gateway
International Hotel, 9191 Wickham,
Romulus, Michigan. Questions relating
to the vehicle regulatory program must
be submitted in writing with a diskette
(Microsoft Word) by Monday, October
22, 2001, to the address shown below or
by e-mail. If sufficient time is available,
questions received after October 22, may

be answered at the meeting. The
individual, group or company
submitting a question(s) does not have
to be present for the question(s) to be
answered. A consolidated list of the
questions submitted by October 22,
2001, and the issues to be discussed,
will be posted on NHTSA's web site
(www.nhtsa.dot.gov) by Friday,
November 9, 2001, and also will be
available at the meeting. The agency
will hold a second public meeting on
November 14, devoted exclusively to a
presentation of research and
development programs. This meeting
will begin at 1:30 p.m. and end at
approximately 5:00 p.m. This meeting is
described more fully in a separate
announcement. The next NHTSA Public
Meeting will take place on Thursday,
March 14, 2002, at the Best Western
Gateway International Hotel, 9191
Wickham, Romulus, Michigan.

ADDRESSES: Questions for the November
14, NHTSA Rulemaking Status Meeting,
relating to the agency's vehicle
regulatory program, should be
submitted to Delia Lopez, NPS-01,
National Highway Traffic Safety
Administration, Room 5401, 400
Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC
20590, Fax Number 202-366-4329, e-
mail dlopez@nhtsa.dot.gov. The meeting
will be held at the Best Western
Gateway International Hotel, 9191
Wickham, Romulus, Michigan. The
telephone number for the Gateway
International Hotel is 734-728-2800.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Delia Lopez, (202) 366-1810.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

NHTSA holds regular public meetings to answer
questions from the public and the
regulated industries regarding the
agency's vehicle regulatory program.
Questions on aspects of the agency's
research and development activities that
relate directly to ongoing regulatory
actions should be submitted, as in the
past, to the agency's Safety Performance
Standards Office. Transcripts of these
meetings will be available for public
inspection in the DOT Docket in
Washington, DC, within four weeks after
the meeting. Copies of the transcript
will then be available at ten cents a
page, (length has varied from 80 to 150
pages) upon request to DOT Docket,
Room PL-401, 400 Seventh Street, SW.,
Washington, DC 20590. The DOT
Docket is open to the public from 10:00
a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The transcript may
also be accessed electronically at <http://dms.dot.gov>, at docket NHTSA-99-
5087. Questions to be answered at the
public meeting should be organized by
categories to help us process the