V. Conclusion


For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.15

Florence E. Harmon,
Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. E7–23923 Filed 12–10–07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8011–01–P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION


Self-Regulatory Organizations;
Chicago Board Options Exchange, Incorporated; Order Approving Proposed Rule Change, as Modified by Amendment No. 1, Relating to Stock-Option Orders

December 5, 2007.

I. Introduction

On June 20, 2007, the Chicago Board Options Exchange, Incorporated (“CBOE” or “Exchange”) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“Commission”), pursuant to section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (“Act”), and Rule 19b–4 thereunder,2 a proposal to amend its rules to provide for the electronic handling and execution of stock-option orders. The CBOE filed Amendment No. 1 to the proposal on October 19, 2007.3 The proposed rule change, as modified by Amendment No. 1, was published for comment in the Federal Register on October 31, 2007.4 The Commission received no comments regarding the proposed rule change, as amended. This order approves the proposed rule change, as modified by Amendment No. 1.

II. Description of the Proposal

Currently, stock-option orders5 are handled manually on the CBOE and the options component is traded in open outcry. The CBOE proposes to amend CBOE Rule 6.53C, “Complex Orders on the Hybrid System,” to allow stock-option orders to be submitted to the Complex Order Book (“COB”) or executed via a Complex Order Auction (“COA”).6 The stock component of a stock-option order will be executed electronically on the CBOE’s electronic stock trading facility, the CBOE Stock Exchange (“CBSX”), consistent with CBSX’s order execution rules.7 A stock-option order will not be executed on the CBOE’s Hybrid System unless the stock leg is executable on CBSX at the price(s) necessary to achieve the desired net price.8

An electronic stock-option order accepted by the Hybrid System will be auctioned in a COA when the requirements for an auction are met. An unexecuted stock-option order also could be maintained in the COB or on a PAR workstation, either of which would monitor the marketability of the order, taking into account the CBSX market for the execution of the stock component of the order.

Under the proposal, the CBOE proposes to process stock-option orders in a manner that is substantially similar to the way that the CBOE currently processes complex orders comprised solely of options. However, a stock-option order submitted to the COB would seek to trade first against other stock-option orders in the COB, and second against individual orders or quotes on the CBOE.9 Similarly, a stock-option order submitted to a COA would trade in the sequence set forth in CBOE Rule 6.53C(d)(v)(1)–(4), except that subparagraph (d)(v)(1), relating to individual orders and quotes residing in the EBook, would be applied last in sequence.10 The CBOE believes that

related security coupled with either (a) the purchase or sale of option contract(s) on the opposite side of the market representing either the same number of units of the underlying or related security or the number of units of the underlying security necessary to create a delta neutral position or (b) the purchase or sale of an equal number of put and call option contracts, each having the same exercise price, expiration date and each representing the same number of units of stock as, and on the opposite side of the market from the associated security or related security portion of the order. See CBOE Rule 1.1(ii) and CBOE Rule 6.53C(a)(10).

See CBOE Rule 6.53C, Commentary .6(c) and (d).

6 See CBOE Rule 6.53C, Commentary .6(a).

7 See CBOE Rule 6.53C, Commentary .6(a).

8 See CBOE Rule 6.53C, Commentary .6(c).

9 See CBOE Rule 6.53C, Commentary .6(c).

10 See CBOE Rule 6.53C, Commentary .6(d).
system, and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest.

The Commission believes that the proposal could facilitate the execution of stock-option orders on the CBOE by providing for the electronic handling and execution of these orders, which currently must be handled manually. The Commission notes that proposal provides for the execution of stock-option orders in a manner that is consistent with the CBOE’s existing priority rules for stock-option orders, which provide the options leg of a stock-option order with priority over bids (offers) in the trading crowd at the same price. In addition, the execution of the stock component of a stock-option order on CBSX will be consistent with CBSX’s order execution rules.

IV. Conclusion

It is therefore ordered, pursuant to section 19(b)(2) of the Act, that the proposed rule change (SR–CBOE–2007–68), as modified by Amendment No. 1, is approved.

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

Florence E. Harmon,
Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. E7–23925 Filed 12–10–07; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 8011–01–P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION


Self-Regulatory Organizations; The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC; Notice of Filing of Amendment No. 2 to a Proposed Rule Change To Amend the Limited Liability Company Agreement of The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC; and Order Granting Accelerated Approval of the Proposed Rule Change, as Modified by Amendment Nos. 1 and 2


I. Introduction

On July 20, 2007, The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC (“Nasdaq” or “Exchange”) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“Commission”) a proposed rule change, pursuant to section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (“Act”) 1 and Rule 19b–4 thereunder, 2 to amend its Limited Liability Company Agreement (“LLC Agreement”). On September 26, 2007, Nasdaq filed Amendment No. 1 to the proposed rule change. The proposed rule change, as modified by Amendment No. 1, was published for comment in the Federal Register on October 5, 2007. 3 The Commission received no comments on the proposal. On November 16, 2007, Nasdaq filed Amendment No. 2 to the proposed rule change (“Amendment No. 2”). This notice and order notices Amendment No. 2; solicits comments from interested persons on Amendment No. 2; and approves the proposed rule change, as amended, on an accelerated basis.

II. Description of the Proposal

Nasdaq proposes to amend its LLC Agreement, which includes its by-laws (“By-Laws”) 4 to: (1) Revise the process by which its directors (“Directors”) are nominated and elected; (2) amend the compositional requirements for its board of directors (“Board”) and several committees; and (3) make certain other changes as described below.

A. Election of Fair Representation Directors

Nasdaq proposes to amend its LLC Agreement, including its By-Laws, to revise the process by which the members of its Board are nominated and elected. Section 6(b)(3) of the Act 5 requires a national securities exchange to establish rules that assure a fair representation of its members in the selection of its directors. Nasdaq’s LLC Agreement currently provides that twenty percent of the directors on the Board will be “Member Representative Directors.” 6 The Board appoints a “Member Nominating Committee,” which nominates and creates a list of candidates for each Member Representative Director position on the Board, and nominates candidates for appointment by the Board for each vacant or new position on a committee that is to be filled with a Member Representative under Nasdaq’s By-Laws. In Amendment No. 2, 7 Nasdaq proposes to add the requirement that, in appointing the Member Nominating Committee, the Board will consult with representatives of members of the Exchange. 8 Also, members will continue to be able to add candidates to the list of candidates for Member Representative Director positions through the petition process. The timing and method for the petition process will not change pursuant to the proposal. The list of candidates for Member Representative Director positions and the election date will be announced by the Exchange in a Notice to Members and in a prominent location on a publicly accessible Web site. Such announcement also will describe the procedures for Exchange members to nominate candidates for election at the next annual meeting. 9

If the list of candidates (comprised of those candidates nominated by the Member Nominating Committee and any candidates added through the petition process) exceeds the number of positions to be elected, a formal notice of the election date and list of candidates will be sent by the Exchange to its members as of the record date at least 10 days, but no more than 60 days, prior to the election date. As is currently the case, each Exchange member that is eligible to vote will have the right to cast one vote for each Member Representative Director position to be filled, and the persons on the list of candidates who receive the

---

5 “Member Representative Director” means a Director “who has been elected or appointed after having been nominated by the Member Nominating Committee or by a Nasdaq Member.” See Exchange By-Laws Article II.
6 See Nasdaq By-Laws Article II, Section 1(b) and 3, and Article III, Section 6(b).
7 See Nasdaq By-Laws Article II, Section 1(c).
8 See Nasdaq By-Laws Article II, Section 2.
9 The text of Amendment No. 2 is available at Nasdaq’s Web site http://nasdaq.complinet.com, at Nasdaq, and at the Commission’s Public Reference Room.
10 See Proposed Nasdaq By-Laws Article III, Section 6(b)(iii).
11 See Proposed Nasdaq By-Laws Article II, Section 1(a).
12 See Proposed Nasdaq By-Laws Article II, Section 4(a) and (c).