

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.<sup>7</sup>

Cathy H. Ahn,

Deputy Secretary.

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## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-64058; File No. SR-C2-2011-006]

### Self-Regulatory Organizations; C2 Options Exchange, Incorporated; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change Related to the Opening System

March 8, 2011.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the “Act”),<sup>1</sup> and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,<sup>2</sup> notice is hereby given that on March 1, 2011, the C2 Options Exchange, Incorporated (“Exchange” or “C2”) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “Commission”) the proposed rule change as described in Items I and II below, which Items have been prepared by the Exchange. The Exchange has designated the proposal as a “non-controversial” proposed rule change pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(iii) of the Act<sup>3</sup> and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder.<sup>4</sup> 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 modify Rule 6.11, *Openings (and sometimes Closings)*. The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Exchange’s Web site (<http://www.c2exchange.com/Legal/RuleFilings.aspx>), at the Exchange’s Office of the Secretary and at the Commission.

#### 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 those 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 parts of such statements.

##### A. Self-Regulatory Organization’s Statement of the Purpose of, and the Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

###### 1. Purpose

Rule 6.11 describes the Exchange’s procedures for conducting trading rotations. The Exchange is proposing to amend Rule 6.11 in various respects.

First, to have more flexibility in a manner that is consistent with other C2 rules with order eligibility provisions, the Exchange is proposing to amend Rule 6.11 to include an order eligibility provision. In particular, Rule 6.11 will be amended to provide that the Exchange shall designate the eligible order size, eligible order type, eligible order origin code (*i.e.*, public customer orders, non-Market Maker broker-dealer orders, and Market Maker broker-dealer orders) that the System will accept for rotations on a class-by-class basis. The proposal would not, however, permit the Exchange to discriminate among individual market participants of the same type (*e.g.*, permit certain market-maker orders but not others to be eligible). The Rule will also be amended to delete a reference to spread orders and contingency orders not being eligible to participate in opening trades or in the determination of the opening price, expected opening price or expected opening size. (As revised, the Exchange would determine whether to designate these orders types as eligible on a class-by-class basis, just as it would for any other order type.) Any changes to the order eligibility parameters determined by the Exchange would be announced to C2 Participants via Regulatory Circular.

This proposed change to include order eligibility requirements within Rule 6.11 is consistent with the order eligibility requirements contained in other rules, such as the order eligibility requirements for Rule 6.14, *SAL* (*SAL* is a feature that auctions marketable orders for price improvement over the national best bid and offer). The proposed rule change is also consistent with the provisions of Rule 6.10, *Orders Types Defined*,<sup>5</sup> which provides that the classes and/or systems for which the orders types described in Rule 6.10 shall be available will be as provided in the

Exchange Rules, as the context may indicate, or as otherwise specified via Regulatory Circular.

Second, the Exchange is proposing to adopt new Interpretation and Policy .01 to Rule 6.11 to provide that the Exchange may determine on a class-by-class basis which electronic allocation algorithm<sup>6</sup> would apply for rotations. Currently Rule 6.11(g) provides that, in determining priority of orders and quotes to be traded at a single clearing price, the System gives priority to public customer market orders first (with multiple orders ranked based on time priority), then to non-public customer market orders second (with multiple orders being ranked based on time priority), then to multiple quotes and orders whose price is better than the opening price (with multiple quotes and orders being ranked in accordance with the allocation algorithm in effect for the option class), then to limit orders and quotes at the opening price (with multiple orders and quotes ranked in accordance with the allocation algorithm in effect for the class). Any remaining marketable order(s) are then exposed and allocated in accordance with the matching algorithms in effect for the class. The Exchange is proposing to remove these specific allocation algorithm descriptions. Instead, the provision will be amended to provide that, in determining the priority of orders and quotes to be traded at a single clearing price, the System will give priority to market orders first, then to limit orders and quotes whose price is better than the opening price, and then to resting orders and quotes at the opening price. In addition, as indicated above, the Exchange is proposing to adopt new Interpretation and Policy .01 to Rule 6.11. Proposed Interpretation and Policy .01 to Rule 6.11 will provide that the Exchange may determine on a class-by-class basis which electronic allocation algorithm would apply for rotations. This change will also provide the Exchange with additional flexibility to permit the allocation algorithm in effect for a rotation to be different from the allocation algorithm in effect for the option class. All pronouncements regarding allocation algorithm determinations by the Exchange will be announced to C2 Participants via Regulatory Circular.

In conjunction with this change, the Exchange is also proposing to modify Rule 6.11 to codify and describe the

<sup>7</sup> 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

<sup>1</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

<sup>2</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

<sup>3</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(iii).

<sup>4</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

<sup>5</sup> The Exchange is also proposing to change the title of Rule 6.10 to “Order Types Defined.”

<sup>6</sup> The allocation algorithms include base execution algorithms (price-time, pro-rata, and price-time with primary public customer priority and secondary trade participation right priority) and an optional market turner priority overlay. See Rule 6.12, *Order Execution and Priority*.

manner in which the System handles opening imbalances in series that open at a minimum price increment (e.g., a series that opens at a price of \$0.05 when the series is quoted in \$0.05 increments and a series that opens at a price of \$0.01 when the series is quoted in \$0.01 increments). In those scenarios, the System opens even if a sell market order imbalance exists. In addition, the Exchange may determine to apply a separate electronic allocation algorithm for series that open at a minimum price increment due to a sell market order imbalance. As indicated above, pronouncements regarding allocation algorithm determinations will be announced via Regulatory Circular.

The matching algorithm applied for rotations for each option class will be pursuant to Rule 6.12. Thus, the Exchange is not creating any new algorithms, but is amending Rule 6.11 to make clear that the Exchange may determine the applicable allocation algorithm for rotations as described above and to provide the flexibility for the Exchange to choose an algorithm from among the existing algorithms to be applied to rotations, rather than simply defaulting to the algorithm in effect for intra-day trading in the option class.

Finally, the Exchange is proposing non-substantive amendments to Rule 6.11, so that the rule text can generally be more consistently organized, numbered and worded. For example, the Exchange is proposing to add descriptive headings to sections of the rule that do not already have such headings, and to replace multiple references to Exchange determinations being announced via Regulatory Circular with a single reference in proposed Interpretation and Policy .02, which will provide that all pronouncements regarding determinations by the Exchange pursuant to Rule 6.11 and the Interpretations and Policies thereunder will be announced to Participants via Regulatory Circular.

## 2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act<sup>7</sup> in general and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(5) of the Act<sup>8</sup> in particular in that it is designed 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. In particular, the Exchange believes that the proposed change would provide more flexibility and clarity in our rotations rule. The Exchange also believes that the proposed order eligibility provision is consistent with order eligibility provisions in other existing rules, such as the SAL and order type rules.

### 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.

### 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 comments on the proposal.

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

Because the foregoing rule 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, provided that the self-regulatory organization has given the Commission written notice of its intent to file 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, the proposed rule change has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act<sup>9</sup> and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder.<sup>10</sup> At any time within 60 days of the filing of such 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.

## 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 e-mail to [rule-comments@sec.gov](mailto:rule-comments@sec.gov). Please include File Number SR-C2-2011-006 on the subject line.

### Paper Comments

- Send paper comments in triplicate to Elizabeth M. Murphy, Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street, NE., Washington, DC 20549-1090.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-C2-2011-006. This file number should be included on the subject line if e-mail 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 am and 3 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-C2-2011-006 and should be submitted on or before April 4, 2011.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.<sup>11</sup>

**Cathy H. Ahn,**  
Deputy Secretary.

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<sup>7</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

<sup>8</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

<sup>9</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

<sup>10</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

<sup>11</sup> 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).