

Executions pursuant to (2) above may not always be able to be effected, as the market trend may continue to move away from the price at which the order may be executed. Elected portions of the last sale percentage order may lag behind movement of the market, which defeats the investor's purpose in entering the order.

In response, the Exchange proposes to adopt a percentage order type called "Immediate Execution or Cancel Election." The Exchange believes that, consistent with the underlying philosophy of the percentage order rules, any proposed approach to accommodating investors should limit the specialist's discretion in representing such orders, while still allowing a degree of flexibility to meet the needs of those entering the orders. The Exchange notes that "Immediate or Cancel" is a recognized order type under Exchange rule 131(k). By placing this designation on the percentage order, the investor would require the specialist to treat an election as cancelled unless the elected portion can be executed immediately (in whole or in part) at the price of the electing transaction. If the order cannot be so executed, the election would be cancelled, and the unexecuted elected portion would revert to the percentage order, subject to subsequent election (and execution/cancellation as above) or conversion (if that instruction also is specified on the order).

For example, where an "Immediate Execution or Cancel Election" buy percentage order for 1,000 shares at 30.50 is placed with the specialist and the next transaction consists of 500 shares at 30.25, the specialist would elect 500 shares and must immediately execute the order at the price of the electing transaction, 30.25, or better. If there is liquidity sufficient to execute only 300 shares at the price of the electing transaction, 30.25, or better, the specialist would execute 300 shares at that price, and the election of the remaining 200 shares would be canceled, and the 200 shares would revert back to an unelected percentage order. If, instead, there is no further market interest to sell at 30.25, and the market moves away from the price of the electing transaction to, for instance, 30.30, the entire election would be canceled,³ and the unexecuted elected

³ The specialist would not execute the order at 30.30, even though such an execution is within the maximum limit of the percentage order (30.50). In this regard, an Immediate Execution or Cancel Election percentage order is treated similar to a last sale percentage order. Telephone conversation between David Fisch, Managing Director, Amex,

portion would revert back to a percentage order.

The Amex believes that this approach sets forth objective criteria to guide the specialist's representation of the order, while ensuring that the elected portion does not lead the market by initiating any significant price change, thereby defeating the investor's objectives. The investor's instructions, not the specialist's discretion, would dictate how the order is handled. The Exchange notes that an investor seeking to have a percentage order executed under current rules would be free to continue to do so by simply designating the order as one of the three currently existing order types.

2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with section 6(b) of the Act⁴ in general and furthers the objectives of section 6(b)⁵ in particular in that it is designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable principles of trade, 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.

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

The proposed rule change will impose no 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 solicited or received with respect to the proposed rule change.

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

Within 35 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 90 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 Exchange consents, the Commission will:

(A) By order approve such proposed rule change, or

and Sapna Patel, Attorney, Division of Market Regulation, Commission on January 10, 2003.

⁴ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

⁵ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

(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 Room. Copies of such filing will also be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the Amex. All submissions should refer to file number SR-Amex-2002-102 and should be submitted by February 7, 2003.

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

Margaret McFarland,
Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 03-1104 Filed 1-16-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8010-01-P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-47164; File No. SR-BSE-2002-04]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; the Boston Stock Exchange, Incorporated; Order Granting Approval to Proposed Rule Change To Amend the Exchange's Minor Rule Violation Plan

January 10, 2003.

On May 17, 2002, the Boston Stock Exchange, Inc. ("BSE" or "Exchange") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission"), pursuant to section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act")¹ a proposed rule change to amend its Minor Rule Violation Plan ("Plan"). The BSE amended the proposed rule change

⁶ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

on August 23, 2002.² The BSE again amended the proposal on October 9, 2002.³ The proposed rule change, as amended, was published for notice and comment in the **Federal Register** on October 29, 2002.⁴ The Commission received no comments on the proposal.

The Commission has reviewed carefully the proposed rule change and finds it is consistent with the requirements of the Act and the rules and regulations thereunder applicable to a national securities exchange⁵ and, in particular, the requirements of section 6 of the Act⁶ and the rules and regulations thereunder. The Commission finds specifically that the proposed rule change is consistent with section 6(b)(6) of the Act⁷ in that it will provide a procedure whereby member organizations can be disciplined appropriately in those instances when a rule violation is minor in nature, but a sanction more serious than an admonition letter is appropriate. Additionally, the Commission finds the proposed rule change is consistent with the requirements of sections 6(b)(7)⁸ and 6(d)(1)⁹ of the Act. Section 6(b)(7) requires the rules of an exchange to be in accordance with the provisions of Section 6(d) of the Act, and, in general, to provide a fair procedure for the disciplining of members and persons associated with members. Section 6(d)(1) requires an exchange to bring specific charges, notify such member or person of, and give him an opportunity to defend against, such charges, and keep a record, in any proceeding to determine whether a member or person associated with a member should be disciplined. Finally, the Commission finds the proposal is consistent with

Rule 19d-1(c)(2) under the Act,¹⁰ which governs minor rule violation plans.

In approving this proposal, the Commission in no way minimizes the importance of compliance with these rules, and all other rules subject to the imposition of fines under the Plan. The Commission believes that the violation of any self-regulatory organization's rules, as well as Commission rules, is a serious matter. However, in an effort to provide the Exchange with greater flexibility in addressing certain violations, the Plan provides a reasonable means to address rule violations that do not rise to the level of requiring formal disciplinary proceedings. The Commission expects that the BSE will continue to conduct surveillance with due diligence, and make a determination based on its findings whether fines of more or less than the recommended amount are appropriate for violations of rules under the Plan, on a case by case basis, or if a violation requires formal disciplinary action.

It is therefore ordered, pursuant to section 19(b)(2) of the Act,¹¹ that the proposed rule change (SR-BSE-2002-04), as amended, be, and it hereby is, approved.

For the Commission, by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.¹²

Margaret H. McFarland,

Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 03-1052 Filed 1-16-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8010-01-P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-47171; File No. SR-CBOE-2002-71]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change by the Chicago Board Options Exchange, Incorporated Relating to Reducing Certain Telecommunication Fees

January 13, 2003.

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 December 26, 2002, the Chicago Board Options Exchange, Incorporated ("CBOE" or "Exchange") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission" or "SEC") the proposed

rule change as described in items I, II and III below, which items have been prepared by the Exchange. CBOE has designated this proposal as one establishing or changing a due, fee, or other charge imposed by the Exchange under section 19(b)(3)(A)(ii) of the Act,³ which renders the proposal effective upon filing with the Commission. 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 make a change to its fee schedule to reduce certain of its telecommunications fees.⁴ The text of the proposed rule change is available at the Office of the Secretary, CBOE 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 its proposal and discussed any comments it received regarding the proposal. The text of these statements may be examined at the places specified in item IV below. CBOE 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

The Exchange proposes to amend its Fee Schedule to reduce certain of its telecommunications fees effective January 1, 2003, due to its decision to defer a previously planned purchase of a new trading floor telephone system, for which these telecommunications rates had been raised by approximately 50% at the start of calendar year 2002 (this increase had previously been reduced by approximately 60% in May 2002). The new rates reduce the fees to a level approximately 10% higher than they were at the end of calendar year 2001, which will help offset increasing Exchange costs in this area. The

³ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(ii).

⁴ All telecommunications fees referred to herein are applicable only to members of the Exchange. Telephone conversation between Chris Hill, Attorney II, CBOE, and Gordon Fuller, Counsel to the Assistant Director, Division of Market Regulation, Commission and Ian Patel, Attorney, Division of Market Regulation, Commission (January 9, 2003).

² See August 21, 2002 letter from John A. Boese, Assistant Vice President, Legal and Regulatory, BSE, to Nancy Sanow, Assistant Director, Division of Market Regulation ("Division"), Commission, and attachments ("Amendment No. 1"). Amendment No. 1 completely replaced and superseded the original proposed rule change.

³ See October 8, 2002 letter from John A. Boese, Assistant Vice President, Legal and Regulatory, BSE, to Nancy Sanow, Assistant Director, Division, Commission ("Amendment No. 2"). In Amendment No. 2, the BSE added language to set a standard by which violations of certain provisions of the Plan will be determined.

⁴ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 46705 (October 22, 2002), 67 FR 66029. The notice contained the text of the proposed rule change, as well as an explanation of the purpose for the proposed rule change.

⁵ In approving this proposed rule change, the Commission has considered the proposed rule's impact on efficiency, competition, and capital formation. 15 U.S.C. 78c(f).

⁶ 15 U.S.C. 78f.

⁷ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(6).

⁸ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(7).

⁹ 15 U.S.C. 78f(d)(1).

¹⁰ 17 CFR 240.19d-1(c)(2).

¹¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2).

¹² 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.