

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34–65944; File No. SR–FINRA–2011–062]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc.; Order Approving a Proposed Rule Change To Repeal Incorporated NYSE Rule 2A (Jurisdiction)

December 13, 2011.

I. Introduction

On October 20, 2011, the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc. (“FINRA”) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“Commission”), pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (“Act”) ¹ and Rule 19b–4 thereunder, ² a proposed rule change to repeal incorporated NYSE Rule 2A. The proposed rule change was published for comment in the **Federal Register** on November 3, 2011. ³ The Commission received no comments on the proposal. This order approves the proposed rule change.

II. Description of the Proposal and Discussion

FINRA proposed to repeal incorporated NYSE Rule 2A (Jurisdiction) as part of the process of developing a consolidated rulebook (“Consolidated FINRA Rulebook”). NYSE Rule 2A generally addresses jurisdictional authority with respect to, among other things, rulemaking, examinations, disciplinary actions, and listing applications. NYSE Rule 2A was adopted in 2006 as part of the merger between the New York Stock Exchange LLC (“NYSE”) and Archipelago Holdings, Inc. since the NYSE Constitution, which contained provisions detailing the NYSE’s jurisdiction, was eliminated in the merger. ⁴

FINRA, in its filing with the Commission, stated that the FINRA By-Laws address the powers and authority of the FINRA Board of Governors and, together with the Act, set forth FINRA’s authority and responsibilities as a registered securities association. FINRA further stated that its authority to regulate those matters that are addressed in NYSE Rule 2A and that are relevant to FINRA’s role as a registered securities

association, such as its jurisdictional authority with respect to: (i) Rulemaking; (ii) general supervisory powers over members, member organizations and their offices, partnership and corporate arrangements, their principal executives, employees and approved persons in connection with their conduct of the business of member organizations; (iii) ability to discipline members, member organizations, principal executives, employees and approved persons in connection with their conduct of the business of member organizations; and (iv) any and all other functions of members, member organizations, principal executives, employees and approved persons in connection with the conduct of the business of member organizations, are contained in the FINRA By-Laws.

FINRA further noted that other matters addressed by NYSE Rule 2A either are not applicable to the operations of a registered securities association that does not operate a listing market or are otherwise unique to the NYSE. FINRA stated that the transfer of NYSE Rule 2A to the Consolidated FINRA Rulebook was unnecessary and proposed that it be eliminated. FINRA advised that it would announce the implementation date of the proposed rule change in a Regulatory Notice to be published no later than 90 days following Commission approval of the proposed rule change and that the operative date of the proposal would be no later than 150 days following Commission approval.

III. Commission’s Findings

After carefully considering the proposed rule change, the Commission finds that the proposal is consistent with the requirements of the Act and the rules and regulations thereunder applicable to a national securities association. In particular, the Commission finds that the proposal is consistent with Section 15A(b)(6) of the Act, ⁵ which requires, among other things, that FINRA rules be designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable principles of trade and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest. ⁶

The Commission believes that the proposal will streamline FINRA’s rulebook by eliminating a rule that is duplicative of provisions of FINRA’s By-

Laws that already are in place for FINRA members and govern jurisdictional matters. The Commission notes that NYSE Rule 2A remains in NYSE’s own rulebook and will continue to apply to NYSE-only members.

IV. Conclusion

It Is Therefore Ordered, pursuant to Section 19(b)(2) of the Act, ⁷ that the proposed rule change (SR–FINRA–2011–062), be, and it hereby is, approved.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority. ⁸

Kevin M. O’Neill,
Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2011–32356 Filed 12–16–11; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8011–01–P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34–65938; File No. SR–C2–2011–039]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; C2 Options Exchange, Incorporated; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change Related to a Complex Order Auction Feature

December 12, 2011.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the “Act”), ¹ and Rule 19b–4 thereunder, ² notice is hereby given that on December 6, 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) of the Act ³ and Rule 19b–4(f)(6) thereunder. ⁴ 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 is proposing to amend its electronic complex order rules. The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Exchange’s Web site

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b–4.

³ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 65656 (November 3, 2011), 76 FR 68240 (“Notice”).

⁴ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 53382 (February 27, 2006), 71 FR 11251 (March 6, 2006) (Order Approving File No. SR–NYSE–2005–77).

⁵ 15 U.S.C. 78o–3(b)(6).

⁶ In approving this proposal, the Commission has considered the proposed rule’s impact on efficiency, competition, and capital formation. See 15 U.S.C. 78c(f).

⁷ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2).

⁸ 17 CFR 200.30–3(a)(12).

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b–4.

³ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

⁴ 17 CFR 240.19b–4(f)(6).

(<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 Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

1. Purpose

On a class-by-class basis, the Exchange may determine to activate the electronic complex order RFR auction ("COA"), which is a process by which eligible complex orders⁵ are given an opportunity for price improvement before being booked in the electronic complex order book ("COB"). Paragraph (c) of Rule 6.13 describes the COA process. Interpretation and Policy .02 of the Rule also provides that, with respect to the initiation of a COA, Participants routing complex orders directly to COB may request that the complex orders be processed by COA on a class-by-class basis.

The Exchange is proposing to amend the rule to describe a COA feature for complex orders resting in COB (referred to herein as the "re-COA" feature), which is currently in use but not expressly covered in the rules. In particular, the Exchange is proposing to provide that, for each class where COA is activated, the Exchange may also determine to activate the re-COA feature for complex orders resting in COB. For such classes, any order resting in COB

(regardless of whether it was subject to COA before it was booked in COB)⁶ will be automatically subject to the re-COA feature if the order is within a number of ticks away from the current market (calculated based on the derived net price of the individual series legs). The Exchange notes that this re-COA feature for resting orders is only applicable to resting non-marketable orders that move close to the current market price calculated based on the individual series legs. This feature is not applicable to resting orders that become marketable. The Exchange may also determine on a class-by-class and strategy basis to limit the frequency of re-COA auctions initiated for complex orders resting in COB. For example, the Exchange might determine to limit the frequency of re-COA auctions to once every "X" seconds (the "interval timer") for a total of "Y" intervals. Once this cycle is complete, the Exchange may determine to wait for a period of time "Z" (the "sleep timer") and then reactivate the re-COA feature.⁷ All timers will be reset if a new complex order improves the top of the COB (*i.e.*, improves the best net price bid or offer of the complex orders resting in COB). These limitations on the frequency of COA auctions due to the re-COA feature are intended to address system efficiency and effectiveness considerations, such as limiting repeated initiations of COA auctions (and related messaging) when there are flickering quotes. Once the re-COA feature is initiated for a resting order, all other aspects of the COA process described in Rule 6.13 will apply unchanged. The Exchange believes this re-COA feature facilitates the orderly execution of complex orders by providing an automated opportunity for price improvement to (and execution of) resting orders priced near the current market, similar to what a broker-dealer might seek to do if the broker-dealer were representing a complex order in

open outcry on an exchange floor (or just entering an order initially into COB).

The following example illustrates the operation of this re-COA feature: Assume the feature is activated for complex orders resting in COB that are within 2 ticks of the current market (\$0.02 in a class where complex orders trade in \$0.01 net price increments). Assume the frequency is limited to once every 15 seconds (the interval timer) for 1 interval. Under this setting, a total of 2 re-COA auctions could be triggered—the original re-COA auction and a second re-COA auction after the expiration of the 15-second interval timer. Assume the sleep timer is set at 60 minutes. Assume the current market calculated based on the derived net price of the individual series legs in the C2 electronic book for a given strategy is at a net price of \$0.80–\$1.01. If a complex order resting in the COB to buy the strategy is priced at a net debit price of \$0.98, the complex order is not marketable (as the order is away from the current market by \$0.03 (or 3 ticks)). If subsequently the individual series legs prices are updated such that the current market for the strategy moves to a net price of \$0.80–\$1.00, the resting complex order to buy at \$0.98 would trigger the re-COA feature and initiate the re-COA auction process (as the order is within \$0.02 (or 2 ticks) of the current market). If there are no responses, the order would be placed back in COB. The resting order would not initiate the re-COA feature again until the 15-second interval timer has expired. When the 15-second interval timer expires, the order would be eligible to initiate the re-COA feature again if the current market moves after the expiration of the timer and the order meets the tick distance parameter (the order would not automatically initiate the re-COA feature at the end of the interval timer; instead, there must be an update to the current market after the expiration of the interval timer and the order must meet the tick distance parameter for the system to re-COA again). For example, if after the end of the 15-second interval timer the current market moves to \$0.80–\$0.99 (or, for example, if the current market moves back to \$0.80–\$1.01 and then, after the end of the 15-second interval timer, moves back again to \$0.80–\$1.00), then the resting complex order would again initiate the re-COA feature. If there are no responses, the order would be placed back in COB. The cycle is complete. Now that the resting order has been subject to COA 2 times since it was booked in COB, the 60 minute sleep

⁶ In this regard, the Exchange notes that, currently, all of its Trading Permit Holders have elected to have their COA-eligible orders processed by COA. In addition, the Exchange notes that other markets have programs in place that provide for the automatic auctioning of complex orders. *See, e.g.*, NASDAQ OMX PHLX LLC ("Phlx") Rule 1080(e)(i)(A) which, among other things, provides that a complex order live auction ("COLA") will initiate if the Phlx system receives a complex order that improves the Phlx complex order best debit or credit price respecting the specific complex order strategy that is the subject of the complex order. During a COLA, Phlx market participants may bid and offer against the COLA-eligible order pursuant to the Phlx Rule.

⁷ Determinations by the Exchange regarding the classes where the re-COA feature is activated and related tick distance and frequency parameters will be announced to Trading Permit Holders via Regulatory Circular.

⁵ An eligible complex order, referred to in Rule 6.13 as a "COA-eligible order," means a complex order that, as determined by the Exchange on a class-by-class basis, is eligible for a COA considering the order's marketability (defined as a number of ticks away from the current market), size, complex order type and complex order origin type (*i.e.*, non-broker-dealer public customer, broker-dealers that are not Market-Makers or specialists on an options exchange, and/or Market-Makers or specialists on an options exchange). All determinations by the Exchange on COA-eligible orders parameters are announced to via Regulatory Circular. *See* Rule 6.13(c)(1)(B) and Interpretation and Policy .01 to Rule 6.13.

timer will begin and the resting order will not be eligible for the re-COA feature again until the sleep timer expires and there is a quote update after that timer expires that is within the tick distance parameter. All timers would be reset anytime there is a price change at the top of the COB. For example, if five minutes into the sleep interval a second complex order is entered to rest in COB at a price of \$0.99 (\$0.01 better than the original resting order priced at \$0.98), the original resting order would no longer be at the top of the COB and subject to the re-COA feature. The timers would reset and the second complex order (which now represents the top of the COB) would be subject to the re-COA process. If, for example, the second order subsequently trades (constituting a price change at the top of the COB), the original order would be at the top of the COB again and could become subject to the re-COA feature again.

2. Statutory Basis

The proposed rule change is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act⁸ in general and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(5) of the Act⁹ in particular in that it should promote just and equitable principles of trade, serve to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system, and protect investors and the public interest. The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change facilitates the orderly execution of complex orders by providing an automated opportunity for price improvement to (and execution of) resting orders priced near the current market.

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 Act¹⁰ and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder.¹¹ 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 email to rule-comments@sec.gov. Please include File Number SR-C2-2011-039 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-C2-2011-039. This file number should be included on the subject line if email 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 a.m. and 3 p.m. Copies of the 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-C2-2011-039 and should be submitted on or before January 9, 2012.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.¹²

Kevin M. O'Neill,
Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2011-32343 Filed 12-16-11; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8011-01-P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-65939; File No. SR-CBOE-2011-119]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Chicago Board Options Exchange, Incorporated; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change Related to a Complex Order Auction Feature

December 12, 2011.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Act"),¹ and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,² notice is hereby given that on December 6, 2011, the Chicago Board Options Exchange, Incorporated ("Exchange" or "CBOE") 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) of the Act³ and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder.⁴

¹² 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

³ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

⁴ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

⁸ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

⁹ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

¹⁰ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

¹¹ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).