

2. Basis

The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act,⁴ in general, and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(5)⁵ in particular, in that it is designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest.

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

The proposed rule change does not 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

Written comments were neither solicited nor received.

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

The foregoing rule change is concerned solely with the administration of the Exchange. Therefore, the proposed rule change has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act⁶ and Rule 19b-4(f)(3) thereunder.⁷ At any time within 60 days of the filing of such proposed rule change, the Commission may summarily abrogate 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. Persons making written submissions should file six copies thereof with the Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 450 Fifth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 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

employees are not required to also seek permission from the NYSE. Telephone call between Steve Abrams, NYSE, and Jennifer Colihan, Attorney, Division of Market Regulation, Commission, October 25, 2000.

⁴ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

⁵ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

⁶ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(iii).

⁷ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(3).

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. Copies of such filing will also be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the NYSE. All submissions should refer to the File No. SR-NYSE-00-41 and should be submitted by November 29, 2000.

For the Commission, by the Division of Market Regulation pursuant to delegated authority.⁸

Margaret H. McFarland,
Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 00-28649 Filed 11-7-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8010-01-M

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-43496; File No. SR-NYSE-00-44]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change by the New York Stock Exchange, Inc. Regarding the Extension of the Pilot Programs for Mediation and Administrative Conferences

October 31, 2000.

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 October 27, 2000, the New York Stock Exchange, Inc. ("NYSE" or "Exchange") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC" or "Commission") the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II, and III below, which Items have been prepared by the NYSE. 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 extend its pilot programs for mediation and administrative conferences (NYSE Rules 638 and 639) that expire on November 20, 2000. The Exchange has separately requested that the pilot programs, as amended, ("the amended pilots") be extended for two years.³ An extension of the present pilots is needed pending

the Commission's approval or disapproval of the amended pilots.

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 NYSE 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 these statements may be examined at the places specified in Item IV below. The NYSE 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

On November 19, 1998, the Commission approved a two-year pilot program for mediation and administrative conferences in the Exchange's arbitration facility.⁴ The pilot mediation program is intended to allow parties to settle cases earlier with lower costs. The administrative conference allows arbitrators to intervene early in the case to set deadlines and resolve preliminary procedural issues. On September 27, 2000, the Exchange requested Commission approval to amend and extend the pilot programs for mediation and administrative conferences.⁵ The Exchange is requesting an extension of the present pilot programs pending the Commission's decision to approve or disapprove its request to amend and extend the pilot programs. The Exchange believes that the pilot programs are operating successfully, and on that basis, the Exchange believes that a six-month extension of the pilots is warranted. By this filing, the Exchange is not seeking to modify the present pilot programs.

2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that proposed changes are consistent with Section 6(b)(5) of the Act in that they promote just and equitable principles of trade by insuring that members and member organizations and the public have a fair and impartial forum for the resolution of their disputes.

⁸ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

³ See File No. SR-NYSE-00-39.

⁴ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 40695 (November 19, 1998), 63 FR 65834 (November 30, 1998).

⁵ See *supra* note 3.

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.

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

Because the foregoing proposed rule: (1) Does not significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest; (2) does not impose any significant burden on competition; and (3) does not become operative for 30 days or such shorter time as the Commission may designate, the proposed rule change has become effective pursuant to Section 10(b)(3)(A) of the Act⁶ and subparagraph (f)(6) of Rule 19b-4 thereunder.⁷

The Commission notes that under Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii), the proposal does not become operative for 30 days after date of its filing, or such shorter time as the Commission may designate if consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest. The Exchange requested a waiver of this 30-day period to extend the pilot programs before they are due to expire on November 20, 2000. The Commission believes that the waiver of the 30-day period is consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest.⁸

Any time within 60 days of the filing of the proposed rule change, as amended, the Commission may summarily abrogate 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. 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 NYSE. All submissions should refer to File No. SR-NYSE-00-44 and should be submitted by November 29, 2000.

For the Commission, by the Division of Market Regulation, Pursuant to delegated authority.⁹

Margaret H. McFarland,

Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 00-28652 Filed 11-7-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8010-01-M

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-43505; File No. SR-PCX-00-27]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Notice of Filing of a Proposed Rule Change by the Pacific Exchange, Inc., Relating to Options Trade Reporting

November 1, 2000.

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 August 5, 2000, the Pacific Exchange, Inc. ("PCX" or "Exchange") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II and III below, which Items have been prepared by the PCX. 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 PCX proposes to amend Exchange Rule 6.69 to require Exchange options transactions to be reported immediately upon execution and no later than 90 seconds following execution of the trade. The PCX also proposes to amend

Exchange Rule 10.13 to include Exchange Rule 6.69 in the Exchange's Minor Violation Plan ("Plan").

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 PCX 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 these 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 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 purpose of the proposed rule change is to require options transactions to be reported within 90 seconds to the Options Price Reporting Authority ("OPRA"), which disseminates trade information to the investing public through vendors. Specifically, proposed Rule 6.69(a) would require all Exchange members and member organization's who are required to report trades either directly to OPRA or to another party responsible for reporting trades to OPRA, to immediately report all trades to the Exchange for disseminations to OPRA within the required 90 second time frame.

Currently, Commentary .01 to Exchange Rule 6.69 states that trade must be immediately reported at the time of execution. The Exchange proposes to require immediate trade reporting, and in any event, no later than 90 seconds following execution. This would serve as a specific time limit for trade participants and should enable the Exchange's Market Surveillance Department and Enforcement Department to monitor for violations of the rule. The Exchange also believes that the proposed rule change should facilitate transparency and help to create an accurate picture of market activity and enable the Exchange to better monitor compliance with the order handling and transparency rules, including limit order protection, priority, and best execution.

The Exchange also proposes to amend Rule 10.13 to include violations of proposed Rule 6.69(a) in the Plan. The Exchange believes that the proposed rule is consistent with and furthers the goals and objectives of the Plan. The

⁶ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

⁷ 17 CFR 240.196b-4(f)(6).

⁸ For purposes of accelerating the operative date of this proposal, the Commission has considered the proposed rule's impact on efficiency, competition, and capital formation 15 U.S.C. 78c(f).

⁹ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.