

To implement this proposal, the ISE would require a limited exemption from Rule 11Ac1-1 under the Act (the "Quote Rule")<sup>9</sup> to permit the Exchange to relieve an ISE market maker from its obligation under the Quote Rule to trade with matching quotations from another ISE market maker.<sup>10</sup> In connection with the approval of this proposal, the Commission granted ISE's request for a limited exemption from the Quote Rule. Specifically, the Commission granted ISE market makers an exemption from their obligations under paragraph (c)(2) of the Quote Rule with respect to trades with matching ISE market maker quotations for no more than one second, provided that the quotations are locked or crossed for no more than one second, and that such ISE market maker is firm to all other customer and broker-dealer orders, including orders for the accounts of other ISE market makers.<sup>11</sup>

## V. Conclusion

*It is therefore ordered*, pursuant to section 19(b)(2) of the Act,<sup>12</sup> that the proposed rule change (SR-ISE-2004-24), is hereby approved on an accelerated basis.

For the Commission, by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.<sup>13</sup>

Jill M. Peterson,

*Assistant Secretary.*

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## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-49927; File No. SR-NASD-2004-093]

### Self-Regulatory Organizations; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of a Proposed Rule Change by the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc. Establishing a Revised Effective Date for Amendments to the Order Audit Trail System Rules Relating to Execution Reports

June 28, 2004.

Pursuant to section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

("Act")<sup>1</sup> and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,<sup>2</sup> notice is hereby given that on June 15, 2004, the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc. ("NASD") 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 NASD. NASD has filed this proposed rule change pursuant to section 19(b)(3)(A)(i) of the Act<sup>3</sup> and Rule 19b-4(f)(1) thereunder,<sup>4</sup> 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

NASD is proposing to establish October 4, 2004 as the effective date of the amendments to NASD Rule 6954(d) approved by the Commission in April 2004.<sup>5</sup> As amended, NASD Rule 6954(d) requires members to record and report the execution price and firm capacity in the Order Audit Trail System ("OATS") Execution Reports.

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

In its filing with the Commission, NASD 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. NASD 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

NASD is proposing to establish October 4, 2004 as the effective date for the amendments to NASD Rule 6954(d) approved by the Commission in April 2004.<sup>6</sup> As amended, NASD Rule 6954(d) requires that members record and report the execution price and firm capacity in OATS Execution Reports. As explained in NASD's proposed rule change SR-

NASD-2004-023, the amendments to NASD Rule 6954(d) would go into effect ninety days following publication of the Notice to Members announcing Commission approval. That proposed rule change further stated that NASD would issue such Notice to Members within 60 days of Commission approval. Under this implementation schedule, NASD represents that the effective date of the new requirements would have been no later than September 27, 2004.

NASD, however, intends to include the new requirements set forth in the SR-NASD-2004-023 as part of its OATS third quarter 2004 release, which is now scheduled to occur on October 4, 2004. Accordingly, NASD seeks to delay implementation of the recently approved amendments to NASD Rule 6954(d) until October 4, 2004. NASD staff believes that having the implementation date of the amendments to NASD Rule 6954(d) coincide with the OATS third quarter release, which includes other changes to OATS technical specifications, is the most cogent approach for both member firms and NASD. Among other things, the NASD believes that this approach will allow NASD to roll out the necessary systems changes in one comprehensive release, thereby resulting in fewer burdens on member firms having to comply with the revised OATS reporting requirements and ensuring that there is sufficient time for all parties to make the necessary system changes. NASD will publish a Notice to Members announcing the effective date within 5 business days of the filing of this rule change.

##### 2. Statutory Basis

NASD believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the provisions of section 15A(b)(6) of the Act,<sup>7</sup> which requires, among other things, that NASD's rules must 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. NASD also believes that the proposed rule change will enhance OATS information and will improve NASD's ability to conduct surveillance and investigations relating to compliance with NASD and other applicable rules. Furthermore, NASD believes that extending the implementation date to October 4, 2004 to coincide with OATS third quarter release, which includes other changes to OATS technical specifications, will benefit both NASD and member firms by providing adequate time to make all

<sup>9</sup> 17 CFR 240.11Ac1-1.

<sup>10</sup> The ISE submitted a separate letter requesting a limited exemption from the Quote Rule. See letter from Michael Simon, Senior Vice President and General Counsel, ISE, to Annette Nazareth, Director, Division of Market Regulation ("Division"), Commission, dated June 14, 2004.

<sup>11</sup> See letter from Robert Colby, Deputy Director, Division, Commission, to Michael Simon, Senior Vice President and General Counsel, ISE, dated June 24, 2004.

<sup>12</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2).

<sup>13</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)(i).

<sup>4</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(1).

<sup>5</sup> See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 49628 (April 29, 2004), 69 FR 25651 (May 7, 2004).

<sup>6</sup> *Id.*

<sup>7</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78o-3(b)(6).

necessary system changes and enabling members to comply with OATS changes in a comprehensive manner.

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

NASD 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*

Written comments were neither solicited nor received.

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

The foregoing proposed rule change has become effective pursuant to section 19(b)(3)(A)(i) of the Act<sup>8</sup> and Rule 19b-4(f)(1) thereunder,<sup>9</sup> because it constitutes a stated policy, practice, or interpretation with respect to the meaning, administration, or enforcement of an existing rule series of the NASD. At any time within 60 days of the filing of the proposed rule change, the Commission may summarily abrogate the 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 for (<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-NASD-2004-093 on the subject line.

#### *Paper Comments*

- Send paper comments in triplicate to Jonathan G. Katz, Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 450 Fifth Street, NW., Washington, DC 20549-0609.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-NASD-2004-093. 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 inspection and copying in the Commission's Public Reference Room. Copies of the filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of NASD. 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-NASD-2004-093 and should be submitted on or before July 27, 2004.

For the Commission, by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.<sup>10</sup>

**Margaret H. McFarland,**

*Deputy Secretary.*

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### **SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

[Release No. 34-49935; File No. SR-NASD-2004-079]

#### **Self-Regulatory Organizations; Notice of Filing of Proposed Rule Change and Amendment Nos. 1 and 2 Thereto by National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc. To Provide for the Web Publication of Summaries of Interpretations Issued Under NASD Rule 4550**

June 29, 2004.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act"),<sup>1</sup> and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,<sup>2</sup> notice is hereby given that on May 14, 2004 the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc. ("NASD"), through its subsidiary, The Nasdaq

Stock Market, Inc. ("Nasdaq"), 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 NASD. On June 18, 2004, the Commission received Amendment No. 1 to the proposed rule change.<sup>3</sup> Nasdaq submitted Amendment No. 2 on June 25, 2004.<sup>4</sup> The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change, as amended, from interested persons.

#### **I. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Terms of the Substance of the Proposed Rule Change**

Nasdaq proposes to provide by rule for the publication of all interpretations issued under NASD Rule 4550.

The text of the proposed rule change is below. Proposed new language is in italics; proposed deletions are in brackets.

\* \* \* \* \*

#### **4550. Written Interpretations of Nasdaq Listing Rules**

(a) through (d) No change.

(e) *Nasdaq shall publish on its website a summary of each interpretation within 90 days from the date such interpretation is issued.*

\* \* \* \* \*

#### **II. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change**

In its filing with the Commission, NASD 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. NASD has prepared summaries, set forth in Sections A, B, and C below, of the most significant aspects of such statements.

<sup>3</sup> See letter from Edward S. Knight, Executive Vice President, Nasdaq, to Katherine A. England, Assistant Director, Division of Market Regulation ("Division"), Commission, dated June 17, 2004 ("Amendment No. 1"). Amendment No. 1 replaced and superseded the original filing in its entirety. In Amendment No. 1, Nasdaq added the 90-day publication date requirement and changed the filing from one under Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act to one under Section 19(b)(2) of the Act.

<sup>4</sup> See letter from T. Eric Lai, Senior Attorney, Nasdaq, to Katherine A. England, Assistant Director, Division, Commission, dated June 25, 2004 ("Amendment No. 2"). In Amendment No. 2, Nasdaq removed a sentence relating to the timing for the implementation of the proposal.

<sup>8</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(i).

<sup>9</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(1).

<sup>10</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.