

These burden hour estimates are based upon the Commission staff's experience and discussions with the fund industry. The estimates of average burden hours are made solely for the purposes of the Paperwork Reduction Act. These estimates are not derived from a comprehensive or even a representative survey or study of the costs of Commission rules.

Compliance with the collection of information requirements of the rule is mandatory and is necessary to comply with the requirements of the rule in general. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid control number.

Please direct general comments regarding the above information to the following persons: (i) Desk Officer for the Securities and Exchange Commission, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Room 3208, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503; and (ii) Michael E. Bartell, Associate Executive Director, Office of Information Technology, Securities and Exchange Commission, Mail Stop 0-4, 450 5th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20549. Comments must be submitted to OMB within 30 days of this notice.

Dated: August 28, 2001.

Jonathan G. Katz,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 01-22238 Filed 9-4-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8010-01-M

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-44749; File No. SR-CBOE-2001-47]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change by the Chicago Board Options Exchange, Incorporated To Extend for a Four-Month Period the Pilot Program for the Exchange's 100 Spoke RAES Wheel

August 28, 2001.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act")¹ and Rule 19b-4² thereunder, notice is hereby given that on August 27, 2001, the Chicago Board Options

about the number of affected respondents, and revised estimates of the component parts of the burden estimate in light of the industry's experience in implementing the recent amendments to the rule.

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

Exchange, Incorporated, ("CBOE" 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 Exchange. CBOE filed the proposal as a "non-controversial" rule change, pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act³ and Rule 19b-4(f)(6)⁴ thereunder. The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed Rule Change

CBOE hereby proposed to extend, for an additional four-month period, the pilot program that permits the appropriate Floor Procedure Committee ("FPC") to allocate orders on the Exchange's Retail Automatic Execution System ("RAES") under the allocation system known as the 100 Spoke RAES Wheel. CBOE has designated this proposal as non-controversial and requests that the Commission waive the 30-day pre-operative waiting period contained in Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii) under the Act⁵ to allow the proposal to be both effective and operative immediately upon filing with 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, CBOE 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. 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

On May 25, 2000, the Commission approved, on a nine-month pilot basis, the Exchange's proposal to amend CBOE Rule 6.8, which governs the operation of RAES,⁶ to provide the appropriate FPC

with another choice for apportioning RAES trades among participating market makers, the 100 Spoke RAES Wheel.⁷ In those classes where the 100 Spoke RAES Wheel is employed, the percentage of RAES contracts assigned to a participating market maker is essentially identical to the percent of non-RAES in-person agency contracts traded by that market maker in that class. At the conclusion of the pilot program on February 28, 2001, the program was extended for a six-month period that ends on August 28, 2001.⁸ CBOE now proposes to extend the pilot program for an additional four-month period ending December 28, 2001.⁹ The pilot will continue to operate under its current terms and conditions.

CBOE states that it believes that the 100 Spoke RAES Wheel pilot program is used as anticipated. CBOE represents that use of the 100 Spoke RAES Wheel has expanded since its implementation, and it is currently used in approximately two-thirds to three-fourths of the equity options trading stations. CBOE further represents that it believes that an extension of the pilot program will continue to provide the appropriate FPC with flexibility in determining the appropriate allocation system for a given class of options on RAES. In addition, CBOE believes that the continuation of the pilot program will continue to reward those market makers who are most active in providing liquidity to agency business in the assigned option class.

2. Statutory Basis

CBOE believes that the proposed rule change will continue to be consistent with the requirements of Section 6(b)(5) of the Act.¹⁰ Section 6(b)(5) requires, among other things, that the rules of an exchange be designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices; to promote just and equitable principles of trade; to facilitate 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.

⁷ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 42824 (May 25, 2000), 65 FR 37442 (June 14, 2000).

⁸ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 44020 (February 28, 2001), 66 FR 13985 (March 8, 2001).

⁹ The Exchange represents that it intends to submit a rule change in the near future proposing permanent approval of the 100 Spoke RAES Wheel allocation system.

¹⁰ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

³ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

⁴ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

⁵ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6)(iii).

⁶ RAES is the Exchange's automatic execution system for public customer market or marketable limit orders of less than a certain size.

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

CBOE does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose a burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of purposes of the Act.

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

CBOE has asserted that, because the foregoing proposed rule change 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), it has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act¹¹ and Rule 19b-4(f)(6)¹² thereunder. At any time within 60 days of the filing of the 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.¹³

A proposed rule change filed under Rule 19b-4(f)(6) normally does not become operative prior to 30 days after the date of the filing. However, Rule 19b-4(f)(6) permits the Commission to designate a shorter time if such action is consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest. CBOE has requested that the Commission waive the 30-day pre-operative waiting period, which will allow the Exchange to continue the pilot program without interruption. CBOE contends that, with the continuation of the pilot program, market makers will continue to have greater incentive to compete effectively for orders in the crowd, which benefits investors and promotes the public interest. In addition, CBOE argues that, given the widespread use of the 100 Spoke RAES Wheel in equity options trading stations, requiring the Exchange to discontinue use of the 100 Spoke RAES Wheel as of August 29, 2001, would cause disruption to those trading

stations and, thus, be disruptive to investors and the public interest. In light of these considerations, the Commission, consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest, has determined to designate the proposed rule change as operative immediately.¹⁴

In addition, Rule 19b-4(f)(6) requires the self-regulatory organization submitting the proposed rule change to give the Commission written notice of its intent to file the proposed rule change, along with a brief description and text of the proposed rule change, at least five business days prior to the date of filing, or such shorter time as designated by the Commission. CBOE has requested that the Commission waive the five-day pre-filing requirement. Consistent with CBOE's request, the Commission has determined to waive the pre-filing requirement.

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 Exchange. All submissions should refer to File No. SR-CBOE-2001-47 and should be submitted by September 26, 2001.

For the Commission, by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.¹⁵

Jonathan G. Katz,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 01-22239 Filed 9-4-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8010-01-M

¹⁴ For purposes only of accelerating the operative date of this proposal, the Commission has considered the proposed rule's impact on efficiency, competition, and capital formation. See 15 U.S.C. 78c(f).

¹⁵ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-44750; File No. SR-NYSE-2001-22]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change by New York Stock Exchange, Inc.; Extending the Pilot Fee Structure Governing the Reimbursement of Member Organizations for Costs Incurred in the Transmission of Proxy and Other Shareholder Communication Materials

August 29, 2001.

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 13, 2001, the New York Stock Exchange, Inc. ("Exchange" or "NYSE") 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 NYSE is proposing to extend the pilot fee structure ("Pilot Fee Structure") regarding Exchange Rules 451 and 465 (the "Rules").³ Among other things, the Rules establish guidelines for the reimbursement of expenses by NYSE issuers to NYSE member organizations for the processing of proxy materials and other issuer communications (collectively, "Material") with respect to security holders whose securities are held in street name. The current pilot period regarding the Rules is scheduled to expire on September 1, 2001.⁴ NYSE proposes extending the pilot through April 1, 2002.

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

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

³ The text of NYSE Rule 451 also is included at Paragraph 402.10(A) of the Exchange's *Listed Company Manual*.

⁴ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 43603 (November 21, 2000), 65 FR 75751 (December 4, 2000).

¹¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

¹² 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

¹³ See U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(C).