

address violations that may not require formal disciplinary proceedings. Under the proposed rules, the Enforcement Department would continue to exercise its discretion under Rule 10.12(f) and pursue certain cases as a formal disciplinary matter, and not within the MRP process, to the extent that the facts or circumstances warrant such action.

2. Basis

The Exchange believes that the proposal is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act,⁸ in general, and Section 6(b)(5) of the Act,⁹ in particular, in that it will promote just and equitable principles of trade; facilitate transactions in securities, remove impediments to and perfect the mechanisms of a free and open market and a national market system; and protect investors and the public interest. The proposal is also consistent with Sections 6(b)(6)¹⁰ and 6(b)(7),¹¹ which require that members and persons associated with members are appropriately disciplined for violations of Exchange rules and are provided a fair procedure for disciplinary procedures.

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

Written comments on the proposed rule change were neither solicited nor received.

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 self-regulatory organization consents, the Commission will:

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

(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. 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 e-mail to rules-comments@sec.gov. Please include File No. SR-PCX-2004-58 on the subject line.

Paper Comments

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

All submissions should refer to File No. SR-PCX-2004-58. 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, 450 Fifth Street, NW., Washington, DC 20549. Copies of such filing will also be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the PCX. 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 No. SR-PCX-2004-58 and should be submitted on or before January 7, 2005.

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

Margaret H. McFarland,

Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. E4-3705 Filed 12-16-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8010-01-P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-50833; File No. SR-Phlx-2004-86]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change by the Philadelphia Stock Exchange, Inc. Relating to the Definition of an Exchange-Traded Fund Share

December 10, 2004.

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 1, 2004, the Philadelphia Stock Exchange, Inc. ("Phlx" or "Exchange") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") the proposed rule change as described in Items I and II, below, which Items have been prepared by the Phlx. The Exchange filed the proposal as a "non-controversial" proposed rule change pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(iii) of the Act³ 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 proposes to amend Phlx Rule 1000(b)(42) to include the Nasdaq-100 Index Tracking Stock⁵ in its definition of "Exchange-Traded Fund

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)(iii).

⁴ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

⁵ The Nasdaq-100®, Nasdaq-100 Index®, Nasdaq®, The Nasdaq Stock Market®, Nasdaq-100 SharesSM, Nasdaq-100 TrustSM, Nasdaq-100 Index Tracking StockSM, and QQQSM are trademarks or service marks of The Nasdaq Stock Market, Inc. ("Nasdaq") and have been licensed for use for certain purposes by the Exchange pursuant to a License Agreement with Nasdaq. The Nasdaq-100 Index® ("Index") is determined, composed, and calculated by Nasdaq without regard to Phlx, the Nasdaq-100 TrustSM, or the beneficial owners of Nasdaq-100 SharesSM. Nasdaq has complete control and sole discretion in determining, comprising, or calculating the Index or in modifying in any way its method for determining, comprising, or calculating the Index in the future.

⁸ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

⁹ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

¹⁰ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(6).

¹¹ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(7).

Share.” The text of the proposed rule change is set forth below.

Proposed new language is in *italics*.

* * * * *

Applicability, Definitions and References

Rule 1000. (a) No change.

(b) 1.–41. No change.

42. Exchange-Traded Fund Share—
For purposes of these Rules, the term Exchange-Traded Fund Share shall include the *Nasdaq-100 Index Tracking Stock* and Exchange-listed securities representing interests in open end unit investment trusts or open-end management investment companies that hold securities based on an index or a portfolio of securities.

(c)–(d) No change.

* * * * *

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 Phlx included statements concerning the purpose of, and statutory 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 Phlx 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 the definition of an Exchange Traded Fund Share (“ETF”) to include the Nasdaq-100 Index Tracking Stock (“QQQ”) in order to preserve the Exchange’s ability to trade options overlying QQQ until 4:15 p.m. ET and to be clear that throughout the Exchange’s options rules, QQQ continues to be, by definition, an ETF.

As of December 1, 2004, the QQQ has been listed and has begun trading on the Nasdaq under the new symbol QQQQ.

Under the Exchange’s current rule, because Nasdaq is not a national securities exchange as defined under the Act, QQQ does not qualify as an ETF, currently defined in Exchange Rule 1000(b)(42) as an “exchange-listed” security. The fact that QQQ is no longer an “exchange-listed” security (and therefore under the current rule is not by definition an ETF) affects the hours of trading in options overlying QQQ.

The trading session for most equity options ends at 4:02 p.m. ET. However, pursuant to Exchange Rule 101, options overlying indexes and ETFs (such as QQQ) trade on the Phlx until 4:15 p.m. ET. Because QQQ is no longer included in the definition of an ETF, it would not be eligible for trading past 4:02 p.m. ET under current Exchange rules.

In order to preserve the Exchange’s ability to trade options overlying QQQ until 4:15 p.m. ET, the proposed rule change would specifically include reference to the Nasdaq-100 Index Tracking Stock in the definition of an ETF.

2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that the proposal is consistent with the requirements of Section 6(b) of the Act,⁶ in general, and Section 6(b)(5) of the Act,⁷ in particular, in that it is designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable principles of trade, 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 Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any inappropriate burden on competition 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

No written comments were either solicited or received.

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

The Exchange has designated the proposed rule change as a “non-controversial” rule change pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(iii) of the Act⁸ and subparagraph (f)(6) of Rule 19b–4 thereunder.⁹ The Exchange represents that the foregoing rule change: (1) Does not significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest; (2) does not impose any significant burden on competition; and (3) by its terms, does not become operative for 30 days after the date of this filing, or such shorter

time as the Commission may designate if consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest. The Exchange has requested that the Commission waive the five-day pre-filing notice requirement and the 30-day operative delay period for “non-controversial” proposals and make the proposed rule change effective and operative upon filing.

The Commission has determined to waive the five-day pre-filing notice requirement and the 30-day operative delay period.¹⁰ The Commission notes that accelerating the operative date will allow the trading hours for options overlying the QQQ to remain unchanged and provide continuity to the marketplace. Therefore, the foregoing rule change has become immediately effective and operative upon filing pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(iii) of the Act¹¹ and Rule 19b–4(f)(6) thereunder.¹²

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

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 e-mail to rule-comments@sec.gov. Please include File Number SR-Phlx-2004-86 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-Phlx-2004-86. This file number should be included on the

¹⁰ 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. 15 U.S.C. 78c(f).

¹¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(iii).

¹² 17 CFR 240.19b–4(f)(6).

¹³ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(C).

⁶ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

⁷ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

⁸ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(iii).

⁹ 17 CFR 240.19b–4(f)(6).

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, 450 Fifth Street, NW., Washington, DC 20549. Copies of such 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-Phlx-2004-86 and should be submitted on or before January 7, 2005.

For the Commission, by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.¹⁴

Margaret H. McFarland,
Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. E4-3707 Filed 12-16-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8010-01-P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-50832; File No. SR-Phlx-2004-62]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Philadelphia Stock Exchange, Inc.; Order Granting Approval to Proposed Rule Change To Waive the Options Specialist Shortfall Fee for One Specialist Unit That Did Not Have a Specialized Quote Feed in Place

December 9, 2004.

On September 23, 2004, the Philadelphia Stock Exchange, Inc. ("Phlx" 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 and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,² a proposed rule change to

waive the options specialist shortfall fee for the period May 2004 through August 2004 for one specialist unit that did not have a specialized quoted feed in place that could price an option accurately for any option where the primary volume in the underlying security shifted to another market. The proposed rule change was published for comment in the **Federal Register** on November 1, 2004.³ The Commission received no comments on the proposal. This order approves the proposed rule change.

The Commission finds that the proposed rule change is consistent with the requirements of the Act and the rules and regulations thereunder applicable to a national securities exchange⁴ and, in particular, the requirements of section 6 of the Act⁵ and the rules and regulations thereunder. The Commission finds specifically that the proposed rule change is consistent with section 6(b)(4) of the Act,⁶ which requires that the rules of the exchange provide for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees, and other charges among its members and issuers and other persons using its facilities. The Commission believes that failure to grant the proposed waiver would result in an inequitable application of the Exchange's options specialist shortfall fee for one particular specialist that, because of a unique situation, did not have a specialized quote feed in place for the period from May 1, 2004 through August 31, 2004. The Commission's decision to approve this waiver from the Phlx specialist shortfall fee is limited in scope to this particular specialist at this time.⁷

It is therefore ordered, pursuant to section 19(b)(2) of the Act⁸, that the proposed rule change (SR-Phlx-2004-62) be, and it hereby is, approved.

³ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 50591 (October 26, 2004), 69 FR 63427.

⁴ 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).

⁵ 15 U.S.C. 78f.

⁶ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(4).

⁷ The waiver of the options specialist shortfall fee in this instance is fact-specific. Future requests for similar waivers, should any arise, must be filed for notice and comment pursuant to Section 19(b) of the Act. 15 U.S.C. 78s(b). See also, March 27, 2003 letter from Annette L. Nazareth, Director, Division of Market Regulation, Commission, to T. Grant Callery, Executive Vice President and General Counsel, National Association of Securities Dealers.

⁸ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2).

⁹ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

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

Margaret H. McFarland,
Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. E4-3708 Filed 12-16-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8010-01-P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-50836; File No. SR-Phlx-2004-70]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Philadelphia Stock Exchange, Inc.; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change and Amendment No. 1 Thereto To Impose New License Fees and To Modify the Calculation of the Firm-Related Equity Option and Index Option Fee Cap

December 10, 2004.

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 November 1, 2004, the Philadelphia Stock Exchange, Inc. ("Phlx" 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. On December 9, 2004, Phlx filed Amendment 1 to the proposed rule change.³ Phlx filed this proposal pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(ii)⁴ of the Act and Rule 19b-4(f)(2)⁵ thereunder as a proposal establishing or changing a due, fee, or other charge imposed by the self-regulatory organization, which renders the proposal effective upon filing with the Commission. The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change, as amended, from interested persons.

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

³ In Amendment No. 1, the Phlx made minor technical changes; clarified the calculation of the \$50,000 cap (described below), specifically as it relates to the firm-related equity option and index option comparison and transaction charges for products without license fees and with license fees; and further clarified that applicable firm-related charges for the QCX, QCE, and FXI will not be counted towards the \$50,000 cap. For purpose of calculating the 60-day period within which the Commission may summarily abrogate the proposed rule change under Section 19(b)(3)(C) of the Act, the Commission considers that period to commence on December 9, 2004, the date that the Phlx filed Amendment No. 1.

⁴ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(ii).

⁵ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(2).

¹⁴ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.