Required fields are shown with yellow backgrounds and asterisks.

OMB APPROVAL

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Page 1 of * 14		SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION File No.* SR - 2016 - * 09 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549 Form 19b-4 Amendment No. (req. for Amendments *)					
Filing by ISE Mercury, LLC Pursuant to Rule 19b-4 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934							
Initial *	Amendment *	Withdrawal	Section 19(b)(2) *	Section	on 19(b)(3)(A) *	Section 19(b)(3)(B) *	
Pilot	Extension of Time Period for Commission Action *	Date Expires *		19b-4(f	f)(2)		
Notice of proposed change pursuant Section 806(e)(1) *		to the Payment, Clear Section 806(e)(2) *	ing, and Settlement A	Act of 2010	Security-Based Swa to the Securities Exct Section 3C(b)(2	-	
Exhibit 2 Sent As Paper Document Exhibit 3 Sent As Paper Document Exhibit 3 Sent As Paper Document							
Description Provide a brief description of the action (limit 250 characters, required when Initial is checked *). Proposal to clarify the Schedule of Fees.							
Contact Information Provide the name, telephone number, and e-mail address of the person on the staff of the self-regulatory organization prepared to respond to questions and comments on the action.							
First Na	ıme * Michael		Last Name * Sano	cki			
Title * Assistant General Coun							
E-mail * msanocki@ise.com							
Telepho		Fax					
Signature Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, has duly caused this filing to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.							
(Title *)							
L	04/13/2016		Secretary & Genera	ıı Counsel			
By [Michael Simon						
(Name *) NOTE: Clicking the button at right will digitally sign and lock this form. A digital signature is as legally binding as a physical signature, and once signed, this form cannot be changed. Persona Not Validated - 1443109051649,							

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549 For complete Form 19b-4 instructions please refer to the EFFS website. The self-regulatory organization must provide all required information, presented in a Form 19b-4 Information * clear and comprehensible manner, to enable the public to provide meaningful comment on the proposal and for the Commission to determine whether the proposal Remove is consistent with the Act and applicable rules and regulations under the Act. The Notice section of this Form 19b-4 must comply with the guidelines for publication Exhibit 1 - Notice of Proposed Rule Change * in the Federal Register as well as any requirements for electronic filing as published by the Commission (if applicable). The Office of the Federal Register (OFR) offers guidance on Federal Register publication requirements in the Federal Register Add Remove View Document Drafting Handbook, October 1998 Revision. For example, all references to the federal securities laws must include the corresponding cite to the United States Code in a footnote. All references to SEC rules must include the corresponding cite to the Code of Federal Regulations in a footnote. All references to Securities Exchange Act Releases must include the release number, release date, Federal Register cite, Federal Register date, and corresponding file number (e.g., SR-[SRO] -xx-xx). A material failure to comply with these guidelines will result in the proposed rule change being deemed not properly filed. See also Rule 0-3 under the Act (17 CFR 240.0-3) The Notice section of this Form 19b-4 must comply with the guidelines for publication **Exhibit 1A- Notice of Proposed Rule** in the Federal Register as well as any requirements for electronic filing as published Change, Security-Based Swap Submission, by the Commission (if applicable). The Office of the Federal Register (OFR) offers or Advance Notice by Clearing Agencies * guidance on Federal Register publication requirements in the Federal Register Document Drafting Handbook, October 1998 Revision. For example, all references to the federal securities laws must include the corresponding cite to the United States Code in a footnote. All references to SEC rules must include the corresponding cite to the Code of Federal Regulations in a footnote. All references to Securities Exchange Act Releases must include the release number, release date, Federal Register cite, Federal Register date, and corresponding file number (e.g., SR-[SRO] -xx-xx). A material failure to comply with these guidelines will result in the proposed rule change, security-based swap submission, or advance notice being deemed not properly filed. See also Rule 0-3 under the Act (17 CFR 240.0-3) Exhibit 2 - Notices, Written Comments, Copies of notices, written comments, transcripts, other communications. If such Transcripts, Other Communications documents cannot be filed electronically in accordance with Instruction F, they shall be filed in accordance with Instruction G. Remove View Add Exhibit Sent As Paper Document П Exhibit 3 - Form, Report, or Questionnaire Copies of any form, report, or questionnaire that the self-regulatory organization proposes to use to help implement or operate the proposed rule change, or that is Remove Add View referred to by the proposed rule change. Exhibit Sent As Paper Document The full text shall be marked, in any convenient manner, to indicate additions to and **Exhibit 4 - Marked Copies** deletions from the immediately preceding filing. The purpose of Exhibit 4 is to permit Add Remove View the staff to identify immediately the changes made from the text of the rule with which it has been working. **Exhibit 5 - Proposed Rule Text** The self-regulatory organization may choose to attach as Exhibit 5 proposed changes to rule text in place of providing it in Item I and which may otherwise be more easily readable if provided separately from Form 19b-4. Exhibit 5 shall be considered part Add Remove View of the proposed rule change. If the self-regulatory organization is amending only part of the text of a lengthy Partial Amendment proposed rule change, it may, with the Commission's permission, file only those portions of the text of the proposed rule change in which changes are being made if the filing (i.e. partial amendment) is clearly understandable on its face. Such partial

amendment shall be clearly identified and marked to show deletions and additions.

1. Text of the Proposed Rule Change

- (a) ISE Mercury, LLC (the "Exchange" or "Mercury") proposes to amend its Schedule of Fees to explain that while 100% of eligible traded volume preferenced to a Market Maker counts towards that member's volume tiers, Market Makers not preferenced on an order will receive credit for the volume those non-preferenced members execute.
 - (b) Not applicable.
 - (c) Not applicable.

2. Procedures of the Self-Regulatory Organization

The Board of Directors of the Exchange approved this proposed rule change on February 26, 2016. This action constitutes the requisite approval under the Exchange's Certificate of Formation, Operating Agreement, and Constitution.

- 3. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose</u> of, and the Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change
- (a) <u>Purpose</u> On March 10, 2016, ISE Mercury introduced fee and rebate tiers for Market Maker¹ and Priority Customer² orders based on the average daily volume ("ADV") that a member executes in Priority Customer orders.³ The Exchange assesses fees and rebates for Market Maker and Priority Customer orders based on five tiers of Total Affiliated Priority Customer ADV, as described in Table 4 of the Fee Schedule:⁴ 0 19,999 contracts ("Tier 1"), 20,000 39,999 contracts ("Tier 2"), 40,000 59,999 contracts ("Tier 3"), 60,000 79,999 contracts ("Tier 4"), and 80,000 or more contracts ("Tier 5").⁵ As is the case on ISE Mercury's affiliated exchanges the International

Any day that the market is not open for the entire trading day or the Exchange instructs members in writing to route their orders to other markets may be excluded from the ADV

¹ The term Market Makers refers to "Competitive Market Makers" and "Primary Market Makers" collectively.

² A "Priority Customer" is a person or entity that is not a broker/dealer in securities, and does not place more than 390 orders in listed options per day on average during a calendar month for its own beneficial account(s), as defined in ISE Mercury Rule 100(a)(37A).

³ <u>See</u> Securities Exchange Act Release No. 77409 (March 21, 2016), 81 FR 16240 (March 25, 2016) (SR-ISE Mercury-2016-05).

⁴ The Total Affiliated Priority Customer ADV category includes all Priority Customer volume executed on the Exchange in all symbols and order types, including volume executed in the PIM, Facilitation, and QCC mechanisms.

⁵ The highest tier threshold attained applies retroactively in a given month to all eligible traded contracts and applies to all eligible market participants.

Securities Exchange, LLC ("ISE") and ISE Gemini, LLC ("ISE Gemini") – the Exchange's ADV calculation includes volume executed by affiliated members. In particular, the Exchange aggregates all eligible volume from affiliated members in determining applicable tiers, provided that there is at least 75% common ownership between the members as reflected on the member's Form BD, Schedule A. While this method of aggregating volume is beneficial to large firms with multiple affiliated members, the Exchange believed that it was also important to give smaller firms the ability to compete for more favorable fees and rebates.

On March 10, 2016, the Exchange adopted ADV tiers that are based on preferenced volume⁶ – i.e., volume directed to a specific Market Maker as provided in Supplementary Material .03 to Rule 713.⁷ In particular, the Exchange gives Market Makers volume credit for 100% of eligible traded volume preferenced to that member, 8 regardless of the actual allocation that the Market Maker receives. For example, assume Market Maker ABC is quoting at the national best bid or offer ("NBBO") and receives a Preferenced Order for 10 contracts from an unaffiliated firm for the account of a Priority Customer. If there are other Market Makers quoting at the NBBO, Market Maker ABC may receive an allocation of 4 contracts – i.e., 40% of the order. Rather than counting only the 4 contracts executed towards the Market Maker's volume total, the Exchange gives that Market Maker credit for the full 10 contracts preferenced to it. This is the same credit the member would receive if the 10 contracts were sent to the exchange by an affiliated member. The purpose of the current rule filing is to clarify that even though Market Maker ABC receives full credit for all 10 contracts when executing 4 contracts, the non-preferenced Market Makers that execute the remaining 6 contracts will still receive credit for those 6 contracts as they normally would.

(b) <u>Basis</u> – The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the requirements of the Act, and the rules and regulations thereunder that are applicable to a national securities exchange, and, in particular, with the requirements of Section 6(b) of the Act. In particular, the proposal is consistent with Section 6(b)(5) of the Act, because it is designed to promote just and equitable principles of trade, remove impediments to and perfect the mechanisms of a free and open market and a national market system and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest. The Exchange

calculation; provided that the Exchange will only remove the day for members that would have a lower ADV with the day included.

⁶ <u>See</u> Securities Exchange Act Release No. 77412 (March 21, 2016), 81 FR 16238 (March 25, 2016) (SR-ISE Mercury-2016-06).

⁷ An Electronic Access Member ("EAM") may designate a "Preferred Market Maker" on orders it enters into the System ("Preferenced Orders"). Supplementary Material .03 to Rule 713 describes the Exchange's rules concerning Preferenced Orders.

⁸ "Eligible volume" refers to volume that would otherwise count towards to applicable volume tier. In the case of ADV thresholds based on Total Affiliated Priority Customer ADV, as currently implemented on ISE Mercury, all Priority Customer volume would be "eligible." <u>See</u> note 4 supra.

⁹ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

¹⁰ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

believes that the proposed clarification is reasonable and equitable because it will eliminate member confusion regarding how volume is counted among Market Makers when contracts are preferenced to a Market Maker and executed by preferenced and non-preferenced Market Makers.

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

In accordance with Section 6(b)(8) of the Act,¹¹ the Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on intermarket or intramarket competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. To the contrary, the Exchange believes that the proposed rule change merely clarifies an existing rule already in effect.

5. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the</u> Proposed Rule Change Received from Members, Participants or Others

The Exchange has not solicited, and does not intend to solicit, comments on this proposed rule change. The Exchange has not received any written comments from members or other interested parties.

6. Extension of Time Period for Commission Action

Not applicable.

7. <u>Basis for Summary Effectiveness Pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)</u> or for Accelerated Effectiveness Pursuant to Section 19(b)(2)

The Exchange has designated this rule filing as non-controversial under Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act¹² and paragraph (f)(6) of Rule 19b-4 thereunder.¹³ The Exchange asserts that the proposed rule change: (1) will not significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest, (2) will not impose any significant burden on competition, and (3) and will not become operative for 30 days from the date on which it was filed, or such shorter time as the Commission may designate.

The proposed change does not raise any new, unique or substantive issues, but instead merely clarifies an existing rule. As such, the Exchange believes that the proposed rule change qualifies as a "non-controversial" rule change.

8. <u>Proposed Rule change Based on Rules of Another Self-Regulatory Organization or of the Commission</u>

The proposed rule change is not based on the rules of another self-regulatory organization or of the Commission.

¹² 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

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¹¹ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(8).

¹³ 17 CFR 240 19b-4

9. Security-Based Swap Submissions Filed Pursuant to Section 3C of the Act

Not applicable.

10. <u>Advanced Notices Filed Pursuant to Section 806(e) of the Payment, Clearing and Settlement Supervision Act</u>

Not applicable.

11. Exhibits

<u>Exhibit 1</u> – Form of Notice of Proposed Rule Change for Publication in the Federal Register.

Exhibit 5 – Text of the Proposed Rule Change.

EXHIBIT 1

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

(Release No. 34- ; File No. SR-ISE Marcury-2016-09)

[Date]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; ISE Mercury, LLC; Notice of Filing of Proposed Rule Change Relating to Preferenced Volume

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 April 13, 2016, ISE Mercury, LLC (the "Exchange" or "ISE Mercury") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II, and III below, which items have been prepared by the self-regulatory organization. The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

I. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the</u>
<u>Terms of Substance of the Proposed Rule Change</u>

The purpose of this proposed rule change is to amend the Exchange's Schedule of Fees to explain that while 100% of eligible traded volume preferenced to a Market Maker counts towards that member's volume tiers, Market Makers not preferenced on an order will receive credit for the volume those non-preferenced members execute. The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Exchange's Web site (http://www.ise.com), at the principal office of the Exchange, and at the Commission's Public Reference Room.

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

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

In its filing with the Commission, the self-regulatory organization 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 self-regulatory organization has prepared summaries, set forth in sections A, B and C below, of the most significant aspects of such statements.

A. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose</u> of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

1. Purpose

On March 10, 2016, ISE Mercury introduced fee and rebate tiers for Market Maker³ and Priority Customer⁴ orders based on the average daily volume ("ADV") that a member executes in Priority Customer orders.⁵ The Exchange assesses fees and rebates for Market Maker and Priority Customer orders based on five tiers of Total Affiliated Priority Customer ADV, as described in Table 4 of the Fee Schedule: 60 – 19,999 contracts ("Tier 1"), 20,000 – 39,999 contracts ("Tier 2"), 40,000 – 59,999 contracts ("Tier 3"), 60,000 – 79,999 contracts ("Tier 4"), and 80,000 or more contracts ("Tier

³ The term Market Makers refers to "Competitive Market Makers" and "Primary Market Makers" collectively.

⁴ A "Priority Customer" is a person or entity that is not a broker/dealer in securities, and does not place more than 390 orders in listed options per day on average during a calendar month for its own beneficial account(s), as defined in ISE Mercury Rule 100(a)(37A).

⁵ <u>See</u> Securities Exchange Act Release No. 77409 (March 21, 2016), 81 FR 16240 (March 25, 2016) (SR-ISE Mercury-2016-05).

⁶ The Total Affiliated Priority Customer ADV category includes all Priority Customer volume executed on the Exchange in all symbols and order types, including volume executed in the PIM, Facilitation, and QCC mechanisms.

5"). As is the case on ISE Mercury's affiliated exchanges – the International Securities Exchange, LLC ("ISE") and ISE Gemini, LLC ("ISE Gemini") – the Exchange's ADV calculation includes volume executed by affiliated members. In particular, the Exchange aggregates all eligible volume from affiliated members in determining applicable tiers, provided that there is at least 75% common ownership between the members as reflected on the member's Form BD, Schedule A. While this method of aggregating volume is beneficial to large firms with multiple affiliated members, the Exchange believed that it was also important to give smaller firms the ability to compete for more favorable fees and rebates

On March 10, 2016, the Exchange adopted ADV tiers that are based on preferenced volume⁸ – i.e., volume directed to a specific Market Maker as provided in Supplementary Material .03 to Rule 713.⁹ In particular, the Exchange gives Market Makers volume credit for 100% of eligible traded volume preferenced to that member,¹⁰ regardless of the actual allocation that the Market Maker receives. For example, assume Market Maker ABC is quoting at the national best bid or offer ("NBBO") and receives a

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⁷ The highest tier threshold attained applies retroactively in a given month to all eligible traded contracts and applies to all eligible market participants.

Any day that the market is not open for the entire trading day or the Exchange instructs members in writing to route their orders to other markets may be excluded from the ADV calculation; provided that the Exchange will only remove the day for members that would have a lower ADV with the day included.

⁸ <u>See</u> Securities Exchange Act Release No. 77412 (March 21, 2016), 81 FR 16238 (March 25, 2016) (SR-ISE Mercury-2016-06).

⁹ An Electronic Access Member ("EAM") may designate a "Preferred Market Maker" on orders it enters into the System ("Preferenced Orders"). Supplementary Material .03 to Rule 713 describes the Exchange's rules concerning Preferenced Orders.

¹⁰ "Eligible volume" refers to volume that would otherwise count towards to applicable volume tier. In the case of ADV thresholds based on Total Affiliated Priority Customer ADV, as currently implemented on ISE Mercury, all Priority Customer volume would be "eligible." <u>See</u> note 6 supra.

Preferenced Order for 10 contracts from an unaffiliated firm for the account of a Priority Customer. If there are other Market Makers quoting at the NBBO, Market Maker ABC may receive an allocation of 4 contracts – i.e., 40% of the order. Rather than counting only the 4 contracts executed towards the Market Maker's volume total, the Exchange gives that Market Maker credit for the full 10 contracts preferenced to it. This is the same credit the member would receive if the 10 contracts were sent to the exchange by an affiliated member. The purpose of the current rule filing is to clarify that even though Market Maker ABC receives full credit for all 10 contracts when executing 4 contracts, the non-preferenced Market Makers that execute the remaining 6 contracts will still receive credit for those 6 contracts as they normally would.

2. Basis

The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the requirements of the Act, and the rules and regulations thereunder that are applicable to a national securities exchange, and, in particular, with the requirements of Section 6(b) of the Act. In particular, the proposal is consistent with Section 6(b)(5) of the Act, because it is designed to promote just and equitable principles of trade, remove impediments to and perfect the mechanisms of a free and open market and a national market system and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest. The Exchange believes that the proposed clarification is reasonable and equitable because it will eliminate member confusion regarding how volume is counted among Market Makers when contracts are preferenced to a Market Maker and executed by preferenced and non-preferenced Market Makers.

¹¹ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

¹² 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

B. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's</u> Statement on Burden on Competition

In accordance with Section 6(b)(8) of the Act,¹³ the Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on intermarket or intramarket competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. To the contrary, the Exchange believes that the proposed rule change merely clarifies an existing rule already in effect.

C. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on</u>
<u>Comments on the Proposed Rule Change</u>
Received from Members, Participants or Others

The Exchange has not solicited, and does not intend to solicit, comments on this proposed rule change. The Exchange has not received any written comments from members or other interested parties.

III. <u>Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule</u> <u>Change and Timing for Commission Action</u>

The Exchange believes that the foregoing proposed rule change may take effect upon filing with the Commission pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)¹⁴ of the Act and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder¹⁵ 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 after its filing date, or such shorter time as the Commission may designate.

At any time within 60 days of the filing of the proposed rule change, the Commission summarily may temporarily suspend such rule change if it appears to the Commission that such action is: (i) necessary or appropriate in the public interest; (ii) for

¹³ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(8).

¹⁴ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

the protection of investors; or (iii) otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. If the Commission takes such action, the Commission shall institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule should be approved or 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 rule-comments@sec.gov. Please include File No. SR-ISE
 Mercury-2016-09 on the subject line.

Paper comments:

 Send paper comments in triplicate to Brent Fields, Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549-1090.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-ISE Mercury-2016-09. 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 Commissions 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

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¹⁵ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

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 also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the ISE. 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-ISE Mercury-2016-09 and should be submitted by [insert date 21 days from the date of publication in the Federal Register].

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.¹⁶

Secretary

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¹⁶ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

Exhibit 5 - Text of the Proposed Rule Change <u>Underlining</u> indicates additions; [Brackets] indicate deletion

* * *

Qualifying Tier Thresholds

Table 4

Tier	Total Affiliated Priority Customer ADV
Tier 1	0-19,999
Tier 2	20,000-39,999
Tier 3	40,000-59,999
Tier 4	60,000-79,999
Tier 5	80,000+

- Any day that the market is not open for the entire trading day or the Exchange instructs Members in writing to route their orders to other markets may be excluded from the ADV calculation; provided that the Exchange will only remove the day for members that would have a lower ADV with the day included.
- The highest tier threshold attained applies retroactively in a given month to all eligible traded contracts and applies to all eligible market participants.
- The Total Affiliated Priority Customer ADV category includes all Priority Customer volume executed on the Exchange in all symbols and order types, including volume executed in the PIM, Facilitation, and QCC mechanisms.
- All eligible volume from affiliated Members will be aggregated in determining applicable tiers, provided there is at least 75% common ownership between the Members as reflected on the Member's Form BD, Schedule A.
- 100% of eligible traded volume preferenced to a market maker pursuant to Supplementary Material .03 to Rule 713 will count towards the member's volume tier. Market Makers not preferenced on an order will receive credit for the volume the non-preferenced market maker executes.

* * *