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OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0045
Estimated average burden hours per response...........38

Page 1 of	f * 40			EXCHANGE ( TON, D.C. 20 orm 19b-4			File No.*	SR - 2021 - * 13 Amendments *)	
Filing b	oy Na	sdaq ISE, LLC							
Pursua	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		nsion of Time Period ommission Action *	Date Expires *		_ 	] 19b-4(f) ] 19b-4(f) ] 19b-4(f)	)(2) 19b-4(f)(5)		
Notice of Section		osed change pursuant )(1) *	to the Payment, Cleari  Section 806(e)(2) *	ng, and Settler	nent Act of	2010	Security-Based Swa to the Securities Exc Section 3C(b)(2	_	
Exhibit 2	Sent As	_	exhibit 3 Sent As Paper Do	ocument					
Provide	Provide a brief description of the action (limit 250 characters, required when Initial is checked *).  A proposal to amend ISEs Pricing Schedule at Options 7, Section 3, Regular Order Fees and Rebates								
Provide	the na	rmation ime, telephone number spond to questions an Angela				of the sel	lf-regulatory organiza	tion	
Title *		Principal Associate G	eneral Counsel						
E-mail	*	angela.dunn@nasdac	į.com						
Telepho	one *	(215) 496-5692	Fax						
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#### 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. Add Remove View 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 Add Remove 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.

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# 1. Text of the Proposed Rule Change

(a) Nasdaq ISE, LLC ("ISE" or "Exchange"), 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> is filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC" or "Commission") a proposal to amend ISE's Pricing Schedule at Options 7, Section 3, "Regular Order Fees and Rebates" and Section 4, "Complex Order Fees and Rebates."

The Exchange originally filed the proposed pricing change on June 1, 2021 (SR-ISE-2021-12). On June 8, 2021, the Exchange withdrew that filing and submitted this filing.

A notice of the proposed rule change for publication in the <u>Federal Register</u> is attached as <u>Exhibit 1</u>. The text of the proposed rule change is attached as <u>Exhibit 5</u>.

- (b) Not applicable.
- (c) Not applicable.

# 2. <u>Procedures of the Self-Regulatory Organization</u>

The proposed rule change was approved by senior management of the Exchange pursuant to authority delegated by the Board of Directors (the "Board") on November 5, 2020. Exchange staff will advise the Board of any action taken pursuant to delegated authority. No other action is necessary for the filing of the rule change.

Questions and comments on the proposed rule change may be directed to:

Angela Saccomandi Dunn Principal Associate General Counsel Nasdaq, Inc. (215) 496-5692

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

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

# a. <u>Purpose</u>

The Exchange proposes to amend ISE's Pricing Schedule at Options 7, Section 3, "Regular Order Fees and Rebates" and Section 4, "Complex Order Fees and Rebates." Each change is described below.

## Options 7, Section 3 Regular Order Fees and Rebates

Today, the Exchange assesses a Maker Fee of \$0.18 per contract in Select

Symbols<sup>3</sup> for Market Maker,<sup>4</sup> Non-Nasdaq ISE Market Maker (FarMM),<sup>5</sup> Firm

Proprietary<sup>6</sup>/Broker-Dealer,<sup>7</sup> and Professional Customer<sup>8</sup> orders. Priority Customer<sup>9</sup>

<sup>&</sup>quot;Select Symbols" are options overlying all symbols listed on the Nasdaq ISE that are in the Penny Interval Program. <u>See</u> Options 7, Section 1.

This fee applies to Market Maker orders sent to the Exchange by Electronic Access Members. Market Makers that qualify for Market Maker Plus will not pay this fee if they meet the applicable tier thresholds set forth in Options 7, Section 3. Market Makers will instead be assessed fees or rebates based on the applicable tier for which they qualify. See notes 5 and 8 within Options 7, Section 3. Market Maker Plus for Select Symbols is not being amended. The term "Market Makers" refers to "Competitive Market Makers" and "Primary Market Makers" collectively. See Options 1, Section 1(a)(21).

A "Non-Nasdaq ISE Market Maker" is a market maker as defined in Section 3(a)(38) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, registered in the same options class on another options exchange. <u>See</u> Options 7, Section 1.

A "Firm Proprietary" order is an order submitted by a member for its own proprietary account. <u>See</u> Options 7, Section 1.

A "Broker-Dealer" order is an order submitted by a member for a broker-dealer account that is not its own proprietary account. <u>See</u> Options 7, Section 1.

A "Professional Customer" is a person or entity that is not a broker/dealer and is not a Priority Customer. <u>See</u> Options 7, Section 1.

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

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orders are not assessed a Select Symbol Maker Fee.

Further, today, pursuant to Options 7, Section 3, note 10, a Market Maker is not charged a fee or paid a rebate when trading against non-Priority Customer Complex Orders 10 that leg into the regular 11 order book. Also, today, pursuant to Options 7, Section 3, note 11, a Market Maker, FarMM, Firm Proprietary/Broker Dealer, and Professional Customer are assessed a \$0.25 per contract fee, instead of the applicable fee or rebate, when trading against Priority Customer Complex Orders that leg into the regular order book. Today, Market Makers that qualify for Market Maker Plus in Select Symbols pay a \$0.15 per contract fee in the symbols for which they qualify for Market Maker Plus when trading against Priority Customer Complex Orders of less than 50 contracts in Select Symbols that leg into the regular order book. Further, Market Makers that qualify for Market Maker Plus in Select Symbols do not pay any fee nor receive any rebate in the symbols for which they qualify for Market Maker Plus when trading against Priority Customer Complex Orders of 50 contracts or more in Select Symbols that leg into the regular order book.

during a calendar month for its own beneficial account(s), as defined in ISE Options 1, Section 1(a)(37). Unless otherwise noted, when used in the Pricing Schedule the term "Priority Customer" includes "Retail." A "Retail" order is a Priority Customer order that originates from a natural person, provided that no change is made to the terms of the order with respect to price or side of market and the order does not originate from a trading algorithm or any other computerized methodology. See Options 7, Section 1.

- A "Complex Order" is any order involving the simultaneous purchase and/or sale of two or more different options series in the same underlying security, as provided in Nasdaq ISE Options 3, Section 14, as well as Stock-Option Orders. See Options 7, Section 1.
- A "Regular Order" is an order that consists of only a single option series and is not submitted with a stock leg. See Options 7, Section 1.

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The Exchange proposes to remove rule text from Options 7, Section 3, note 11, which provides that Market Makers that qualify for Market Maker Plus in Select Symbols will pay a \$0.15 per contract fee in symbols for which they qualify for Market Maker Plus when trading against Priority Customer Complex Orders of less than 50 contracts in Select Symbols that leg into the regular order book. Additionally, the Exchange proposes to modify the remainder of note 11 to provide, "Market Makers that qualify for Market Maker Plus in Select Symbols will not pay this fee nor receive any rebate in symbols for which they qualify for Market Maker Plus when trading against Priority Customer Complex Orders leg into the regular order book."

With the proposed amendments to note 11 of Options 7, Section 3, a Market Maker that qualifies for Market Maker Plus when trading against Priority Customer Complex Orders leg into the regular order book would no longer pay a \$0.15 per contract fee, rather, the Market Maker would pay no fee, nor receive any rebate similar to the manner in which Market Makers are priced today for orders of 50 contracts or more in Select Symbols, when those Market Makers qualify for Market Maker Plus and trade against Priority Customer Complex Orders leg into the regular order book. This proposal would align pricing for Market Makers that qualify for Market Maker Plus when trading against Priority Customer Complex Orders leg into the regular order book, irrespective of the size of the order. Market Makers that do not qualify for Market Maker Plus would continue to pay a \$0.25 per contract fee when trading against Priority Customer Complex Orders that leg into the regular order book similar to other market participants.

The Exchange believes this pricing will continue to incentivize Market Makers to qualify for Market Maker Plus in order to earn the associated rebates for Market Maker

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Plus and also pay no fees when trading against Priority Customer Complex Orders leg into the regular order book in Select Symbols.

The Exchange also proposes to make a non-substantive amendment to capitalize the term "Complex Order" in current note 10 of Options 7, Section 3.

# Options 7, Section 4, Complex Order Fees and Rebates

Currently, Options 7, Section 4 provides a fee structure for Complex Orders that provides rebates to Priority Customer Complex Orders in order to encourage Members to bring that order flow to the Exchange. Specifically, Priority Customer Complex Orders are provided rebates in Select Symbols and Non-Select Symbols 12 (other than NDX, NQX, and MNX as noted within note 4 of Options 7, Section 4) based on Priority Customer average daily volume ("ADV"). 13

Today, Options 7, Section 4, note 1 provides, "Rebate provided per contract per leg if the order trades with non-Priority Customer orders in the Complex Order Book.

Rebate provided per contract leg in Select Symbols where the largest leg of the Complex Order is under fifty (50) contracts and trades with quotes and orders on the regular order book. No Priority Customer Complex Order rebates will be provided in Select Symbols if any leg of the order that trades with interest on the regular order book is fifty (50) contracts or more. No Priority Customer Complex Order rebates will be provided in Non-Select Symbols if any leg of the order trades with interest on the regular order book, irrespective of order size."

<sup>&</sup>quot;Non-Select Symbols" are options overlying all symbols excluding Select Symbols. See Options 7, Section 1.

See tiered rebates within Options 7, Section 4.

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The Exchange proposes to amend the second sentence in note 1 of Options 7, Section 4 to state, "This rebate will be reduced by \$0.15 per contract in Select Symbols where the largest leg of the complex order is under fifty (50) contracts and trades with quotes and orders on the regular order book." The proposed amendment to the second sentence of note 1 of Options 7, Section 4, would reduce the current rebate paid in Select Symbols, per contract, when the largest leg of the Complex Order is under fifty contracts and trades with quotes and orders on the regular order book. Today, the Exchange pays no Priority Customer Complex Order rebates in Select Symbols if any leg of the order that trades with interest on the regular order book is fifty contracts or more, nor does the Exchange pay a Priority Customer Complex Order rebate in Non-Select Symbols if any leg of the order trades with interest on the regular order book, irrespective of order size. The Exchange has observed in the past that several market participants have entered larger sized Priority Customer Complex Orders with a leg of fifty or more contracts to earn a rebate. When these Complex Orders do not find a counterparty in the Complex Order Book, the orders may leg into the regular order book where they are typically executed by Market Makers on the individual legs who pay a fee to trade with this order flow. <sup>14</sup> As a result, the Market Maker's ability to provide liquidity on the Exchange is adversely affected as they are charged to trade against these larger complex orders when they leg into the regular market and execute against their quotes. For this reason, the Exchange continues to not pay Priority Customer Complex Order rebates in Select

For example, a Market Maker providing liquidity on the individual leg would typically pay a maker fee of only \$0.18 per contract for trading with orders originating from the regular order book, or in the case of Market Makers that achieve Market Maker Plus status, would earn certain maker rebates instead of paying the \$0.18 per contract maker fee. See Options 7, Section 3, note 5.

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Symbols if any leg of the order that trades with interest on the regular order book is fifty contracts or more, including for Select Symbols which do not pay a Priority Customer Complex Order rebate if any leg of the order trades with interest on the regular order book, irrespective of order size.

The Exchange's proposal to reduce the Select Symbol rebate when the largest leg of the Complex Order is under fifty contracts and trades with quotes and orders on the regular order book, by \$0.15 per contract, is intended to continue to incentivize Members to send order flow to the Exchange despite the reduction. Also, the Exchange will continue to pay Priority Customer rebates for Priority Customer Complex Orders of any size which trades with non-Priority Customer orders in the Complex Order Book, based on the Priority Customer Complex Tier achieved, thereby continuing to incentivize Members to bring Complex Order flow to the Exchange to earn the rebate on their Priority Customer Complex Order volume.

Further, the proposal would close the pricing gap as between Members who receive a Priority Customer rebate, which is being reduced by this proposal, in Select Symbols where the largest leg of the Complex Order is under fifty (50) contracts and trades with quotes and orders on the regular order book as compared to both Members that do not receive a Priority Customer rebate in non-Select Symbols if any leg of the order trades with interest on the regular order book, irrespective of order size, and Members that do not receive a Priority Customer rebate in Select Symbols where the largest leg of the Complex Order is fifty contracts or more and trades with quotes and orders on the regular order book.

#### b. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that its proposal is consistent with Section 6(b) of the

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Act, <sup>15</sup> in general, and furthers the objectives of Sections 6(b)(4) and 6(b)(5) of the Act, <sup>16</sup> in particular, in that it provides for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees, and other charges among members and issuers and other persons using any facility, and is not designed to permit unfair discrimination between customers, issuers, brokers, or dealers.

The proposed changes to the Pricing Schedule are reasonable in several respects. As a threshold matter, the Exchange is subject to significant competitive forces in the market for options securities transaction services that constrain its pricing determinations in that market. The fact that this market is competitive has long been recognized by the courts. In NetCoalition v. Securities and Exchange Commission, the D.C. Circuit stated as follows: "[n]o one disputes that competition for order flow is 'fierce.' ... As the SEC explained, '[i]n the U.S. national market system, buyers and sellers of securities, and the broker-dealers that act as their order-routing agents, have a wide range of choices of where to route orders for execution'; [and] 'no exchange can afford to take its market share percentages for granted' because 'no exchange possesses a monopoly, regulatory or otherwise, in the execution of order flow from broker dealers'...."

17

The Commission and the courts have repeatedly expressed their preference for competition over regulatory intervention in determining prices, products, and services in the securities markets. In Regulation NMS, while adopting a series of steps to improve the current market model, the Commission highlighted the importance of market forces in

<sup>15</sup> U.S.C. 78f(b).

<sup>15</sup> U.S.C. 78f(b)(4) and (5).

NetCoalition v. SEC, 615 F.3d 525, 539 (D.C. Cir. 2010) (quoting Securities Exchange Act Release No. 59039 (December 2, 2008), 73 FR 74770, 74782-83 (December 9, 2008) (SR-NYSEArca-2006-21)).

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determining prices and SRO revenues and, also, recognized that current regulation of the market system "has been remarkably successful in promoting market competition in its broader forms that are most important to investors and listed companies."<sup>18</sup>

Numerous indicia demonstrate the competitive nature of this market. For example, clear substitutes to the Exchange exist in the market for options security transaction services. The Exchange is only one of sixteen options exchanges to which market participants may direct their order flow. Within this environment, market participants can freely and often do shift their order flow among the Exchange and competing venues in response to changes in their respective pricing schedules. As such, the proposal represents a reasonable attempt by the Exchange to increase its liquidity and market share relative to its competitors.

### Options 7, Section 3 Regular Order Fees and Rebates

The Exchange's proposal to remove certain rule text from Options 7, Section 3, note 11, and amend the remaining rule text is reasonable as a Market Maker that qualifies for Market Maker Plus when trading against Priority Customer Complex Orders that leg into the regular order book would no longer pay a \$0.15 per contract fee, rather, the Market Maker would pay no fee, nor receive any rebate. This proposal would align the pricing to the manner in which Market Makers are priced today for orders of 50 contracts or more in Select Symbols, when those Market Makers qualify for Market Maker Plus and trade against Priority Customer Complex Orders leg into the regular order book. Specifically, Market Makers that qualify for Market Maker Plus when trading against Priority Customer Complex Orders that leg into the regular order book, would pay no fee,

Securities Exchange Act Release No. 51808 (June 9, 2005), 70 FR 37496, 37499 (June 29, 2005) ("Regulation NMS Adopting Release").

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nor receive any rebate, irrespective of the size of the order. The Exchange believes this pricing will continue to incentivize Market Makers to qualify for Market Maker Plus in order to earn the associated rebates for Market Maker Plus and also pay no fees when trading against Priority Customer Complex Orders leg into the regular order book in Select Symbols. Market Makers that do not qualify for Market Maker Plus would continue to pay a \$0.25 per contract fee when trading against Priority Customer Complex Orders that leg into the regular order book similar to other market participants.

The Exchange's proposal to remove certain rule text from Options 7, Section 3, note 11, and amend the remaining rule text is equitable and not unfairly discriminatory. Market Makers that qualifies for Market Maker Plus when trading against Priority Customer Complex Orders leg into the regular order book would uniformly pay no fee, nor receive any rebate, irrespective of the size of the order. The Exchange will continue to assess a \$0.25 per contract fee to all other non-Priority Customer market participants, including Market Makers that do not qualify for Market Maker Plus, when trading against Priority Customer Complex Orders that leg into the regular order book. The Exchange believes that it is not unfairly discriminatory to not assess Market Makers a fee if they qualify for Market Maker Plus because those Market Makers are paid rebates within the Market Maker Plus Program for adding value for quoting at the NBBO for a significant percentage of time. Further, all Market Makers are subject to the same qualification criteria for Market Maker Plus.

The Exchange's proposal to capitalize the term "Complex Order" in current note 10 of Options 7, Section 3 is non-substantive.

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# Options 7, Section 4, Complex Order Fees and Rebates

The Exchange's proposal to amend the second sentence in note 1 of Options 7, Section 4 to state, "This rebate will be reduced by \$0.15 per contract in Select Symbols where the largest leg of the complex order is under fifty (50) contracts and trades with quotes and orders on the regular order book," is reasonable. The proposed amendment to note 1 of Options 7, Section 4, would reduce the current rebate paid in Select Symbols, per contract, when the largest leg of the Complex Order is under fifty contracts and trades with quotes and orders on the regular order book. Overall, the Exchange believes that the Priority Customer Complex Order rebate program, as modified, is reasonable because the program is optional and all Members can choose to participate or not. The Exchange's proposal to reduce the Select Symbol rebate when the largest leg of the Complex Order is under fifty contracts and trades with quotes and orders on the regular order book, by \$0.15 per contract, is intended to continue to incentivize Members to send order flow to the Exchange despite the reduction. Also, the Exchange will continue to pay Priority Customer rebates for Priority Customer Complex Orders of any size which trades with non-Priority Customer orders in the Complex Order Book, based on the Priority Customer Complex Tier achieved, thereby continuing to incentivize Members to bring Complex Order flow to the Exchange to earn the rebate on their Priority Customer Complex Order volume. Further, the proposal would close the pricing gap as between Members who receive a Priority Customer rebate, which is being reduced by this proposal, in Select Symbols where the largest leg of the Complex Order is under fifty (50) contracts and trades with quotes and orders on the regular order book as compared to both Members that do not receive a Priority Customer rebate in non-Select Symbols if

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any leg of the order trades with interest on the regular order book, irrespective of order size, and Members that do not receive a Priority Customer rebate in Select Symbols where the largest leg of the Complex Order is fifty contracts or more and trades with quotes and orders on the regular order book. This fee remains competitive with other options markets.<sup>19</sup>

The Exchange's proposal to amend the second sentence in note 1 of Options 7, Section 4 to state, "This rebate will be reduced by \$0.15 per contract in Select Symbols where the largest leg of the complex order is under fifty (50) contracts and trades with quotes and orders on the regular order book," is equitable and not unfairly discriminatory. The Exchange will continue to uniformly pay rebates to Priority Customer Complex Orders trading with non-Priority Customer orders in the Complex Order Book, regardless of size, based on the Priority Customer Complex Tier achieved. Further, the Exchange would uniformly pay a reduced rebate (reduced by \$0.15 per contract) in Select Symbols where the largest leg of the complex order is under fifty contracts and trades with quotes and orders on the regular order book.

## 4. 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 not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

MIAX Emerald, LLC's ("Emerald") Pricing Schedule provides that Priority Customer Complex Orders contra to Priority Customer Complex Orders are neither charged nor rebated for Penny and Non-Penny Classes. Priority Customer Complex Orders that leg into the Simple book are neither charged nor rebated.

See Emerald's Pricing Schedule.

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# **Inter-market Competition**

The proposal does not impose an undue burden on inter-market competition. The Exchange believes its proposal remains competitive with other options markets and will offer market participants with another choice of where to transact options. The Exchange notes that it operates in a highly competitive market in which market participants can readily favor competing venues if they deem fee levels at a particular venue to be excessive, or rebate opportunities available at other venues to be more favorable. In such an environment, the Exchange must continually adjust its fees to remain competitive with other exchanges that have been exempted from compliance with the statutory standards applicable to exchanges. Because competitors are free to modify their own fees in response, and because market participants may readily adjust their order routing practices, the Exchange believes that the degree to which fee changes in this market may impose any burden on competition is extremely limited.

# Options 7, Section 3 Regular Order Fees and Rebates

The Exchange's proposal to remove certain rule text from Options 7, Section 3, note 11, and amend the remaining rule text does not impose an undue burden on competition. Market Makers that qualifies for Market Maker Plus when trading against Priority Customer Complex Orders leg into the regular order book would uniformly pay no fee, nor receive any rebate, irrespective of the size of the order. The Exchange will continue to assess a \$0.25 per contract fee to all other non-Priority Customer market participants, including Market Makers that do not qualify for Market Maker Plus, when trading against Priority Customer Complex Orders that leg into the regular order book.

Today, Market Makers that qualify for Market Maker Plus are paid rebates based on their

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tier qualification for adding value for quoting at the NBBO for a significant percentage of time. All Market Makers are subject to the same qualification criteria for Market Maker Plus.

The Exchange's proposal to capitalize the term "Complex Order" in current note 10 of Options 7, Section 3 is non-substantive.

# Options 7, Section 4, Complex Order Fees and Rebates

The Exchange's proposal to amend the second sentence in note 1 of Options 7, Section 4 to state, "This rebate will be reduced by \$0.15 per contract in Select Symbols where the largest leg of the complex order is under fifty (50) contracts and trades with quotes and orders on the regular order book," does not impose an undue burden on competition. The Exchange uniformly pay rebates to Priority Customer Complex Orders trading with non-Priority Customer orders in the Complex Order Book, regardless of size, based on the Priority Customer Complex Tier achieved and will continue to pay rebates. Further, the Exchange would uniformly pay a reduced rebate (reduced by \$0.15 per contract) in Select Symbols where the largest leg of the complex order is under fifty contracts and trades with quotes and orders on the regular order book.

- 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.
- Extension of Time Period for Commission Action
   Not applicable.

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

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(ii) of the Act,<sup>20</sup> the Exchange has designated this proposal as establishing or changing a due, fee, or other charge imposed by the self-regulatory organization on any person, whether or not the person is a member of the self-regulatory organization, which renders the proposed rule change effective upon filing.

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 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.

- 8. <u>Proposed Rule Change Based on Rules of Another Self-Regulatory Organization or of the Commission</u>
  - Not applicable.
- Security-Based Swap Submissions Filed Pursuant to Section 3C of the Act
   Not applicable.
- 10. Advance Notices Filed Pursuant to Section 806(e) of the Payment, Clearing and Settlement Supervision Act

Not applicable.

## 11. Exhibits

- 1. Notice of Proposed Rule Change for publication in the Federal Register.
- 5. Text of the proposed rule change.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(ii).

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**EXHIBIT 1** 

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. ; File No. SR-ISE-2021-13)

June\_\_\_, 2021

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Nasdaq ISE, LLC; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change to Amend ISE's Pricing Schedule at Options 7, Section 3, "Regular Order Fees and Rebates" and Section 4, "Complex Order Fees and Rebates"

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 8, 2021, Nasdaq ISE, LLC ("ISE" 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 Exchange. 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 Terms of Substance of the Proposed Rule Change</u>

The Exchange proposes to amend ISE's Pricing Schedule at Options 7, Section 3, "Regular Order Fees and Rebates" and Section 4, "Complex Order Fees and Rebates."

The Exchange originally filed the proposed pricing change on June 1, 2021 (SR-ISE-2021-12). On June 8, 2021, the Exchange withdrew that filing and submitted this filing.

The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Exchange's Website at <a href="https://listingcenter.nasdaq.com/rulebook/ise/rules">https://listingcenter.nasdaq.com/rulebook/ise/rules</a>, at the principal office of the Exchange, and at the Commission's Public Reference Room.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

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

# 1. <u>Purpose</u>

The Exchange proposes to amend ISE's Pricing Schedule at Options 7, Section 3, "Regular Order Fees and Rebates" and Section 4, "Complex Order Fees and Rebates." Each change is described below.

# Options 7, Section 3 Regular Order Fees and Rebates

Today, the Exchange assesses a Maker Fee of \$0.18 per contract in Select Symbols<sup>3</sup> for Market Maker,<sup>4</sup> Non-Nasdaq ISE Market Maker (FarMM),<sup>5</sup> Firm

<sup>&</sup>quot;Select Symbols" are options overlying all symbols listed on the Nasdaq ISE that are in the Penny Interval Program. See Options 7, Section 1.

This fee applies to Market Maker orders sent to the Exchange by Electronic Access Members. Market Makers that qualify for Market Maker Plus will not pay this fee if they meet the applicable tier thresholds set forth in Options 7, Section 3. Market Makers will instead be assessed fees or rebates based on the applicable tier for which they qualify. See notes 5 and 8 within Options 7, Section 3. Market Maker Plus for Select Symbols is not being amended. The term "Market Makers" refers to "Competitive Market Makers" and "Primary Market Makers" collectively. See Options 1, Section 1(a)(21).

A "Non-Nasdaq ISE Market Maker" is a market maker as defined in Section 3(a)(38) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, registered in the same options class on another options exchange. <u>See</u> Options 7, Section 1.

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Proprietary<sup>6</sup>/Broker-Dealer,<sup>7</sup> and Professional Customer<sup>8</sup> orders. Priority Customer<sup>9</sup> orders are not assessed a Select Symbol Maker Fee.

Further, today, pursuant to Options 7, Section 3, note 10, a Market Maker is not charged a fee or paid a rebate when trading against non-Priority Customer Complex Orders<sup>10</sup> that leg into the regular<sup>11</sup> order book. Also, today, pursuant to Options 7, Section 3, note 11, a Market Maker, FarMM, Firm Proprietary/Broker Dealer, and Professional Customer are assessed a \$0.25 per contract fee, instead of the applicable fee or rebate, when trading against Priority Customer Complex Orders that leg into the regular order book. Today, Market Makers that qualify for Market Maker Plus in Select Symbols pay a \$0.15 per contract fee in the symbols for which they qualify for Market

A "Firm Proprietary" order is an order submitted by a member for its own proprietary account. <u>See</u> Options 7, Section 1.

A "Broker-Dealer" order is an order submitted by a member for a broker-dealer account that is not its own proprietary account. <u>See</u> Options 7, Section 1.

A "Professional Customer" is a person or entity that is not a broker/dealer and is not a Priority Customer. <u>See</u> Options 7, Section 1.

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 Options 1, Section 1(a)(37). Unless otherwise noted, when used in the Pricing Schedule the term "Priority Customer" includes "Retail." A "Retail" order is a Priority Customer order that originates from a natural person, provided that no change is made to the terms of the order with respect to price or side of market and the order does not originate from a trading algorithm or any other computerized methodology. See Options 7, Section 1.

A "Complex Order" is any order involving the simultaneous purchase and/or sale of two or more different options series in the same underlying security, as provided in Nasdaq ISE Options 3, Section 14, as well as Stock-Option Orders. See Options 7, Section 1.

A "Regular Order" is an order that consists of only a single option series and is not submitted with a stock leg. See Options 7, Section 1.

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Maker Plus when trading against Priority Customer Complex Orders of less than 50 contracts in Select Symbols that leg into the regular order book. Further, Market Makers that qualify for Market Maker Plus in Select Symbols do not pay any fee nor receive any rebate in the symbols for which they qualify for Market Maker Plus when trading against Priority Customer Complex Orders of 50 contracts or more in Select Symbols that leg into the regular order book.

The Exchange proposes to remove rule text from Options 7, Section 3, note 11, which provides that Market Makers that qualify for Market Maker Plus in Select Symbols will pay a \$0.15 per contract fee in symbols for which they qualify for Market Maker Plus when trading against Priority Customer Complex Orders of less than 50 contracts in Select Symbols that leg into the regular order book. Additionally, the Exchange proposes to modify the remainder of note 11 to provide, "Market Makers that qualify for Market Maker Plus in Select Symbols will not pay this fee nor receive any rebate in symbols for which they qualify for Market Maker Plus when trading against Priority Customer Complex Orders leg into the regular order book."

With the proposed amendments to note 11 of Options 7, Section 3, a Market Maker that qualifies for Market Maker Plus when trading against Priority Customer Complex Orders leg into the regular order book would no longer pay a \$0.15 per contract fee, rather, the Market Maker would pay no fee, nor receive any rebate similar to the manner in which Market Makers are priced today for orders of 50 contracts or more in Select Symbols, when those Market Makers qualify for Market Maker Plus and trade against Priority Customer Complex Orders leg into the regular order book. This proposal would align pricing for Market Makers that qualify for Market Maker Plus when trading

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against Priority Customer Complex Orders leg into the regular order book, irrespective of the size of the order. Market Makers that do not qualify for Market Maker Plus would continue to pay a \$0.25 per contract fee when trading against Priority Customer Complex Orders that leg into the regular order book similar to other market participants.

The Exchange believes this pricing will continue to incentivize Market Makers to qualify for Market Maker Plus in order to earn the associated rebates for Market Maker Plus and also pay no fees when trading against Priority Customer Complex Orders leg into the regular order book in Select Symbols.

The Exchange also proposes to make a non-substantive amendment to capitalize the term "Complex Order" in current note 10 of Options 7, Section 3.

# Options 7, Section 4, Complex Order Fees and Rebates

Currently, Options 7, Section 4 provides a fee structure for Complex Orders that provides rebates to Priority Customer Complex Orders in order to encourage Members to bring that order flow to the Exchange. Specifically, Priority Customer Complex Orders are provided rebates in Select Symbols and Non-Select Symbols 12 (other than NDX, NQX, and MNX as noted within note 4 of Options 7, Section 4) based on Priority Customer average daily volume ("ADV"). 13

Today, Options 7, Section 4, note 1 provides, "Rebate provided per contract per leg if the order trades with non-Priority Customer orders in the Complex Order Book.

Rebate provided per contract leg in Select Symbols where the largest leg of the Complex Order is under fifty (50) contracts and trades with quotes and orders on the regular order

<sup>&</sup>quot;Non-Select Symbols" are options overlying all symbols excluding Select Symbols. See Options 7, Section 1.

<sup>13 &</sup>lt;u>See</u> tiered rebates within Options 7, Section 4.

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book. No Priority Customer Complex Order rebates will be provided in Select Symbols if any leg of the order that trades with interest on the regular order book is fifty (50) contracts or more. No Priority Customer Complex Order rebates will be provided in Non-Select Symbols if any leg of the order trades with interest on the regular order book, irrespective of order size."

The Exchange proposes to amend the second sentence in note 1 of Options 7, Section 4 to state, "This rebate will be reduced by \$0.15 per contract in Select Symbols where the largest leg of the complex order is under fifty (50) contracts and trades with quotes and orders on the regular order book." The proposed amendment to the second sentence of note 1 of Options 7, Section 4, would reduce the current rebate paid in Select Symbols, per contract, when the largest leg of the Complex Order is under fifty contracts and trades with quotes and orders on the regular order book. Today, the Exchange pays no Priority Customer Complex Order rebates in Select Symbols if any leg of the order that trades with interest on the regular order book is fifty contracts or more, nor does the Exchange pay a Priority Customer Complex Order rebate in Non-Select Symbols if any leg of the order trades with interest on the regular order book, irrespective of order size. The Exchange has observed in the past that several market participants have entered larger sized Priority Customer Complex Orders with a leg of fifty or more contracts to earn a rebate. When these Complex Orders do not find a counterparty in the Complex Order Book, the orders may leg into the regular order book where they are typically executed by Market Makers on the individual legs who pay a fee to trade with this order

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flow. <sup>14</sup> As a result, the Market Maker's ability to provide liquidity on the Exchange is adversely affected as they are charged to trade against these larger complex orders when they leg into the regular market and execute against their quotes. For this reason, the Exchange continues to not pay Priority Customer Complex Order rebates in Select Symbols if any leg of the order that trades with interest on the regular order book is fifty contracts or more, including for Select Symbols which do not pay a Priority Customer Complex Order rebate if any leg of the order trades with interest on the regular order book, irrespective of order size.

The Exchange's proposal to reduce the Select Symbol rebate when the largest leg of the Complex Order is under fifty contracts and trades with quotes and orders on the regular order book, by \$0.15 per contract, is intended to continue to incentivize Members to send order flow to the Exchange despite the reduction. Also, the Exchange will continue to pay Priority Customer rebates for Priority Customer Complex Orders of any size which trades with non-Priority Customer orders in the Complex Order Book, based on the Priority Customer Complex Tier achieved, thereby continuing to incentivize Members to bring Complex Order flow to the Exchange to earn the rebate on their Priority Customer Complex Order volume.

Further, the proposal would close the pricing gap as between Members who receive a Priority Customer rebate, which is being reduced by this proposal, in Select Symbols where the largest leg of the Complex Order is under fifty (50) contracts and

For example, a Market Maker providing liquidity on the individual leg would typically pay a maker fee of only \$0.18 per contract for trading with orders originating from the regular order book, or in the case of Market Makers that achieve Market Maker Plus status, would earn certain maker rebates instead of paying the \$0.18 per contract maker fee. See Options 7, Section 3, note 5.

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trades with quotes and orders on the regular order book as compared to both Members that do not receive a Priority Customer rebate in non-Select Symbols if any leg of the order trades with interest on the regular order book, irrespective of order size, and Members that do not receive a Priority Customer rebate in Select Symbols where the largest leg of the Complex Order is fifty contracts or more and trades with quotes and orders on the regular order book.

## 2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that its proposal is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act, <sup>15</sup> in general, and furthers the objectives of Sections 6(b)(4) and 6(b)(5) of the Act, <sup>16</sup> in particular, in that it provides for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees, and other charges among members and issuers and other persons using any facility, and is not designed to permit unfair discrimination between customers, issuers, brokers, or dealers.

The proposed changes to the Pricing Schedule are reasonable in several respects. As a threshold matter, the Exchange is subject to significant competitive forces in the market for options securities transaction services that constrain its pricing determinations in that market. The fact that this market is competitive has long been recognized by the courts. In NetCoalition v. Securities and Exchange Commission, the D.C. Circuit stated as follows: "[n]o one disputes that competition for order flow is 'fierce.' ... As the SEC explained, '[i]n the U.S. national market system, buyers and sellers of securities, and the broker-dealers that act as their order-routing agents, have a wide range of choices of where to route orders for execution'; [and] 'no exchange can afford to take its market

<sup>15</sup> U.S.C. 78f(b).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(4) and (5).

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share percentages for granted' because 'no exchange possesses a monopoly, regulatory or otherwise, in the execution of order flow from broker dealers'...."<sup>17</sup>

The Commission and the courts have repeatedly expressed their preference for competition over regulatory intervention in determining prices, products, and services in the securities markets. In Regulation NMS, while adopting a series of steps to improve the current market model, the Commission highlighted the importance of market forces in determining prices and SRO revenues and, also, recognized that current regulation of the market system "has been remarkably successful in promoting market competition in its broader forms that are most important to investors and listed companies." <sup>18</sup>

Numerous indicia demonstrate the competitive nature of this market. For example, clear substitutes to the Exchange exist in the market for options security transaction services. The Exchange is only one of sixteen options exchanges to which market participants may direct their order flow. Within this environment, market participants can freely and often do shift their order flow among the Exchange and competing venues in response to changes in their respective pricing schedules. As such, the proposal represents a reasonable attempt by the Exchange to increase its liquidity and market share relative to its competitors.

#### Options 7, Section 3 Regular Order Fees and Rebates

The Exchange's proposal to remove certain rule text from Options 7, Section 3, note 11, and amend the remaining rule text is reasonable as a Market Maker that qualifies

NetCoalition v. SEC, 615 F.3d 525, 539 (D.C. Cir. 2010) (quoting Securities Exchange Act Release No. 59039 (December 2, 2008), 73 FR 74770, 74782-83 (December 9, 2008) (SR-NYSEArca-2006-21)).

Securities Exchange Act Release No. 51808 (June 9, 2005), 70 FR 37496, 37499 (June 29, 2005) ("Regulation NMS Adopting Release").

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for Market Maker Plus when trading against Priority Customer Complex Orders that leg into the regular order book would no longer pay a \$0.15 per contract fee, rather, the Market Maker would pay no fee, nor receive any rebate. This proposal would align the pricing to the manner in which Market Makers are priced today for orders of 50 contracts or more in Select Symbols, when those Market Makers qualify for Market Maker Plus and trade against Priority Customer Complex Orders leg into the regular order book. Specifically, Market Makers that qualify for Market Maker Plus when trading against Priority Customer Complex Orders that leg into the regular order book, would pay no fee, nor receive any rebate, irrespective of the size of the order. The Exchange believes this pricing will continue to incentivize Market Makers to qualify for Market Maker Plus in order to earn the associated rebates for Market Maker Plus and also pay no fees when trading against Priority Customer Complex Orders leg into the regular order book in Select Symbols. Market Makers that do not qualify for Market Maker Plus would continue to pay a \$0.25 per contract fee when trading against Priority Customer Complex Orders that leg into the regular order book similar to other market participants.

The Exchange's proposal to remove certain rule text from Options 7, Section 3, note 11, and amend the remaining rule text is equitable and not unfairly discriminatory. Market Makers that qualifies for Market Maker Plus when trading against Priority Customer Complex Orders leg into the regular order book would uniformly pay no fee, nor receive any rebate, irrespective of the size of the order. The Exchange will continue to assess a \$0.25 per contract fee to all other non-Priority Customer market participants, including Market Makers that do not qualify for Market Maker Plus, when trading against Priority Customer Complex Orders that leg into the regular order book. The Exchange

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believes that it is not unfairly discriminatory to not assess Market Makers a fee if they qualify for Market Maker Plus because those Market Makers are paid rebates within the Market Maker Plus Program for adding value for quoting at the NBBO for a significant percentage of time. Further, all Market Makers are subject to the same qualification criteria for Market Maker Plus.

The Exchange's proposal to capitalize the term "Complex Order" in current note 10 of Options 7, Section 3 is non-substantive.

# Options 7, Section 4, Complex Order Fees and Rebates

The Exchange's proposal to amend the second sentence in note 1 of Options 7, Section 4 to state, "This rebate will be reduced by \$0.15 per contract in Select Symbols where the largest leg of the complex order is under fifty (50) contracts and trades with quotes and orders on the regular order book," is reasonable. The proposed amendment to note 1 of Options 7, Section 4, would reduce the current rebate paid in Select Symbols, per contract, when the largest leg of the Complex Order is under fifty contracts and trades with quotes and orders on the regular order book. Overall, the Exchange believes that the Priority Customer Complex Order rebate program, as modified, is reasonable because the program is optional and all Members can choose to participate or not. The Exchange's proposal to reduce the Select Symbol rebate when the largest leg of the Complex Order is under fifty contracts and trades with quotes and orders on the regular order book, by \$0.15 per contract, is intended to continue to incentivize Members to send order flow to the Exchange despite the reduction. Also, the Exchange will continue to pay Priority Customer rebates for Priority Customer Complex Orders of any size which trades with non-Priority Customer orders in the Complex Order Book, based on the Priority

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Customer Complex Tier achieved, thereby continuing to incentivize Members to bring
Complex Order flow to the Exchange to earn the rebate on their Priority Customer
Complex Order volume. Further, the proposal would close the pricing gap as between
Members who receive a Priority Customer rebate, which is being reduced by this
proposal, in Select Symbols where the largest leg of the Complex Order is under fifty
(50) contracts and trades with quotes and orders on the regular order book as compared to
both Members that do not receive a Priority Customer rebate in non-Select Symbols if
any leg of the order trades with interest on the regular order book, irrespective of order
size, and Members that do not receive a Priority Customer rebate in Select Symbols
where the largest leg of the Complex Order is fifty contracts or more and trades with
quotes and orders on the regular order book. This fee remains competitive with other
options markets.<sup>19</sup>

The Exchange's proposal to amend the second sentence in note 1 of Options 7,

Section 4 to state, "This rebate will be reduced by \$0.15 per contract in Select Symbols

where the largest leg of the complex order is under fifty (50) contracts and trades with

quotes and orders on the regular order book," is equitable and not unfairly discriminatory.

The Exchange will continue to uniformly pay rebates to Priority Customer Complex

Orders trading with non-Priority Customer orders in the Complex Order Book, regardless

of size, based on the Priority Customer Complex Tier achieved. Further, the Exchange

would uniformly pay a reduced rebate (reduced by \$0.15 per contract) in Select Symbols

MIAX Emerald, LLC's ("Emerald") Pricing Schedule provides that Priority Customer Complex Orders contra to Priority Customer Complex Orders are neither charged nor rebated for Penny and Non-Penny Classes. Priority Customer Complex Orders that leg into the Simple book are neither charged nor rebated.

See Emerald's Pricing Schedule.

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where the largest leg of the complex order is under fifty contracts and trades with quotes and orders on the regular order book.

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

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on competition not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

#### **Inter-market Competition**

The proposal does not impose an undue burden on inter-market competition. The Exchange believes its proposal remains competitive with other options markets and will offer market participants with another choice of where to transact options. The Exchange notes that it operates in a highly competitive market in which market participants can readily favor competing venues if they deem fee levels at a particular venue to be excessive, or rebate opportunities available at other venues to be more favorable. In such an environment, the Exchange must continually adjust its fees to remain competitive with other exchanges that have been exempted from compliance with the statutory standards applicable to exchanges. Because competitors are free to modify their own fees in response, and because market participants may readily adjust their order routing practices, the Exchange believes that the degree to which fee changes in this market may impose any burden on competition is extremely limited.

#### Options 7, Section 3 Regular Order Fees and Rebates

The Exchange's proposal to remove certain rule text from Options 7, Section 3, note 11, and amend the remaining rule text does not impose an undue burden on competition. Market Makers that qualifies for Market Maker Plus when trading against

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Priority Customer Complex Orders leg into the regular order book would uniformly pay no fee, nor receive any rebate, irrespective of the size of the order. The Exchange will continue to assess a \$0.25 per contract fee to all other non-Priority Customer market participants, including Market Makers that do not qualify for Market Maker Plus, when trading against Priority Customer Complex Orders that leg into the regular order book. Today, Market Makers that qualify for Market Maker Plus are paid rebates based on their tier qualification for adding value for quoting at the NBBO for a significant percentage of time. All Market Makers are subject to the same qualification criteria for Market Maker Plus.

The Exchange's proposal to capitalize the term "Complex Order" in current note 10 of Options 7, Section 3 is non-substantive.

# Options 7, Section 4, Complex Order Fees and Rebates

The Exchange's proposal to amend the second sentence in note 1 of Options 7, Section 4 to state, "This rebate will be reduced by \$0.15 per contract in Select Symbols where the largest leg of the complex order is under fifty (50) contracts and trades with quotes and orders on the regular order book," does not impose an undue burden on competition. The Exchange uniformly pay rebates to Priority Customer Complex Orders trading with non-Priority Customer orders in the Complex Order Book, regardless of size, based on the Priority Customer Complex Tier achieved and will continue to pay rebates. Further, the Exchange would uniformly pay a reduced rebate (reduced by \$0.15 per contract) in Select Symbols where the largest leg of the complex order is under fifty contracts and trades with quotes and orders on the regular order book.

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

No written comments were either solicited or received.

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

The foregoing rule change has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(ii) of the Act.<sup>20</sup> 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 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
   (<a href="http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml">http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml</a>); or
- Send an e-mail to <u>rule-comments@sec.gov</u>. Please include File Number SR-ISE-2021-13 on the subject line.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(ii).

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## Paper comments:

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

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-ISE-2021-13. 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 (<a href="http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml">http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml</a>).

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 website viewing and printing in the Commission's Public Reference Room, 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549, on official business days between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Copies of the 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-ISE-2021-13 and should be submitted on or before [insert date 21 days from publication in the <u>Federal Register</u>].

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For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.  $^{21}$ 

J. Matthew DeLesDernier Assistant Secretary

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

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# **EXHIBIT 5**

New text is underlined; deleted text is in brackets.

# **NASDAQ ISE, LLC Rules**

\* \* \* \* \*

# **Options Rules**

\* \* \* \* \*

# **Options 7 Pricing Schedule**

\* \* \* \* \*

# **Section 3. Regular Order Fees and Rebates**

# **Select Symbols**

Market Participant			Fee for Crossing Orders Except PIM Orders <sup>(1)</sup>	Fee for PIM Orders	Fee for Responses to Crossing Orders Except PIM Orders	Fee for	Facilitation and Solicitation Break-up Rebate <sup>(4)</sup>
Market Maker <sup>(8)</sup>	\$0.18 <sup>(5)</sup> (10) (11)	\$0.45	\$0.20	\$0.10	\$0.50	\$0.50	N/A
Non- Nasdaq ISE Market Maker (FarMM)	\$0.18 <sup>(11)</sup>	\$0.46	\$0.20	\$0.10	\$0.50	\$0.50	(\$0.15)
Firm Proprietary / Broker- Dealer	\$0.18 <sup>(11)</sup>	\$0.46	\$0.20	\$0.10	\$0.50	\$0.50	(\$0.15)
Professional Customer	\$0.18(11)	\$0.46	\$0.20 <sup>(16)</sup>	\$0.10	\$0.50	\$0.50	(\$0.15)
Priority Customer	\$0.00	\$0.37	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.50	\$0.50	(\$0.15)

# Non-Select Symbols (Excluding Index Options) (7)

	Maker		Fee for	Fee for	Fee for	Fee for	Facilitation
Market	Rebate /	Taker	Crossing	PIM	Responses	Responses	and
<b>Participant</b>	Fee <sup>(17)</sup>	Fee <sup>(17)</sup>	Orders	<b>Orders</b>	to	to PIM	Solicitation

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			Except PIM Orders <sup>(1)</sup>	(1) (2) (13)	Crossing Orders Except PIM Orders	Orders	Break-up Rebate <sup>(4)</sup>
Market Maker <sup>(8)</sup>	\$0.70 <sup>(5)</sup>	\$0.90	\$0.20	\$0.10	\$1.10	\$1.10	N/A
Non- Nasdaq ISE Market Maker (FarMM)	\$0.70	\$0.90	\$0.20	\$0.10	\$1.10	\$1.10	(\$0.15)
Firm Proprietary / Broker- Dealer	\$0.70	\$0.90	\$0.20	\$0.10	\$1.10	\$1.10	(\$0.15)
Professional Customer	\$0.70	\$0.90	\$0.20 <sup>(16)</sup>	\$0.10	\$1.10	\$1.10	(\$0.15)
Priority Customer	(\$0.86) <sup>(15)</sup>	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1.10	\$1.10	(\$0.15)

\* \* \* \* \*

Select Symbols other than SPY, QQQ, IWM, AM	IZN, FB, an	nd NVDA	
Market Maker Plus Tier (Specified Percentage)	Maker	Rebate	
Tier 1 (80% to less than 85%)	(\$0.15)		
Tier 2 (85% to less than 95%)	(\$0.18)		
Tier 3 (95% or greater)	(\$0.22)		
SPY, QQQ, and IWM			
Market Maker Plus Tier (Specified Percentage)	Regular Maker Rebate	Linked Maker Rebate (9)	
Tier 1a (50% to less than 65%)	(\$0.00)	N/A	
Tier 1b (65% to less than 80%) or (over 50% and adds liquidity in the qualifying symbol that is executed at a volume of greater than 0.10% of Customer Total Consolidated Volume)	(\$0.05)	N/A	

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Tier 2 (80% to less than 85%) or (over 50% and adds liquidity in the qualifying symbol that is executed at a volume of greater than 0.20% of Customer Total Consolidated Volume)	(\$0.18)	(\$0.15)
Tier 3 (85% to less than 90%) or (over 50% and adds liquidity in the qualifying symbol that is executed at a volume of greater than 0.25% of Customer Total Consolidated Volume)	(\$0.22)	(\$0.19)
Tier 4 (90% or greater) or (over 50% and adds liquidity in the qualifying symbol that is executed at a volume of greater than 0.50% of Customer Total Consolidated Volume)	(\$0.26)	(\$0.23)
AMZN, FB, and NVDA		
Market Maker Plus Tier (Specified Percentage)	Maker Rebate <sup>(14)</sup>	
Tier 1 (70% to less than 85%)	(\$0.15)	
Tier 2 (85% to less than 95%)	(\$0.18)	
Tier 3 (95% or greater)	(\$0.22)	
Non-Select Symbols (excluding Inde	x Options) <sup>(7)</sup>	
Market Maker Plus Tier (Specified Percentage)	Maker Fee / Rebate	
Tier 1 (80% to less than 90%)	\$0.50	
Tier 2 (90% to less than 98%)	\$0.30	
Tier 3 (98% or greater)	(\$0.40) <sup>(6)</sup>	

\* \* \* \* \*

- 10. There will be no fee charged or rebate provided when trading against non-Priority Customer [c]Complex [o]Orders that leg into the regular order book.
- 11.\$0.25 per contract fee applies instead of the applicable fee or rebate when trading against Priority Customer Complex Orders that leg into the regular order book. Notwithstanding the foregoing, [Market Makers that qualify for Market Maker Plus in Select Symbols will pay a \$0.15 per contract fee in the symbols for which they qualify for Market Maker Plus when

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trading against Priority Customer Complex Orders of less than 50 contracts in Select Symbols that leg into the regular order book. Further,] Market Makers that qualify for Market Maker Plus in Select Symbols will not pay any fee nor receive any rebate in the symbols for which they qualify for Market Maker Plus when trading against Priority Customer Complex Orders [of 50 contracts or more in Select Symbols] that leg into the regular order book.

\* \* \* \* \*

# Section 4. Complex Order Fees and Rebates(5) (12) (15)

# **Priority Customer Rebates**

Total
Affiliated
Member or
Affiliated
Entity
Complex
Order
Volume
(Excluding
Crossing
Orders and
Responses to
Crossing
Orders)
Calculated
as a
Percentage
of Customer

	Total	Rebate for	Rebate for	
<b>Priority Customer Complex</b>	Consolidate	d Select	Non-Select	
Tier <sup>(7) (13) (16)</sup>	Volume	Symbols <sup>(1)</sup>	Symbols <sup>(1)(4)</sup>	
	0.000% -			
Tier 1	0.200%	(\$0.25)	(\$0.40)	
	Above			
	0.200% -			
Tier 2	0.400%	(\$0.30)	(\$0.55)	
	Above			
	0.400% -			
Tier 3	0.450%	(\$0.35)	(\$0.70)	
	Above			
	0.450% -			
Tier 4	0.750%	(\$0.40)	(\$0.75)	
Tier 5	Above	(\$0.45)	(\$0.80)	

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0.750% -		
1.000%		
Above		
1.000% -		
1.350%	(\$0.47)	(\$0.80)
Above		
1.350% -		
2.000%	(\$0.48)	(\$0.80)
Above		
2.000% -		
2.750%	(\$0.52)	(\$0.85)
Above		
2.750% -		
4.500%	(\$0.52)	(\$0.86)
Above		
4.500%	(\$0.53)	(\$0.88)
	1.000% Above 1.000% - 1.350% Above 1.350% - 2.000% Above 2.000% - 2.750% Above 2.750% - 4.500% Above	1.000% Above 1.000% - 1.350% (\$0.47) Above 1.350% - 2.000% (\$0.48) Above 2.000% - 2.750% (\$0.52) Above 2.750% - 4.500% (\$0.52) Above

# **Maker and Taker Fees**

Market Participant	Maker Fee for Select Symbols	Maker Fee for Non- Select Symbols	Maker Fee for Select Symbols when trading against Priority Customer	Maker Fee for non- Select Symbols when trading against Priority Customer	Taker Fee for Select Symbols	Taker Fee for Non- Select Symbols
Market Maker Non-Nasdaq ISE	\$0.10	\$0.20	\$0.50 <sup>(3)</sup>	\$0.86	\$0.50 <sup>(3)</sup>	\$0.86 <sup>(8)</sup>
Market Maker (FarMM)	\$0.20	\$0.20	\$0.50	\$0.88	\$0.50	\$0.88(8)
Firm Proprietary / Broker-Dealer	\$0.10	\$0.20	\$0.50	\$0.88	\$0.50	\$0.88(8)
Professional Customer Priority Customer	\$0.10 \$0.00	\$0.20 \$0.00	\$0.50 \$0.00	\$0.88 \$0.00	\$0.50 \$0.00	\$0.88 <sup>(8)</sup> \$0.00

\* \* \* \* \*

<sup>1.</sup> Rebate provided per contract per leg if the order trades with non-Priority Customer orders in the Complex Order Book. <u>This [R]rebate will be reduced by \$0.15 per contract[provided per contract leg] in Select Symbols where the largest leg of the Complex Order is under fifty (50)</u>

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contracts and trades with quotes and orders on the regular order book. No Priority Customer Complex Order rebates will be provided in Select Symbols if any leg of the order that trades with interest on the regular order book is fifty (50) contracts or more. No Priority Customer Complex Order rebates will be provided in Non-Select Symbols if any leg of the order trades with interest on the regular order book, irrespective of order size.

\*\*\*\*