

Required fields are shown with yellow backgrounds and asterisks.

Filing by The Nasdaq Stock Market LLC
Pursuant to Rule 19b-4 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Initial *	Amendment *	Withdrawal	Section 19(b)(2) *	Section 19(b)(3)(A) *	Section 19(b)(3)(B) *
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			Rule		
Pilot	Extension of Time Period for Commission Action *	Date Expires *	<input type="checkbox"/> 19b-4(f)(1)	<input type="checkbox"/> 19b-4(f)(4)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 19b-4(f)(2)	<input type="checkbox"/> 19b-4(f)(5)	
			<input type="checkbox"/> 19b-4(f)(3)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19b-4(f)(6)	

Notice of proposed change pursuant to the Payment, Clearing, and Settlement Act of 2010	Security-Based Swap Submission pursuant to the Securities Exchange Act of 1934
Section 806(e)(1) *	Section 806(e)(2) *
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Section 3C(b)(2) *
	<input type="checkbox"/>

Exhibit 2 Sent As Paper Document	Exhibit 3 Sent As Paper Document
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Description

Provide a brief description of the action (limit 250 characters, required when Initial is checked *).

Proposal to relocate The Nasdaq Options Market Rules at Chapter IV (Securities Traded on NOM) under the Options 4 title in the rulebook shell structure

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 Name * Jonathan Last Name * Cayne

Title * Principal Associate General Counsel

E-mail * Jonathan.Cayne@nasdaq.com

Telephone * (301) 978-8493 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 *)

Date 05/23/2019 Global Chief Legal and Policy Officer

By Edward S. Knight

edward.knight@nasdaq.com

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.

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

For complete Form 19b-4 instructions please refer to the EFFF website.

Form 19b-4 Information *

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The self-regulatory organization must provide all required information, presented in a clear and comprehensible manner, to enable the public to provide meaningful comment on the proposal and for the Commission to determine whether the proposal is consistent with the Act and applicable rules and regulations under the Act.

Exhibit 1 - Notice of Proposed Rule Change *

Add Remove View

The Notice section of this Form 19b-4 must comply with the guidelines for publication 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 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)

Exhibit 1A- Notice of Proposed Rule Change, Security-Based Swap Submission, or Advance Notice by Clearing Agencies *

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The Notice section of this Form 19b-4 must comply with the guidelines for publication 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 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, Transcripts, Other Communications

Add Remove View

Exhibit Sent As Paper Document

Copies of notices, written comments, transcripts, other communications. If such documents cannot be filed electronically in accordance with Instruction F, they shall be filed in accordance with Instruction G.

Exhibit 3 - Form, Report, or Questionnaire

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Exhibit Sent As Paper Document

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 referred to by the proposed rule change.

Exhibit 4 - Marked Copies

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The full text shall be marked, in any convenient manner, to indicate additions to and deletions from the immediately preceding filing. The purpose of Exhibit 4 is to permit 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

Add Remove View

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 of the proposed rule change.

Partial Amendment

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If the self-regulatory organization is amending only part of the text of a lengthy 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) The Nasdaq Stock Market, LLC (“Nasdaq” or the “Exchange”), pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (“Act”)¹ and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,² is filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC” or “Commission”) a proposal to relocate The Nasdaq Options Market LLC (“NOM”) Rules at Chapter IV (Securities Traded on NOM) under the Options 4 title in the Exchange’s rulebook’s (“Rulebook”) shell structure.³

The proposal also amends the rules as relocated to conform primarily to the equivalent options rules in the Nasdaq ISE, LLC (“ISE”) rulebook, as well as in one instance to the equivalent options rule in the Nasdaq PHLX LLC (“Phlx”) rulebook.

The proposal also amends Section 1 of Chapter I of the NOM Rules to add several definitions. Finally, as a clean-up item, the proposal deletes Nasdaq Rule 5712 Alpha Index-Linked Securities because it is obsolete and the Exchange has never listed a product under this rule.

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

(b) Not applicable.

(c) Not applicable.

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

³ In 2017, the Exchange added a shell structure to its Rulebook with the purpose of improving efficiency and readability and to align its rules closer to those of its five sister exchanges, Nasdaq BX, Inc.; Nasdaq PHLX LLC; Nasdaq ISE, LLC; Nasdaq GEMX, LLC; and Nasdaq MRX, LLC (“Affiliated Exchanges”). See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 82175 (November 29, 2017), 82 FR 57494 (December 5, 2017) (SR-NASDAQ-2017-125).

2. Procedures of the Self-Regulatory Organization

The proposed rule change was approved by senior management of the Exchange pursuant to authority delegated by the Board of Directors of the Exchange (the “Board”) on September 26, 2018. 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:

Jonathan Cayne
Principal Associate General Counsel
Nasdaq, Inc.
301-978-8493

3. Self-Regulatory Organization’s Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

a. Purpose

The Exchange proposes to relocate the rule text in Chapter IV (Securities Traded on NOM) to the Options 4 title in the Rulebook’s shell structure. For ease of reference and the purposes of this filing, the relocated rules are herein described as the “Options Listing Rules.”

The relocation of the Options Listing Rules is part of the Exchange’s continued effort to promote efficiency and the conformity of its processes with those of the Affiliated Exchanges,⁴ and its goal of harmonizing and uniformizing its rules.

This proposed change is of a non-substantive nature. Moreover, the relocation of the Options Listing Rules will facilitate the use of the Rulebook by Members⁵ of the

⁴ Id.

⁵ As defined by Exchange Rule 0120(i).

Exchange, who are members of other Affiliated Exchanges; other market participants; and the public in general. The relocated rules will be amended to reflect the equivalent options rules in the ISE rulebook, but the changes are of a non-substantive nature.

The overarching goal is to align the NOM rules with those of the ISE. The Exchange is proposing to amend the rules for NOM, most notably the rule text in the Options Listing Rules concerning securities traded on NOM, but also adding several definitions to Section 1 of Chapter I.

The vast majority of the changes are technical changes and made throughout the Options Listing Rules. These minor changes are designed to conform the NOM rules to the equivalent ISE rules, as well as to increase the clarity of the rules. This includes some reorganization and renumbering within the Options Listing Rules' subsections to ensure they remain consistent.

The proposed changes that do not fit within the description above are listed below, beginning with changes to Chapter I General Provisions and followed by global changes to the Options Listing Rules. The changes are then broken down by section within the Options Listing Rules.

Proposed Changes to Chapter I

The Exchange is proposing to add definitions to "Section 1 Definitions". Specifically, the terms "class" "series" and "underlying security" will be added to Section 1(a) as (72), (73), and (74), respectively.⁶ The Exchange believes that using the definitions for these terms as defined in the By-Laws of The Options Clearing Corporation ("OCC") uniformly across Nasdaq, Inc.'s exchanges will help to align them.

⁶ See OCC By-Laws Article I – Definitions C.(11); S.(12); and U.(3), respectively.

Providing uniform, clear and precise definitions for these terms will provide consistency, lessen potential confusion and add clarity for market participants.

Section 1 of Chapter I also will be amended to change “NOM” to “the Exchange”.

Proposed Changes to the Options Listing Rules

Global Changes

As described above, the current Options Listing Rules will be amended throughout to change “NOM” to “the Exchange”. This proposed change will add consistency throughout the chapter. “Nasdaq Regulation” also will be changed to “the Exchange” throughout the Options Listing Rules to update the appropriate references. Additionally, there are a number of minor changes made throughout the chapter to increase the clarity of the language, as well as renumbering within the section to ensure it remains consistent.

Proposed Changes to Section 1 Designation of Securities

This section will be amended to clarify that the options contracts that are designated by reference to the issuer of the underlying security can also be designated by reference to the name of the underlying foreign currency. Additionally, it can be referenced by not only the expiration month, but also by the expiration date.

Proposed Changes to Section 2 Rights and Obligations of Holders and Writers

This section will be amended to clarify that option contracts of any class of options dealt in on the Exchange are subject to the provisions of Options 4 and as set forth in the rules of the Clearing Corporation. This change clarifies the rights and obligations of holders and writers of option contracts.

Proposed Changes to Section 3 Criteria for Underlying Securities

Section 3(i) of the Options Listing Rules is being replaced and updated by

incorporating the ISE version of the Exchange-Traded Fund (“ETF”) option listing rule.⁷

Most of the changes in Section 3 of the Options Listing Rules simply result from reorganization within the section done to mirror the ISE rule and for greater clarity.

Section 3(k)(ii) of the Options Listing Rules will be amended to delete the language stating that Nasdaq will “employ the same procedures to qualify underlying securities pursuant to this subsection (k) as it employs in qualifying underlying securities pursuant to other subsections of this Section 3.” This deleted language is unnecessary since it is redundant given that each of the other subsections in Section 3 have procedures to qualify underlying securities plus it is also not reflected in the ISE rule version being adopted for this section.

Section 3(m) will be deleted since the definition of “Partnership Unit” is a remnant from the legacy Nasdaq ETF listing rule and is unnecessary since it has never been used. It also is not reflected in the ISE rule version being adopted for this section.

Proposed Changes to Section 4 Withdrawal of Approval of Underlying Securities

Section 4(a) of the Options Listing Rules will be amended to add flexibility for the Exchange to choose whether to decline new additional series of options on the underlying security previously approved.⁸ Currently, this section restricts this, but flexibility is being added to give greater discretion about adding series and an exception also will be added that opening transactions by market makers executed to accommodate closing transactions of other market participants may be permitted. This will provide the public with greater protection since it will allow the Exchange to now decline new

⁷ See ISE Rule 502(h).

⁸ See ISE Rule 503(a).

additional series of options on the underlying security previously approved that may not be in the best interests of the public.

Section 4(h)(ii) of the Options Listing Rules will be amended to change for options covering Exchange-Traded Fund Shares approved pursuant to Section 3(i)(iv)(2) of Options 4, following the initial twelve-month period beginning upon the commencement of trading in the Exchange-Traded Fund Shares on a national securities exchange and are defined as NMS stock under Rule 600 of Regulation NMS, that there were fewer than 50 record and/or beneficial holders of such Exchange-Traded Fund Shares for 30 or more consecutive trading days rather than as it is currently stated for 30 consecutive days. It is only on trading days that the information regarding 50 record and/or beneficial holders can be ascertained. Also, the change is consistent with the ISE rule.⁹

Proposed Changes to Section 6 Series of Options Contracts Open for Trading

Section 6(a) of the Options Listing Rules will be amended to add to note that exercise-price setting parameters adopted as part of the Options Listing Procedures Plan will be included in Supplementary Material .02 Select Provisions of Options Listing Procedures Plan.

In order to mirror the equivalent ISE rules,¹⁰ Section 6(d)iv of the Options Listing Rules will be amended to incorporate, in large part, former Supplementary Material .03 within Section 6 itself. Also, Section 6(d)v of the Options Listing Rules will be relocated

⁹ See ISE Rule 503(h)(2).

¹⁰ See ISE Rule 504(g).

to .10 of the Supplementary Material to Section 6 of the Options Listing Rules.¹¹

Supplementary Material .01(a) and (b) to Section 6 will detail the \$1 Strike Price Interval Program and will replace .01 and .02 of the Supplementary Material to Section 6. Select Provisions of Options Listing Procedures Plan (“OLPP”) will be added as Supplementary Material .02 to Section 6.

Supplementary Material .03 and .04 will detail the Short Term Option Series Program¹² and the Quarterly Options Series Program,¹³ respectively, and each will be consistent with the equivalent ISE rule.

.05 of the Supplementary Material to Section 6 will be amended to cover the intervals between strike prices for Mini-Nasdaq 100 Index options series and will be consistent with the equivalent ISE rule.¹⁴

The first sentence of .06 Range Limitations for New Option Series of the Options Listing Rules has been deleted since it is covered in .02 of the Supplementary Material to Section 6, but the definition of OLPP has been moved to Section 6(a).

The introductory paragraph to .02 of the Supplementary Material to Section 6 of the Options Listing Rules details that the quote mitigation strategy and is codified in the OLPP. Subsection (a) states that the exercise price of each options series listed by the Exchange is fixed at a price per share that is reasonably close to the price of the underlying equity security, ETF or Trust Issued Receipt at or about the time the

¹¹ See ISE Supplementary Material .09 to Rule 504.

¹² See ISE Supplementary Material .02 to Rule 504.

¹³ See ISE Supplementary Material .03 to Rule 504.

¹⁴ See ISE Supplementary Material .04 to Rule 504.

Exchange determines to list such series. Subsection (a)(ii) says that for new expiration months, the daily high and low of all prices reported by all national securities exchanges on the day the Exchange determines its preliminary notification of a new series. The amended language will say that the price of the underlying security is measured by, for new expiration months, the daily high and low of all prices reported by all national securities exchanges on the day the Exchange determines its preliminary notification of a new series rather than on the day the Exchange determines to list a new series. This change also mirrors the language in the ISE rules.¹⁵

Subsection (c) will be added to the Supplementary Material to Section 6 of the Options Listing Rules to make clear that subsection (a) of the Supplementary Material to Section 6 of the Options Listing Rules will not permit the listing of series that are otherwise prohibited by the rules of the Exchange or the OLPP. Additionally, to the extent the rules of the Exchange permit the listing of new series that are otherwise prohibited by the provisions of the OLPP, the provisions of the OLPP will govern. These changes are consistent with the ISE rules.¹⁶

Supplementary Material .16 U.S. Dollar-Settled Foreign Currency Options (formerly Supplementary Material .09) will be amended to reflect the language of the equivalent Phlx Rule since ISE does not have U.S. Dollar-Settled Foreign Currency Options.¹⁷ Also, the references to the continuity rules here (formerly Supplementary Material .09(C)) and in Section 8. Long-Term Options Contracts have been deleted since

¹⁵ See ISE Rule 504A(b)(i)(2).

¹⁶ See ISE Rule 504A(b)(v) and (vi).

¹⁷ See Phlx Rule 1012(a)(iii).

quoting obligations for long term options has recently been updated and addressed in Phlx Rule 1081 and in NOM Chapter VII Section 6.

The Exchange is also proposing to delete Nasdaq Rule 5712. Alpha Index-Linked Securities.¹⁸ This rule was adopted in 2012, but no product has ever been listed under it and the Exchange now considers it obsolete. The Exchange proposes to remove Nasdaq Rule 5712 from its rulebook and lessen any potential confusion for market participants.

b. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that its proposal is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act,¹⁹ in general, and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(5) of the Act,²⁰ in particular, in that it is designed to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system, and, in general to protect investors and the public interest.

The Exchange believes that the relocation of its Options Listing Rules is a non-substantive change and is consistent with similar filings by the Exchange for the relocation of its rules.²¹ As noted above, the relocation of the Options Listing Rules is part of the Exchange's continued effort to promote efficiency and the structural conformity of its processes with those of the Affiliated Exchanges,²² and its goal of harmonizing and uniformizing its rules. Additionally, the relocation of the Options

¹⁸ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 67617 (August 8, 2012), 82 FR 57494 (August 14, 2012) (SR-NASDAQ-2012-068).

¹⁹ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

²⁰ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

²¹ See footnote 3.

²² Id.

Listing Rules will facilitate the use of the Rulebook by Members²³ of the Exchange, who are members of other Affiliated Exchanges; other market participants; and the public in general.

The majority of the changes are also consistent with the ISE rulebook and the overarching goal is to align the NOM rules with those of the ISE. These changes include the change to subsection (a)(ii) of the Supplementary Material to Section 6 to say that the price of the underlying security is measured by, for new expiration months, the daily high and low of all prices reported by all national securities exchanges on the day the Exchange determines its preliminary notification of a new series rather than on the day the Exchange determines to list a new series.

Another such change is amending the Options Listing Rules to change for options covering Exchange-Traded Fund Shares approved pursuant to Section 3(i)(iv)(2) of Options 4, following the initial twelve-month period beginning upon the commencement of trading in the Exchange-Traded Fund Shares on a national securities exchange and are defined as NMS stock under Rule 600 of Regulation NMS, that there were fewer than 50 record and/or beneficial holders of such Exchange-Traded Fund Shares for 30 or more consecutive trading days rather than as it is currently stated for 30 consecutive days. It is only on trading days that the information regarding 50 record and/or beneficial holders can be ascertained. This change serves to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system, and, in general to protect investors and the public interest.

The Exchange believes that amending Section 4(a) of the Options Listing Rules to

²³ As defined by Exchange Rule 0120(i).

add flexibility for the Exchange to choose whether to decline new additional series of options on the underlying security previously approved will serve to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system, and, in general to protect investors and the public interest since it will allow the Exchange to now decline new additional series of options on the underlying security previously approved that may not be in the best interests of the public.

The Exchange believe that adding definitions for the terms “class”, “series”, and “underlying security” to the NOM rulebook from the OCC By-Laws will help remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system, and, in general to protect investors and the public interest through providing uniform, clear and precise definitions for these terms and increase consistency, lessen potential confusion and add clarity for market participants.²⁴

The Exchange also believes that the elimination of Nasdaq Rule 5712 Alpha Index-Linked Securities is not a material change because it is obsolete and the Exchange has never listed a product under this rule.

As a result, the Exchange believes that the changes included in this filing serve to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system, and, in general to protect investors and the public interest since the changes are intended to organize the Rulebook in a way that it will ease the Members’, market participants’, and the general public’s navigation and reading of the rules.

²⁴ See footnote 6.

With respect to the proposed technical corrections to the rules, the Exchange believes that these changes are consistent with the Act because they will prevent investor confusion that may be caused by including in the Rules incorrect rule citations and defunct rule text.

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. The proposed change does not impose a burden on competition because, as previously stated, it (i) is of a non-substantive nature, (ii) is intended to harmonize the structure of the Exchange's rules with those of its Affiliated Exchanges, and (iii) is intended to organize the Rulebook in a way that it will ease the Members', market participants', and the general public's navigation and reading of the rules.

Consequently, the Exchange does not believe that the proposed changes implicate competition at all.

5. 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.

6. Extension of Time Period for Commission Action

Not applicable.

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

The foregoing rule change has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(iii)²⁵ of the Act and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder²⁶ in that it effects a change

²⁵ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(iii).

that: (i) does not significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest; (ii) does not impose any significant burden on competition; and (iii) by its terms, does not become operative for 30 days after the date of the filing, or such shorter time as the Commission may designate if consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest.

The Exchange does not believe that the relocation and amending of the Options Listing Rules (and the elimination of Nasdaq Rule 5712 Alpha Index-Linked Securities) will significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest because the proposed change is only intended to relocate and copy language from ISE rules to conform the aforementioned amended rules and eliminate Nasdaq Rule 5712. Moreover, the Exchange does not believe that this proposal will impose any significant burden on competition because, as explained, the change is non-substantive, is intended to align the structure of the Exchange's Rulebook to the Affiliated Exchanges' and generally seeks to improve the organization and readability of the Exchange's rules. The Exchange does not believe that the proposed changes implicate competition at all.

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. Proposed Rule Change Based on Rules of Another Self-Regulatory Organization or of the Commission

Many of the changes are based on the ISE rulebook,²⁷ as well as in one instance on the equivalent options rule in the Phlx rulebook²⁸ and one change based on the By-Laws of the OCC, as described above.

9. 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.

²⁷ Supra footnotes 7 -13.

²⁸ Supra footnote 14.

EXHIBIT 1

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
(Release No. _____ ; File No. SR-NASDAQ-2019-047)

May __, 2019

Self-Regulatory Organizations; The Nasdaq Stock Market LLC; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change to Relocate the Options Rules under Chapter IV, Securities Traded on NOM

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (“Act”),¹ and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,² notice is hereby given that on May 23, 2019, The Nasdaq Stock Market LLC (“Nasdaq” 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. Self-Regulatory Organization’s Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed Rule Change

The Exchange proposes to relocate The Nasdaq Options Market LLC (“NOM”) Rules at Chapter IV (Securities Traded on NOM) under the Options 4 title in the Exchange’s rulebook’s (“Rulebook”) shell structure.³

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

³ In 2017, the Exchange added a shell structure to its Rulebook with the purpose of improving efficiency and readability and to align its rules closer to those of its five sister exchanges, Nasdaq BX, Inc.; Nasdaq PHLX LLC; Nasdaq ISE, LLC; Nasdaq GEMX, LLC; and Nasdaq MRX, LLC (“Affiliated Exchanges”). See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 82175 (November 29, 2017), 82 FR 57494 (December 5, 2017) (SR-NASDAQ-2017-125).

The proposal also amends the rules as relocated to conform primarily to the equivalent options rules in the Nasdaq ISE, LLC (“ISE”) rulebook, as well as in one instance to the equivalent options rule in the Nasdaq PHLX LLC (“Phlx”) rulebook.

The proposal also amends Section 1 of Chapter I of the NOM Rules to add several definitions. Finally, as a clean-up item, the proposal deletes Nasdaq Rule 5712 Alpha Index-Linked Securities because it is obsolete and the Exchange has never listed a product under this rule.

The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Exchange’s Website at <http://nasdaq.cchwallstreet.com>, at the principal office of the Exchange, and at the Commission’s Public Reference Room.

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

In its filing with the Commission, the Exchange included statements concerning the purpose of and basis for the proposed rule change and discussed any comments it received on the 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. Self-Regulatory Organization’s Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

1. Purpose

The Exchange proposes to relocate the rule text in Chapter IV (Securities Traded on NOM) to the Options 4 title in the Rulebook’s shell structure. For ease of reference and the purposes of this filing, the relocated rules are herein described as the “Options Listing Rules.”

The relocation of the Options Listing Rules is part of the Exchange's continued effort to promote efficiency and the conformity of its processes with those of the Affiliated Exchanges,⁴ and its goal of harmonizing and uniformizing its rules.

This proposed change is of a non-substantive nature. Moreover, the relocation of the Options Listing Rules will facilitate the use of the Rulebook by Members⁵ of the Exchange, who are members of other Affiliated Exchanges; other market participants; and the public in general. The relocated rules will be amended to reflect the equivalent options rules in the ISE rulebook, but the changes are of a non-substantive nature.

The overarching goal is to align the NOM rules with those of the ISE. The Exchange is proposing to amend the rules for NOM, most notably the rule text in the Options Listing Rules concerning securities traded on NOM, but also adding several definitions to Section 1 of Chapter I.

The vast majority of the changes are technical changes and made throughout the Options Listing Rules. These minor changes are designed to conform the NOM rules to the equivalent ISE rules, as well as to increase the clarity of the rules. This includes some reorganization and renumbering within the Options Listing Rules' subsections to ensure they remain consistent.

The proposed changes that do not fit within the description above are listed below, beginning with changes to Chapter I General Provisions and followed by global changes to the Options Listing Rules. The changes are then broken down by section within the Options Listing Rules.

⁴ Id.

⁵ As defined by Exchange Rule 0120(i).

Proposed Changes to Chapter I

The Exchange is proposing to add definitions to “Section 1 Definitions”. Specifically, the terms “class” “series” and “underlying security” will be added to Section 1(a) as (72), (73), and (74), respectively.⁶ The Exchange believes that using the definitions for these terms as defined in the By-Laws of The Options Clearing Corporation (“OCC”) uniformly across Nasdaq, Inc.’s exchanges will help to align them. Providing uniform, clear and precise definitions for these terms will provide consistency, lessen potential confusion and add clarity for market participants.

Section 1 of Chapter I also will be amended to change “NOM” to “the Exchange”.

Proposed Changes to the Options Listing Rules

Global Changes

As described above, the current Options Listing Rules will be amended throughout to change “NOM” to “the Exchange”. This proposed change will add consistency throughout the chapter. “Nasdaq Regulation” also will be changed to “the Exchange” throughout the Options Listing Rules to update the appropriate references. Additionally, there are a number of minor changes made throughout the chapter to increase the clarity of the language, as well as renumbering within the section to ensure it remains consistent.

Proposed Changes to Section 1 Designation of Securities

This section will be amended to clarify that the options contracts that are designated by reference to the issuer of the underlying security can also be designated by reference to the name of the underlying foreign currency. Additionally, it can be

⁶ See OCC By-Laws Article I – Definitions C.(11); S.(12); and U.(3), respectively.

referenced by not only the expiration month, but also by the expiration date.

Proposed Changes to Section 2 Rights and Obligations of Holders and Writers

This section will be amended to clarify that option contracts of any class of options dealt in on the Exchange are subject to the provisions of Options 4 and as set forth in the rules of the Clearing Corporation. This change clarifies the rights and obligations of holders and writers of option contracts.

Proposed Changes to Section 3 Criteria for Underlying Securities

Section 3(i) of the Options Listing Rules is being replaced and updated by incorporating the ISE version of the Exchange-Traded Fund (“ETF”) option listing rule.⁷ Most of the changes in Section 3 of the Options Listing Rules simply result from reorganization within the section done to mirror the ISE rule and for greater clarity.

Section 3(k)(ii) of the Options Listing Rules will be amended to delete the language stating that Nasdaq will “employ the same procedures to qualify underlying securities pursuant to this subsection (k) as it employs in qualifying underlying securities pursuant to other subsections of this Section 3.” This deleted language is unnecessary since it is redundant given that each of the other subsections in Section 3 have procedures to qualify underlying securities plus it is also not reflected in the ISE rule version being adopted for this section.

Section 3(m) will be deleted since the definition of “Partnership Unit” is a remnant from the legacy Nasdaq ETF listing rule and is unnecessary since it has never been used. It also is not reflected in the ISE rule version being adopted for this section.

⁷ See ISE Rule 502(h).

Proposed Changes to Section 4 Withdrawal of Approval of Underlying Securities

Section 4(a) of the Options Listing Rules will be amended to add flexibility for the Exchange to choose whether to decline new additional series of options on the underlying security previously approved.⁸ Currently, this section restricts this, but flexibility is being added to give greater discretion about adding series and an exception also will be added that opening transactions by market makers executed to accommodate closing transactions of other market participants may be permitted. This will provide the public with greater protection since it will allow the Exchange to now decline new additional series of options on the underlying security previously approved that may not be in the best interests of the public.

Section 4(h)(ii) of the Options Listing Rules will be amended to change for options covering Exchange-Traded Fund Shares approved pursuant to Section 3(i)(iv)(2) of Options 4, following the initial twelve-month period beginning upon the commencement of trading in the Exchange-Traded Fund Shares on a national securities exchange and are defined as NMS stock under Rule 600 of Regulation NMS, that there were fewer than 50 record and/or beneficial holders of such Exchange-Traded Fund Shares for 30 or more consecutive trading days rather than as it is currently stated for 30 consecutive days. It is only on trading days that the information regarding 50 record and/or beneficial holders can be ascertained. Also, the change is consistent with the ISE rule.⁹

⁸ See ISE Rule 503(a).

⁹ See ISE Rule 503(h)(2).

Proposed Changes to Section 6 Series of Options Contracts Open for Trading

Section 6(a) of the Options Listing Rules will be amended to add to note that exercise-price setting parameters adopted as part of the Options Listing Procedures Plan will be included in Supplementary Material .02 Select Provisions of Options Listing Procedures Plan.

In order to mirror the equivalent ISE rules,¹⁰ Section 6(d)iv of the Options Listing Rules will be amended to incorporate, in large part, former Supplementary Material .03 within Section 6 itself. Also, Section 6(d)v of the Options Listing Rules will be relocated to .10 of the Supplementary Material to Section 6 of the Options Listing Rules.¹¹

Supplementary Material .01(a) and (b) to Section 6 will detail the \$1 Strike Price Interval Program and will replace .01 and .02 of the Supplementary Material to Section 6. Select Provisions of Options Listing Procedures Plan (“OLPP”) will be added as Supplementary Material .02 to Section 6.

Supplementary Material .03 and .04 will detail the Short Term Option Series Program¹² and the Quarterly Options Series Program,¹³ respectively, and each will be consistent with the equivalent ISE rule.

.05 of the Supplementary Material to Section 6 will be amended to cover the intervals between strike prices for Mini-Nasdaq 100 Index options series and will be

¹⁰ See ISE Rule 504(g).

¹¹ See ISE Supplementary Material .09 to Rule 504.

¹² See ISE Supplementary Material .02 to Rule 504.

¹³ See ISE Supplementary Material .03 to Rule 504.

consistent with the equivalent ISE rule.¹⁴

The first sentence of .06 Range Limitations for New Option Series of the Options Listing Rules has been deleted since it is covered in .02 of the Supplementary Material to Section 6, but the definition of OLPP has been moved to Section 6(a).

The introductory paragraph to .02 of the Supplementary Material to Section 6 of the Options Listing Rules details that the quote mitigation strategy and is codified in the OLPP. Subsection (a) states that the exercise price of each options series listed by the Exchange is fixed at a price per share that is reasonably close to the price of the underlying equity security, ETF or Trust Issued Receipt at or about the time the Exchange determines to list such series. Subsection (a)(ii) says that for new expiration months, the daily high and low of all prices reported by all national securities exchanges on the day the Exchange determines its preliminary notification of a new series. The amended language will say that the price of the underlying security is measured by, for new expiration months, the daily high and low of all prices reported by all national securities exchanges on the day the Exchange determines its preliminary notification of a new series rather than on the day the Exchange determines to list a new series. This change also mirrors the language in the ISE rules.¹⁵

Subsection (c) will be added to the Supplementary Material to Section 6 of the Options Listing Rules to make clear that subsection (a) of the Supplementary Material to Section 6 of the Options Listing Rules will not permit the listing of series that are otherwise prohibited by the rules of the Exchange or the OLPP. Additionally, to the

¹⁴ See ISE Supplementary Material .04 to Rule 504.

¹⁵ See ISE Rule 504A(b)(i)(2).

extent the rules of the Exchange permit the listing of new series that are otherwise prohibited by the provisions of the OLPP, the provisions of the OLPP will govern. These changes are consistent with the ISE rules.¹⁶

Supplementary Material .16 U.S. Dollar-Settled Foreign Currency Options (formerly Supplementary Material .09) will be amended to reflect the language of the equivalent Phlx Rule since ISE does not have U.S. Dollar-Settled Foreign Currency Options.¹⁷ Also, the references to the continuity rules here (formerly Supplementary Material .09(C)) and in Section 8. Long-Term Options Contracts have been deleted since quoting obligations for long term options has recently been updated and addressed in Phlx Rule 1081 and in NOM Chapter VII Section 6.

The Exchange is also proposing to delete Nasdaq Rule 5712. Alpha Index-Linked Securities.¹⁸ This rule was adopted in 2012, but no product has ever been listed under it and the Exchange now considers it obsolete. The Exchange proposes to remove Nasdaq Rule 5712 from its rulebook and lessen any potential confusion for market participants.

2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that its proposal is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act,¹⁹ in general, and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(5) of the Act,²⁰ in particular, in that it is designed to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to remove

¹⁶ See ISE Rule 504A(b)(v) and (vi).

¹⁷ See Phlx Rule 1012(a)(iii).

¹⁸ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 67617 (August 8, 2012), 82 FR 57494 (August 14, 2012) (SR-NASDAQ-2012-068).

¹⁹ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

²⁰ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system, and, in general to protect investors and the public interest.

The Exchange believes that the relocation of its Options Listing Rules is a non-substantive change and is consistent with similar filings by the Exchange for the relocation of its rules.²¹ As noted above, the relocation of the Options Listing Rules is part of the Exchange's continued effort to promote efficiency and the structural conformity of its processes with those of the Affiliated Exchanges,²² and its goal of harmonizing and uniformizing its rules. Additionally, the relocation of the Options Listing Rules will facilitate the use of the Rulebook by Members²³ of the Exchange, who are members of other Affiliated Exchanges; other market participants; and the public in general.

The majority of the changes are also consistent with the ISE rulebook and the overarching goal is to align the NOM rules with those of the ISE. These changes include the change to subsection (a)(ii) of the Supplementary Material to Section 6 to say that the price of the underlying security is measured by, for new expiration months, the daily high and low of all prices reported by all national securities exchanges on the day the Exchange determines its preliminary notification of a new series rather than on the day the Exchange determines to list a new series.

Another such change is amending the Options Listing Rules to change for options covering Exchange-Traded Fund Shares approved pursuant to Section 3(i)(iv)(2) of

²¹ See footnote 3.

²² Id.

²³ As defined by Exchange Rule 0120(i).

Options 4, following the initial twelve-month period beginning upon the commencement of trading in the Exchange-Traded Fund Shares on a national securities exchange and are defined as NMS stock under Rule 600 of Regulation NMS, that there were fewer than 50 record and/or beneficial holders of such Exchange-Traded Fund Shares for 30 or more consecutive trading days rather than as it is currently stated for 30 consecutive days. It is only on trading days that the information regarding 50 record and/or beneficial holders can be ascertained. This change serves to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system, and, in general to protect investors and the public interest.

The Exchange believes that amending Section 4(a) of the Options Listing Rules to add flexibility for the Exchange to choose whether to decline new additional series of options on the underlying security previously approved will serve to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system, and, in general to protect investors and the public interest since it will allow the Exchange to now decline new additional series of options on the underlying security previously approved that may not be in the best interests of the public.

The Exchange believe that adding definitions for the terms “class”, “series”, and “underlying security” to the NOM rulebook from the OCC By-Laws will help remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system, and, in general to protect investors and the public interest through providing uniform, clear and precise definitions for these terms and increase consistency, lessen potential confusion and add clarity for market participants.²⁴

²⁴ See footnote 6.

The Exchange also believes that the elimination of Nasdaq Rule 5712 Alpha Index-Linked Securities is not a material change because it is obsolete and the Exchange has never listed a product under this rule.

As a result, the Exchange believes that the changes included in this filing serve to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system, and, in general to protect investors and the public interest since the changes are intended to organize the Rulebook in a way that it will ease the Members', market participants', and the general public's navigation and reading of the rules.

With respect to the proposed technical corrections to the rules, the Exchange believes that these changes are consistent with the Act because they will prevent investor confusion that may be caused by including in the Rules incorrect rule citations and defunct rule text.

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

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on competition not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. The proposed change does not impose a burden on competition because, as previously stated, it (i) is of a non-substantive nature, (ii) is intended to harmonize the structure of the Exchange's rules with those of its Affiliated Exchanges, and (iii) is intended to organize the Rulebook in a way that it will ease the Members', market participants', and the general public's navigation and reading of the rules.

Consequently, the Exchange does not believe that the proposed changes implicate competition at all.

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

No written comments were either solicited or received.

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

Because the foregoing proposed rule change does not: (i) significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest; (ii) impose any significant burden on competition; and (iii) become operative for 30 days from the date on which it was filed, or such shorter time as the Commission may designate, it has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(iii) of the Act²⁵ and subparagraph (f)(6) of Rule 19b-4 thereunder.²⁶

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 necessary or appropriate in the public interest, for the protection of investors, or 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.

²⁵ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(iii).

²⁶ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6). In addition, Rule 19b-4(f)(6) requires a self-regulatory organization to give the Commission written notice of its intent to file the proposed rule change at least five business days prior to the date of filing of the proposed rule change, or such shorter time as designated by the Commission. The Exchange has satisfied this requirement.

IV. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views, and arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act. Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

Electronic comments:

- Use the Commission's Internet comment form (<http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml>); or
- Send an e-mail to rule-comments@sec.gov. Please include File Number SR-NASDAQ-2019-047 on the subject line.

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-NASDAQ-2019-047. This file number should be included on the subject line if e-mail is used. To help the Commission process and review your comments more efficiently, please use only one method. The Commission will post all comments on the Commission's Internet Web site (<http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml>).

Copies of the submission, all subsequent amendments, all written statements with respect to the proposed rule change that are filed with the Commission, and all written communications relating to the proposed rule change between the Commission and any person, other than those that may be withheld from the public in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552, will be available for 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-NASDAQ-2019-047 and should be submitted on or before [insert date 21 days from publication in the Federal Register].

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.²⁷

Eduardo A. Aleman
Assistant Secretary

²⁷ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

EXHIBIT 5

Deleted text is [bracketed]. New text is underlined.

The Nasdaq Stock Market Rules

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Equity Rules

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5700. Other Securities

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5712. Reserved[Alpha Index-Linked Securities

Equity Index-Linked Securities are Linked Securities, as defined in Exchange Rule 5710, that provide for the payment at maturity of a cash amount based on the performance of an underlying equity index or indexes (an "Equity Reference Asset"). Nasdaq will consider for listing and trading Equity Index-Linked Securities with respect to which the Equity Reference Asset is one of the following indexes (the "Alpha Indexes"): GOOG vs. SPY (GOOSY) and AAPL vs. SPY (AVSPY). Each such Equity Index-Linked Security is referred to herein as an Alpha Index-Linked Security.

The Alpha Indexes are proprietary relative performance based indexes owned and maintained by Nasdaq, Inc. Each Alpha Index consists of two components. The Alpha Indexes that underlie Alpha Index-Linked Securities measure relative total returns of one stock versus SPY, a non-leveraged ETF share (each such combination of two components is referred to as an "Alpha Pair"). The first component identified in an Alpha Pair (the "Target Component") is measured against the second component identified in the Alpha Pair (the "Benchmark Component").

- (a) Nasdaq will file separate proposals under Section 19(b) of the Act before listing and trading separate and distinct Alpha Index-Linked Securities that are not linked to previously approved Alpha Indexes. Any statements or representations included in the applicable rule proposal under Section 19(b) regarding: (a) the description of the reference assets; (b) limitations on the reference assets; (c) dissemination and availability of the reference asset or intraday indicative values; or (d) the applicability of Nasdaq listing rules specified in such proposals shall constitute continued listing standards.
- (b) **Initial Listing.** Nasdaq will consider Alpha-Index Linked Securities for listing and trading provided that:
 - (i) the requirements set forth for Equity Index-Linked Securities in Exchange Rule 5710(a)-(j) are met; and
 - (ii) each Alpha Index underlying an Alpha Index-Linked Security meets the following criteria. The initial listing criteria set forth in Rule 5710(k)(i)(A) do not

apply to Alpha Index-Linked Securities. Instead, at initial listing of the Alpha Index-Linked Security, options on both the Target Component and the Benchmark Component of the Alpha Index must also be listed and traded on The Nasdaq Options Market and must meet the requirements of Chapter IV, Section 3, Criteria for Underlying Securities, of The Nasdaq Options Market rules. Additionally, both the Target Component's and the Benchmark Component's trading volume (in all markets in which the Target Component and the Benchmark Component are traded) must have averaged at least 2,250,000 shares per day in the preceding twelve months. No Alpha Index-Linked Security will be listed unless and until options overlying each of the Target Component and the Benchmark Component have been listed and traded on a national securities exchange with an average daily options trading volume during the three previous months of at least 10,000 contracts. Finally, values of Alpha Indexes underlying Alpha Index-Linked Securities must be disseminated at least once every second over the Nasdaq Global Index Data Service ("GIDS").

- (c) **Continued Listing.** The continued listing criteria set forth in Rule 5710(k)(i)(B) do not apply to Alpha Index-Linked Securities. Instead, following the initial listing of the Alpha Index-Linked Security, options on both the Target Component and the Benchmark Component of the Alpha Index must continue to meet the continued listing standards set forth by Chapter IV, Section 4, Withdrawal of Approval of Underlying Securities, of The Nasdaq Options Market rules. Additionally, both the Target Component's and the Benchmark Component's trading volume (in all markets in which the Target Component and Benchmark Component are traded) must have averaged at least 2,000,000 shares per day in the preceding twelve months. Following the listing of an Alpha Index-Linked Security, options on each of the Target Component and Benchmark Component of the Alpha Index must continue to meet the options average daily volume standard set forth in Section (a)(ii) above.
- (d) **Delisting or Removal Proceedings.** Nasdaq may halt trading in the securities and will initiate delisting proceedings pursuant to the Rule 5800 Series (unless the Commission has approved the continued trading) with respect to any Alpha Index-Linked Security if the standards set forth in Rule 5712(c) with respect to the underlying Alpha Index or any of the requirements below are not continuously maintained.
- (i) if the aggregate market value or principal amount of the Alpha Index-Linked Securities publicly held is less than \$400,000;
 - (ii) if an interruption to the dissemination of the value of the underlying Alpha Index persists past the trading day in which it occurred or is no longer calculated or widely disseminated on at least a one second basis, provided, however, that if the official index value does not change during some or all of the period when trading is occurring on Nasdaq then the last calculated official index value must remain available throughout Nasdaq trading hours;

- (iii) if such other event shall occur or condition exists which in the opinion of Nasdaq makes further dealings on Nasdaq inadvisable;
- (iv) if the Alpha-Index Linked Securities no longer comply with any statements or representations included in the applicable rule proposal under Section 19(b) regarding: (a) the description of the reference assets; (b) limitations on the reference assets; (c) dissemination and availability of the reference asset or intraday indicative values; or (d) the applicability of Nasdaq listing rules specified in such proposals; or
- (v) if any of the requirements set forth in this rule are not continuously maintained.
- (vi) if an underlying Alpha Index fails to satisfy the maintenance standards or conditions for such index as set forth by the Commission in its order under Section 19(b) of the Act approving the index for the trading of options or other derivatives.]

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Options Rules

Chapter I General Provisions

Sec. 1 Definition

(a) With respect to these [NOM]Exchange Rules, the following terms shall have the meanings specified in this Section 1. A term defined elsewhere in the Rules of the Exchange shall have the same meaning with respect to this Chapter I, unless otherwise defined below.

(1) – (71) No change.

(72) The term “class” means, when applied to options, all option contracts of the same type and style covering the same underlying interest; provided, however, that OTC options and listed options that would otherwise constitute a single class of options shall constitute separate classes. When applied to futures, the term “class” means all futures covering the same underlying interest.

(73) The term “series,” when used in respect of options, means all option contracts of the same class and having otherwise identical terms including exercise price (or, in the case of delayed start option contracts that do not yet have a set exercise price, the same exercise price setting formula and exercise price setting date), expiration date, unit of trading and, in the case of futures options or commodity options, series marker if any; and when used in respect of futures, means all futures of the same class having identical terms, including the same maturity date and series marker, if any.

(74) The term "underlying security" when used in respect of any contract other than a cash-settled contract means the security or other asset which the Corporation is obligated

to sell or purchase upon exercise or maturity of the contract. When used in respect of a cash-settled contract, the term means the index or other underlying interest on which the exercise settlement amount or final settlement price is based.

* * * * *

[Chapter IV Securities Traded on NOM

Sec. 1 Designation of Securities

Securities traded on NOM are options contracts, each of which is designated by reference to the issuer of the underlying security, expiration month, exercise price and type (put or call).

Sec. 2 Rights and Obligations of Holders and Writers

The rights and obligations of holders and writers are set forth in the Rules of the Clearing Corporation.

Sec. 3 Criteria for Underlying Securities

(a) Underlying securities with respect to which put or call options contracts are approved for listing and trading on NOM must meet the following criteria:

- i. The security must be registered with the SEC and be an "NMS stock" as defined in Rule 600 of Regulation NMS under the Exchange Act; and
- ii. the security shall be characterized by a substantial number of outstanding shares that are widely held and actively traded.

(b) In addition, Nasdaq Regulation shall from time to time establish standards to be considered in evaluating potential underlying securities for NOM options transactions. There are many relevant factors which must be considered in arriving at such a determination, and the fact that a particular security may meet the standards established by Nasdaq Regulation does not necessarily mean that it will be selected as an underlying security. Nasdaq Regulation may give consideration to maintaining diversity among various industries and issuers in selecting underlying securities. Notwithstanding the foregoing, an underlying security will not be selected unless:

- i. There are a minimum of seven (7) million shares of the underlying security which are owned by persons other than those required to report their stock holdings under Section 16(a) of the Exchange Act.
- ii. There are a minimum of 2,000 holders of the underlying security.
- iii. The issuer is in compliance with any applicable requirements of the Exchange Act or Rules thereunder.
- iv. Trading volume (in all markets in which the underlying security is traded) has been at least 2,400,000 shares in the preceding twelve (12) months.

v. Either:

1) If the underlying security is a "covered security" as defined under Section 18(b)(1)(A) of the Securities Act of 1933, the market price per share of the underlying security has been at least \$3.00 for the previous three consecutive business days preceding the date on which the Exchange submits a certificate to the Clearing Corporation for listing and trading, as measured by the closing price reported in the primary market in which the underlying security is traded; or

2) If the underlying security is not a "covered security," the market price per share of the underlying security has been at least \$7.50 for the majority of business days during the three (3) calendar months preceding the date of selection, as measured by the lowest closing price reported in any market in which the underlying security traded on each of the subject days.

(c) Securities of Restructured Companies

i. Definitions. The following definitions shall apply to the provisions of this paragraph (c):

- 1) "Restructuring Transaction" refers to a spin-off, reorganization, recapitalization, restructuring or similar corporate transaction.
- 2) "Restructure Security" refers to an equity security that a company issues, or anticipates issuing, as the result of a Restructuring Transaction of the company.
- 3) "Original Equity Security" refers to a company's equity security that is issued and outstanding prior to the effective date of a Restructuring Transaction of the company.
- 4) "Relevant Percentage" refers to either: (i) twenty-five percent (25%), when the applicable measure determined with respect to the Original Equity Security or the business it represents includes the business represented by the Restructure Security; or (ii) thirty-three and one-third percent (33-1/3%), when the applicable measure determined with respect to the Original Equity Security or the business it represents excludes the business represented by the Restructure Security.

ii. "Share" and "Number of Shareholder" Standards. In determining whether a Restructure Security satisfies the share standard set forth in this Section 3(b)(i) (the "Share Standard") or the number of holders standard set forth in this Section 3(b)(ii) (the "Number of Shareholders Standard"), Nasdaq Regulation may rely upon the facts and circumstances that it expects to exist on the option's intended listing date, rather than on the date on which Nasdaq Regulation selects for options trading the underlying Restructure Security.

1) Nasdaq Regulation may assume that: (i) both the "Share" and "Number of Shareholders" Standards are satisfied if, on the option's intended listing date, Nasdaq

Regulation expects no fewer than forty (40) million shares of the Restructure Security to be issued and outstanding; and (ii) either such Standard is satisfied if, on the option's intended listing day, Nasdaq Regulation expects the Restructure Security to be listed on an exchange or automatic quotation system that has, and is subject to, an initial listing requirement that is no less stringent than the Standard in question.

2) Nasdaq Regulation may not rely on any such assumption, however, if a reasonable Nasdaq Regulation investigation or that of another exchange demonstrates that either the Share Standard or Number of Shareholders Standard will not in fact be satisfied on an option's intended listing date.

3) In addition, in the case of a Restructuring Transaction in which the shares of a Restructure Security are issued or distributed to the holders of shares of an Original Equity Security, Nasdaq Regulation may determine that either the Share Standard or the Number of Shareholders Standard is satisfied based upon Nasdaq Regulation's knowledge of the outstanding shares or number of shareholders of the Original Equity Security.

iii. "Trading Volume" Standard. In determining whether a Restructure Security that is issued or distributed to the holders of shares of an Original Equity Security (but not a Restructure Security that is issued pursuant to a public offering or rights distribution) satisfies the trading volume standard set forth in Section 3(b)(iv) (the "Trading Volume Standard"), Nasdaq Regulation may consider the trading volume history of the Original Equity Security prior to the "ex-date" of the Restructuring Transaction if the Restructure Security satisfies the "Substantiality Test" set forth in subparagraph (v) below.

iv. "Market Price" Standard. In determining whether a Restructure Security satisfies the market price history standard set forth in Section 3(b)(v) (the "Market Price Standard"), Nasdaq Regulation may consider the market price history of the Original Equity Security prior to the "ex-date" of the Restructuring Transaction if:

1) the Restructure Security satisfies the "Substantiality Test" set forth in subparagraph (v) below; and

2) in the case of the application of the Market Price Standard to a Restructure Security that is distributed pursuant to a public offering or a rights distribution: (i) the Restructure Security trades "regular way" on an exchange or automatic quotation system for at least the five trading days immediately preceding the date of selection; and (ii) at the close of trading on each trading day on which the Restructure Security trades "regular way" prior to the date of selection, and the opening of trading on the date of selection, the market price of the Restructure Security was at least \$7.50, or, if the Restructure Security is a "covered security," as defined in Section 3(b)(v)(1), the market price of the Restructure Security was at least \$3.00.

v. The "Substantiality Test." A Restructure Security satisfies the "Substantiality Test" if:

- 1) the Restructure Security has an aggregate market value of at least \$500 million; or
- 2) at least one of the following conditions is met:
 - (a) the aggregate market value of the Restructure Security equals or exceeds the Relevant Percentage of the aggregate market value of the Original Equity Security;
 - (b) the aggregate book value of the assets attributed to the business represented by the Restructure Security equals or exceeds both \$50 million and the Relevant Percentage of the aggregate book value of the assets attributed to the business represented by the Original Equity Security; or
 - (c) the revenues attributed to the business represented by the Restructure Security equals or exceeds both \$50 million and the Relevant Percentage of the revenues attributed to the business represented by the Original Equity Security.
- vi. A Restructure Security's aggregate market value may be determined from "when issued" prices, if available.
- vii. In calculating comparative aggregate market values for the purpose of assessing whether a Restructure Security qualifies to underlie an option, Nasdaq Regulation shall use the Restructure Security's closing price on its primary market on the last business day prior to the selection date or the Restructure Security's opening price on its primary market on the selection date and shall use the corresponding closing or opening price of the related Original Equity Security.
- viii. In calculating comparative asset values and revenues, Nasdaq Regulation shall use either: (a) the issuer's latest annual financial statements or (b) the issuer's most recently available interim financial statements (so long as such interim financial statements cover a period of not less than three months), whichever are more recent. Those financial statements may be audited or unaudited and may be pro forma.
- ix. Except in the case of a Restructure Security that is distributed pursuant to a public offering or rights distribution, Nasdaq Regulation may not rely upon the trading volume or market price history of an Original Equity Security as Paragraph (c) of this Section 3 permits for any trading day unless it relies upon both of those measures for that trading day.
- x. Once Nasdaq Regulation commences to rely upon a Restructure Security's trading volume and market price history for any trading day, Nasdaq Regulation may not rely upon the trading volume and market price history of the security's related Original Equity Security for any trading day thereafter.
- xi. *"When Issued" Trading Prohibited.* Nasdaq Regulation shall not list for trading options contracts that overlie a Restructure Security that is not yet issued and outstanding,

regardless of whether the Restructure Security is trading on a "when issued" basis or on another basis that is contingent upon the issuance or distribution of shares.

(d) In considering underlying securities, Nasdaq Regulation shall ordinarily rely upon information made publicly available by the issuer and/or the markets in which the security is traded.

(e) The word "security" shall be broadly interpreted to mean any equity security, as defined in Rule 3a11-1 under the Exchange Act, which is appropriate for options trading, and the word "shares" shall mean the unit of trading of such security.

(f) Securities deemed appropriate for options trading shall include nonconvertible preferred stock issues and American Depositary Receipts ("ADRs") if they meet the criteria and standards set forth in this Section 3 and if, in the case of ADRs:

i. Nasdaq Regulation has in place an effective surveillance sharing agreement with the primary exchange in the home country where the security underlying the ADR is traded; or

ii. the combined trading volume of the ADR and other related ADRs and securities (as defined below) occurring in the U.S. ADR market or in markets with which the Exchange has in place an effective surveillance sharing agreement represents (on a share equivalent basis) at least fifty percent (50%) of the combined worldwide trading volume in the ADR, the security underlying the ADR, other classes of common stock related to the underlying security, and ADRs overlying such other stock (together "other related ADRs and securities") over the three month period preceding the date of selection of the ADR for options trading; or

iii.

1) the combined trading volume of the ADR and other related ADRs and securities occurring in the U.S. ADR market and in markets where Nasdaq Regulation has in place an effective surveillance sharing agreement, represents (on a share equivalent basis) at least twenty percent (20%) of the combined worldwide trading volume in the ADR and in other related ADRs and securities over the three month period preceding the date of selection of the ADR for options trading,

2) the average daily trading volume for the security in the U.S. markets over the three (3) months preceding the selection of the ADR for options trading is 100,000 or more shares, and

3) the trading volume is at least 60,000 shares per day in U.S. markets on a majority of the trading days for the three (3) months preceding the date of selection of the ADR for options trading ("Daily Trading Volume Standard"); or

iv. the SEC otherwise authorizes the listing.

(g) Securities deemed appropriate for options trading shall include shares issued by registered closed-end management investment companies that invest in the securities of issuers based in one or more foreign countries ("International Funds") if they meet the criteria and standards set forth in this Section 3 and either:

i. Nasdaq Regulation has a market information sharing agreement with the primary home exchange for each of the securities held by the fund, or

ii. the International Fund is classified as a diversified fund as that term is defined by Section 5(b) of the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended, and the securities held by the fund are issued by issuers based in five (5) or more countries.

(h) A "market information sharing agreement" for purposes of this Section is an agreement that would permit Nasdaq Regulation to obtain trading information relating to the securities held by the fund including the identity of the Participant of the foreign exchange executing a trade. International Fund shares not meeting the criteria of paragraph (i) shall be deemed appropriate for options trading if the SEC specifically authorizes the listing thereof.

(i) Securities deemed appropriate for options trading shall include shares or other securities ("Fund Shares"), including but not limited to Partnership Units as defined in this Section 3, that are principally traded on a national securities exchange and are defined as an "NMS stock" under Rule 600 of Regulation NMS, and that (i) represent interests in registered investment companies (or series thereof) organized as open-end management investment companies, unit investment trusts or similar entities, and that hold portfolios of securities comprising or otherwise based on or representing investments in indexes or portfolios of securities (or that hold securities in one or more other registered investment companies that themselves hold such portfolios of securities) ("Funds ") and/or financial instruments including, but not limited to, stock index futures contracts, options on futures, options on securities and indexes, equity caps, collars and floors, swap agreements, forward contracts, repurchase agreements and reverse repurchase agreements (the "Financial Instruments"), and money market instruments, including, but not limited to, U.S. government securities and repurchase agreements (the "Money Market Instruments") constituting or otherwise based on or representing an investment in an index or portfolio of securities and/or Financial Instruments and Money Market Instruments, or (ii) represent commodity pool interests principally engaged, directly or indirectly, in holding and/or managing portfolios or baskets of securities, commodity futures contracts, options on commodity futures contracts, swaps, forward contracts and/or options on physical commodities and /or non-U.S. currency ("Commodity Pool ETFs") or (iii) represent interests in a trust or similar entity that holds a specified non- U.S. currency or currencies deposited with the trust or similar entity when aggregated in some specified minimum number may be surrendered to the trust by the beneficial owner to receive the specified non-U.S. currency or currencies and pays the beneficial owner interest and other distributions on the deposited non-U.S. currency or currencies, if any, declared and paid by the trust ("Currency Trust Shares"), or (iv) represent interests in the SPDR Gold Trust or are issued by the iShares COMEX Gold

Trust or iShares Silver Trust or, ETFS Gold Trust ("SGOL"); provided that all of the following conditions are met:

- i. The Fund Shares are listed pursuant to generic listing standards for series of portfolio depositary receipts and index fund shares based on international or global indexes, in which case a comprehensive surveillance agreement is not required; or
 - (1) any non-U.S. component stocks of the index or portfolio on which the Fund Shares are based that are not subject to comprehensive surveillance agreements do not in the aggregate represent more than 50% of the weight of the index or portfolio;
 - (2) Stocks for which the primary market is in any one country that is not subject to a comprehensive surveillance agreement do not represent 20% or more of the weight of the index; and
 - (3) stocks for which the primary market is in any two countries that are not subject to comprehensive surveillance agreements do not represent 33% or more of the weight of the index.
- ii. the Fund Shares either (1) meet the criteria and standards set forth in paragraphs (a) and (b) of this Section 3 above; or (2) the Fund Shares are available for creation or redemption each business day in cash or in kind from the investment company, commodity pool or other entity at a price related to net asset value, and the investment company, commodity pool or other entity is obligated to provide that Fund Shares may be created even if some or all of the securities and/or cash required to be deposited have not been received by the Fund, the unit investment trust or the management investment company, provided the authorized creation participant has undertaken to deliver the securities and/or cash as soon as possible and such undertaking is secured by the delivery and maintenance of collateral consisting of cash or cash equivalents satisfactory to the Fund, all as described in the Fund's or unit trust's prospectus.
- iii. For Commodity Pool ETFs that engage in holding and/or managing portfolios or baskets commodity futures contracts, options on commodity futures contracts, swaps, forward contracts, options on physical commodities, options on non-U.S. currency and/or securities, the Exchange has entered into a comprehensive surveillance sharing agreement with the marketplace or marketplaces with last sale reporting that represent(s) the highest volume in such commodity futures contracts and/or options on commodity futures contracts on the specified commodities or non-U.S. currency, which are utilized by the national securities exchange where the underlying Commodity Pool ETFs are listed and traded.
- iv. For Currency Trust Shares, the Exchange has entered into a comprehensive surveillance sharing agreement with the marketplace or marketplaces with last sale reporting that represent(s) the highest volume in derivatives (options or futures) on

the specified non-U.S. currency, which are utilized by the national securities exchange where the underlying Currency Trust Shares are listed and traded.

(j) Securities deemed appropriate for options trading shall include shares or other securities ("Trust Issued Receipts") that are principally traded on a national securities exchange or through the facilities of a national securities association and reported as a national market security, and that represent ownership of the specific deposited securities held by a trust, provided:

i. the Trust Issued Receipts (1) meet the criteria and standards for underlying securities set forth in paragraph (b) to this Rule; or (2) must be available for issuance or cancellation each business day from the Trust in exchange for the underlying deposited securities; and

ii. not more than 20% of the weight of the Trust Issued Receipt is represented by ADRs on securities for which the primary market is not subject to a comprehensive surveillance agreement.

(k) Notwithstanding the requirements set forth in Paragraphs (b)(i), (b)(ii), (b)(iv), and (b)(v) above, options may be listed for trading on NOM if:

(i) the underlying security meets the guidelines for continued listing in Chapter 4, Section 4; and

(ii) options on such underlying security are listed and traded on at least one other national securities exchange.

Nasdaq shall employ the same procedures to qualify underlying securities pursuant to this subsection (k) as it employs in qualifying underlying securities pursuant to other subsections of this Section 3.

(l) Index-Linked Securities

i. Securities deemed appropriate for options trading shall include shares or other securities ("Equity Index-Linked Securities," "Commodity-Linked Securities," "Currency-Linked Securities," "Fixed Income Index-Linked Securities," "Futures-Linked Securities," and "Multifactor Index-Linked Securities," collectively known as "Index-Linked Securities") that are principally traded on a national securities exchange and an "NMS Stock" (as defined in Rule 600 of Regulation NMS under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934), and represent ownership of a security that provides for the payment at maturity, as described below:

(1) Equity Index-Linked Securities are securities that provide for the payment at maturity of a cash amount based on the performance or the leveraged (multiple or inverse) performance of an underlying index or indexes of equity securities ("Equity Reference Asset");

(2) Commodity-Linked Securities are securities that provide for the payment at maturity of a cash amount based on the performance or the leveraged (multiple or inverse) performance of one or more physical commodities or commodity futures, options on commodities, or other commodity derivatives or Commodity-Based Trust Shares or a basket or index of any of the foregoing ("Commodity Reference Asset");

(3) Currency-Linked Securities are securities that provide for the payment at maturity of a cash amount based on the performance or the leveraged (multiple or inverse) performance of one or more currencies, or options on currencies or currency futures or other currency derivatives or Currency Trust Shares (as defined in this Section 3(i)), or a basket or index of any of the foregoing ("Currency Reference Asset");

(4) Fixed Income Index-Linked Securities are securities that provide for the payment at maturity of a cash amount based on the performance or the leveraged (multiple or inverse) performance of one or more notes, bonds, debentures or evidence of indebtedness that include, but are not limited to, U.S. Department of Treasury securities ("Treasury Securities"), government-sponsored entity securities ("GSE Securities"), municipal securities, trust preferred securities, supranational debt and debt of a foreign country or a subdivision thereof or a basket or index of any of the foregoing ("Fixed Income Reference Asset");

(5) Futures-Linked Securities are securities that provide for the payment at maturity of a cash amount based on the performance or the leveraged (multiple or inverse) performance of an index or indexes of futures contracts or options or derivatives on futures contracts ("Futures Reference Asset"); and

(6) Multifactor Index-Linked Securities are securities that provide for the payment at maturity of a cash amount based on the performance or the leveraged (multiple or inverse) performance of any combination of two or more Equity Reference Assets, Commodity Reference Assets, Currency Reference Assets, Fixed Income Reference Assets, or Futures Reference Assets ("Multifactor Reference Asset");

ii. For purposes of paragraph (1) of this Section 3, Equity Reference Assets, Commodity Reference Asset, Currency Reference Assets, Fixed Income Reference Assets, Futures Reference Assets together with Multifactor Reference Assets, collectively will be referred to as "Reference Assets."

iii. (1) The Index-Linked Securities must meet the criteria and guidelines for underlying securities set forth in subsection (b) of this Section 3; or

(2) the Index-Linked Securities must be redeemable at the option of the holder at least on a weekly basis through the issuer at a price related to the applicable underlying Reference Asset. In addition, the issuing company is obligated to issue or repurchase the securities in aggregation units for cash, or cash equivalents, satisfactory to the issuer of Index-Linked Securities which underlie the option as described in the Index-Linked Securities prospectus.

iv. Nasdaq will implement surveillance procedures for options on Index-Linked Securities, including adequate comprehensive surveillance sharing agreements with markets trading in non-U.S. components, as applicable.

(m) "Partnership Unit" means a security (a) that is issued by a partnership that invests in any combination of futures contracts, options on futures contracts, forward contracts, commodities (as defined in Section 1(a)(4) of the Commodity Exchange Act) and/or securities; and (b) that is issued and redeemed daily in specified aggregate amounts at net asset value

(n) U.S. Dollar-Settled Foreign Currency Options. The British pound, the Swiss franc, the Canadian dollar, the Australian dollar, the Japanese yen, the U.S. dollar, the Mexican peso, the Euro, the Brazilian real, the Chinese yuan, the Danish krone, the New Zealand dollar, the Norwegian krone, the Russian ruble, the South African rand, the South Korean won, and the Swedish krona may be approved as underlying foreign currencies for options transactions by the Exchange, subject to any approval criteria the Exchange may deem necessary or appropriate in the interests of maintaining a fair and orderly market or for the protection of investors. In the event that any of the sovereign governments or the European Economic Community's European Monetary System issuing any of the above-mentioned currencies should issue a new currency intended to replace one of the above-mentioned currencies as the standard unit of the official medium of exchange of such government, such new currency also may be approved as an underlying foreign currency for options transactions by the Exchange, subject to any approval criteria the Exchange may deem necessary or appropriate in the interests of maintaining a fair and orderly market or for the protection of investors. Options trading in such new currency may occur simultaneously with options trading in any of the above-mentioned currencies; provided, however, that the Exchange shall withdraw its approval of options transactions in the currency which is intended to be replaced by such new currency as expeditiously as it deems consistent with the maintenance of a fair and orderly market or the protection of investors. The Exchange may determine to withdraw approval of an underlying foreign currency whenever it deems such withdrawal advisable in the public interest or for the protection of investors. In the event that the Exchange effects such a withdrawal, the Exchange shall not open for trading any additional series of options of the class covering that underlying foreign currency.

Sec. 4 Withdrawal of Approval of Underlying Securities

(a) If put or call options contracts with respect to an underlying security are approved for listing and trading on NOM, such approval shall continue in effect until such approval is affirmatively withdrawn by Nasdaq Regulation. Whenever Nasdaq Regulation determines that an underlying security previously approved for NOM Transactions does not meet the then current requirements for continuance of such approval or for any other reason should no longer be approved, Nasdaq will not open for trading any additional series of options of the class covering that underlying security and shall prohibit any opening purchase transactions in series of options of that class previously opened to the extent it deems such action necessary or appropriate; provided, however, that where exceptional circumstances have caused an underlying security not to comply with

Nasdaq's current approval maintenance requirements, regarding number of publicly held shares of publicly held principal amount, number of shareholders, trading volume or market price Nasdaq may, in the interest of maintaining a fair and orderly market or for the protection of investors, determine to continue to open additional series of option contracts of the class covering that underlying security.

(b) An underlying security will not be deemed to meet Nasdaq Regulation's requirements for continued approval whenever any of the following occur:

i. There are fewer than 6,300,000 shares of the underlying security held by persons other than those who are required to report their security holdings under Section 16(a) of the Exchange Act.

ii. There are fewer than 1,600 holders of the underlying security.

iii. The trading volume (in all markets in which the underlying security is traded) has been less than 1,800,000 shares in the preceding twelve (12) months.

iv. Reserved.

v. The underlying security ceases to be an "NMS stock" as defined in Rule 600 of Regulation NMS under the Exchange Act.

vi. If an underlying security is approved for options listing and trading under the provisions of Section 3 of this Chapter IV (Criteria for Underlying Securities), the trading volume of the Original Security (as therein defined) prior to but not after the commencement of trading in the Restructure Security (as therein defined), including "when-issued" trading, may be taken into account in determining whether the trading volume requirement of (iii) of this paragraph (b) is satisfied.

(c) Reserved.

(d) In considering whether any of the events specified in paragraph (b) of this Section 4 have occurred with respect to an underlying security, Nasdaq Regulation shall ordinarily rely on information made publicly available by the issuer and/or the markets in which such security is traded.

(e) If prior to the delisting of a class of options contracts covering an underlying security that has been found not to meet Nasdaq Regulation's requirements for continued approval, Nasdaq Regulation determines that the underlying security again meets Nasdaq Regulation's requirements, Nasdaq may open for trading additional series of options of that class and may lift any restriction on opening purchase transactions imposed by this Section 4.

(f) Whenever Nasdaq Regulation announces that approval of an underlying security has been withdrawn for any reason or that Nasdaq Regulation has been informed that the

issuer of an underlying security has ceased to be in compliance with SEC reporting requirements, each Participant shall, prior to effecting any transaction in options contracts with respect to such underlying security for a Customer, inform such Customer of such fact and of the fact that Nasdaq Regulation may prohibit further transactions in such options contracts to the extent it shall deem such action necessary and appropriate.

(g) If an ADR was initially deemed appropriate for options trading on the grounds that fifty percent (50%) or more of the worldwide trading volume (on a share-equivalent basis) in the ADR and other related ADRs and securities takes place in U.S. markets or in markets with which Nasdaq Regulation has in place an effective surveillance sharing agreement, or if an ADR was initially deemed appropriate for options trading based on the daily trading volume standard in Section 3 of this Chapter IV (Criteria for Underlying Securities), Nasdaq may not open for trading additional series of options on the ADR unless:

- i. The percentage of worldwide trading volume in the ADR and other related securities that takes place in the U.S. and in markets with which Nasdaq Regulation has in place effective surveillance sharing agreements for any consecutive three (3) month period is either: (1) at least thirty percent (30%) without regard to the average daily trading volume in the ADR, or (2) at least fifteen percent (15%) when the average U.S. daily trading volume in the ADR for the previous three (3) months is at least 70,000 shares; or
- ii. Nasdaq Regulation then has in place an effective surveillance sharing agreement with the primary exchange in the home country where the security underlying the ADR is traded; or
- iii. the SEC has otherwise authorized the listing thereof.

(h) Fund Shares approved for options trading pursuant to Section 3 of this Chapter IV will not be deemed to meet the requirements for continued approval, and Nasdaq shall not open for trading any additional series of option contracts of the class covering such Fund Shares if the security is delisted from trading as provided in subparagraph (b)(v) of this Section. In addition, Nasdaq Regulation shall consider the suspension of opening transactions in any series of options of the class covering Fund Shares in any of the following circumstances:

- i. In the case of options covering Fund Shares approved pursuant to Section 3(i)(iv)(1), in accordance with the terms of subparagraphs (b)(i), (ii) and (iii) of this Section 4;
- ii. In the case of options covering Fund Shares approved pursuant to Section 3(i)(iv)(2) of this Chapter IV, following the initial twelve-month period beginning upon the commencement of trading in the Fund Shares on a national securities exchange and are defined as NMS stock under Rule 600 of Regulation NMS, there were fewer than 50 record and/or beneficial holders of such Fund Shares for 30 consecutive days;

iii. the value of the index, non-U.S. currency, portfolio of commodities including commodity futures contracts, options on commodity futures contracts, swaps, forward contracts and/or options on physical commodities and/or Financial Instruments or Money Market Instruments, or portfolio of securities on which the Fund Shares are based is no longer calculated or available; or

iv. such other event occurs or condition exists that in the opinion of Nasdaq Regulation makes further dealing in such options on NOM inadvisable.

(i) Securities initially approved for options trading pursuant to paragraph (j) of Section 3 of this Chapter IV (such securities are defined and referred to in that paragraph as "Trust Issued Receipts") shall not be deemed to meet Nasdaq Regulation's requirements for continued approval, and Nasdaq shall not open for trading any additional series of option contracts of the class covering such Trust Issued Receipts, whenever the Trust Issued Receipts are delisted and trading in the Receipts is suspended on a national securities exchange, or the Trust Issued Receipts are no longer traded as national market securities through the facilities of a national securities association. In addition, Nasdaq Regulation shall consider the suspension of opening transactions in any series of options of the class covering Trust Issued Receipts in any of the following circumstances:

i. in accordance with the terms of paragraph (b) of this Section 4 in the case of options covering Trust Issued Receipts when such options were approved pursuant to subparagraph (j)(i)(1) under Section 3 of this Chapter IV;

ii. upon annual review, the Trust has more than 60 days remaining until termination and there are fewer than 50 record and/or beneficial holders of Trust Issued Receipts for 30 consecutive days;

iii. the Trust has fewer than 50,000 receipts issued and outstanding;

iv. the market value of all receipts issued and outstanding is less than \$1,000,000; or

v. such other event shall occur or condition exist that in the opinion of Nasdaq Regulation makes further dealing in such options on NOM inadvisable.

(j) For Trust Issued Receipts approved for options trading pursuant to paragraph (j) of Section 3 of this Chapter IV that are also Holding Company Depositary Receipts ("HOLDRs"), Nasdaq will not open additional series of options overlying HOLDRs (without prior Commission approval) if: (1) the proportion of securities underlying standardized equity options to all securities held in a HOLDRs trust is less than 80% (as measured by their relative weightings in the HOLDRs trust); or (2) less than 80% of the total number of securities held in a HOLDRs trust underlie standardized equity options.

(k) Index Linked Securities

Absent exceptional circumstances, Index-Linked Securities ("Securities") initially approved for options trading pursuant to paragraph (1) of Chapter IV, Section 3 shall not be deemed to meet Nasdaq's requirements for continued approval, and Nasdaq shall not open for trading any additional series or option contracts of the class covering such Securities whenever the underlying Securities are delisted and trading in the Securities is suspended on a national securities exchange, or the Securities are no longer an "NMS Stock" (as defined in Rule 600 of Regulation NMS under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934). In addition, Nasdaq shall consider the suspension of opening transactions in any series of options of the class covering Index-Linked Securities in any of the following circumstances:

- i. The underlying Index-Linked Security fails to comply with the terms of paragraph (1) of Chapter IV, Section 3;
- ii. In accordance with the terms of paragraph (b) of this Section 4, in the case of options covering Index-Linked Securities when such options were approved pursuant to paragraph (1) of Chapter IV, Section 3, except that, in the case of options covering Index-Linked Securities approved pursuant to paragraph (1)(iii)(2) of Chapter IV, Section 3 that are redeemable at the option of the holder at least on a weekly basis, then option contracts of the class covering such Securities may only continue to be open for trading as long as the Securities are listed on a national securities exchange and are "NMS" stock as defined in Rule 600 of Regulation NMS;
- iii. In the case of any Index-Linked Security trading pursuant to paragraph (1) of Chapter IV, Section 3, the value of the Reference Asset is no longer calculated; or
- iv. Such other event shall occur or condition exist that in the opinion of Nasdaq make further dealing in such options on Nasdaq inadvisable.

(1) Inadequate Volume Delisting.

Absent exceptional circumstances, a security initially approved for options trading may be deemed by Nasdaq not to meet the requirements for continued approval, in which case Nasdaq will not open for trading any additional series of equity option contracts of the class of options and may determine to delist the class of options if it meets the following criteria:

- i. The option has been trading on Nasdaq not less than six (6) months; and
- ii. Nasdaq average daily volume ("ADV") of the entire class of options over the last six (6) month period was less than twenty (20) contracts.

If the option is singly listed only on Nasdaq, Nasdaq will cease to add new series and may delist the class of options when there is no remaining open interest;

Should Nasdaq determine to delist an equity option pursuant to this subsection (l), it will provide notification of the determination to delist such option not less than three (3) days prior to the scheduled delisting date.

(m) If an option series is listed but restricted to closing transactions on another national securities exchange, the Exchange may list such series (even if such series would not otherwise be eligible for listing under the Exchange's rules), which shall also be restricted to closing transactions on the Exchange.

Sec. 5 Reserved

Reserved.

Sec. 6 Series of Options Contracts Open for Trading

(a) After a particular class of options has been approved for listing and trading on NOM by Nasdaq Regulation, Nasdaq from time to time may open for trading series of options in that class. Only options contracts in series of options currently open for trading may be purchased or written on NOM. Prior to the opening of trading in a given series, Nasdaq will fix the expiration month, year and exercise price of that series. For Quarterly Options Series, the Exchange will fix a specific expiration date and exercise price, as provided in Supplementary Material .04.

(b) At the commencement of trading on NOM of a particular class of options, NOM will open a minimum of one (1) series of options in that class. The exercise price of the series will be fixed at a price per share, relative to the underlying stock price in the primary market at about the time that class of options is first opened for trading on NOM.

(c) Additional series of options of the same class may be opened for trading on NOM when Nasdaq deems it necessary to maintain an orderly market, to meet Customer demand or when the market price of the underlying stock moves more than five strike prices from the initial exercise price or prices. The opening of a new series of options shall not affect the series of options of the same class previously opened. New series of options on an individual stock may be added until the beginning of the month in which the options contract will expire. Due to unusual market conditions, Nasdaq, in its discretion, may add a new series of options on an individual stock until the close of trading on the business day prior to the business day of expiration, or, in the case of an option contract expiring on a day that is not a business day, on the second business day prior to expiration.

(d) The interval between strike prices of series of options on individual stocks will be:

- i. \$2.50 or greater where the strike price is \$25.00 or less;
- ii. \$5.00 or greater where the strike price is greater than \$25.00; and
- iii. \$10.00 or greater where the strike price is greater than \$200.00, except as provided in (d)(v).

iv. The interval between strike prices of series of options on Fund Shares approved for options trading pursuant to Section 3 (i) of this Chapter IV shall be fixed at a price per share which is reasonably close to the price per share at which the underlying security is traded in the primary market at or about the same time such series of options is first open for trading on NOM, or at such intervals as may have been established on another options exchange prior to the initiation of trading on NOM.

v. Nasdaq may list series in intervals of \$5 or greater where the strike price is more than \$200 in up to five (5) option classes on individual stocks or on any other option classes if those classes are specifically designated by other securities exchanges that employ a similar \$5 Strike Price Program under their respective rules.

vi. Notwithstanding any other provision regarding strike prices in this rule, non-Short Term Options that are on a class that has been selected to participate in the Short Term Option Series Program (referred to as a "Related non-Short Term Option series") shall be opened during the month prior to expiration in the same manner as permitted in Supplementary Material .07 to Chapter IV, Section 6 and in the same strike price intervals that are permitted in Supplementary Material .07 to Chapter IV, Section 6.

(e) Nasdaq will open at least one expiration month for each class of options open for trading on NOM.

(f) The interval of strike prices may be \$2.50 in any multiply-traded option class to the extent permitted on NOM by the Securities and Exchange Commission or once another exchange trading that option lists strike prices of \$2.50 on such options class.

(g) New series of equity options, options on Exchange Traded Funds, and options on Trust Issued Receipts opened for trading shall be subject to the range limitations set forth in Supplementary Material .01 to this Section 6.

Supplementary Material to Section 6

.01 (a) The interval between strike prices of series of options on individual stocks may be \$2.50 or greater where the strike price is \$25 or less, provided however, that NOM may not list \$2.50 intervals below \$50 (e.g. \$12.50, \$17.50) for any class included within the \$1 Strike Price Program, as detailed below in Supplementary Material .02.

(b) For series of options on Exchange-Traded Fund Shares that satisfy the criteria set forth in Chapter IV, Section 3(i) of these Rules, the interval of strike prices may be \$1 or greater where the strike price is \$200 or less or \$5 or greater where the strike price is over \$200.

(i) \$0.50 and \$1 Intervals for Options Used to Calculate Volatility Indexes.
Notwithstanding the provisions of this Rule, the Exchange may open for trading series at \$0.50 or greater strike price intervals where the strike price is less than \$75

and \$1.00 or greater strike price intervals where the strike price is between \$75 and \$150 for options that are used to calculate a volatility index.

(c) Notwithstanding any other provision regarding the interval of strike prices of series of options on Exchange-Traded Fund Shares in this rule, the interval of strike prices on SPDR® S&P 500® ETF ("SPY"), iShares Core S&P 500 ETF ("IVV"), and the SPDR® Dow Jones® Industrial Average ETF ("DIA") options will be \$1 or greater.

(d) For series of options on Index Linked Securities that satisfy the criteria set forth in Chapter IV, Section 3(l), the interval of strike prices may be \$1 or greater where the strike price is \$200 or less and \$5 or greater where the strike price is more than \$200.

(e) For series of options on Trust Issued Receipts, including Holding Company Depository Receipts (HOLDRS) that satisfy the criteria set forth in Chapter IV, Section 3(j) of these Rules, the interval of strike prices may be \$1 or greater where the strike price is \$200 or less and \$5 or greater where the strike price is more than \$200.

(f) Exceptions to the strike price intervals above are set forth in Supplementary Material to Section 6 below.

.02 \$1 Strike Price Interval Program: The interval between strike prices of series of options on individual stocks may be:

(a) \$1.00 or greater strike price intervals where the strike price is \$50 or less, but not less than \$1. Except as provided in subparagraph (c) below, the listing of \$1 strike price intervals shall be limited to option classes overlying no more than one hundred fifty (150) individual stocks (the "\$1 Strike Program") as specifically designated by NOM. NOM may list \$1 strike price intervals on any other option classes if those classes are specifically designated by other national securities exchanges that employ a similar \$1 Strike Program under their respective rules. If a class participates in the \$1 Strike Program, \$2.50 strike price intervals are not permitted between \$1 and \$50 for non-LEAPS and LEAPS.

(b) Initial and Additional Series. To be eligible for inclusion into the \$1 Strike Program, an underlying security must close below \$50 in the primary market on the previous trading day.

After a security is added to the \$1 Strike Program, NOM may list \$1 strike price intervals from \$1 to \$50 according to the following parameters:

(i) If the price of the underlying stock is equal to or less than \$20, the Exchange may list series with an exercise price up to 100% above and 100% below the price of the underlying stock. However, the foregoing restriction shall not prohibit the listing of at least five (5) strike prices above and below the price of the underlying stock per expiration month in an option class. For example, if the price of the underlying stock

is \$2, the Exchange would be permitted to list the following series: \$1, \$2, \$3, \$4, \$5, \$6 and \$7.

- (ii) If the price of the underlying stock is greater than \$20, the Exchange may list series with an exercise price up to 50% above and 50% below the price of the underlying security up to \$50.
- (iii) For the purpose of adding strikes under the \$1 Strike Program, the "price of the underlying stock" shall be measured in the same way as "the price of the underlying security" is as set forth in .06(a) of Supplemental Material to Section 6.
- (iv) No additional series in \$1 strike price intervals may be listed if the underlying stock closes at or above \$50 in its primary market. Additional series in \$1 strike price intervals may not be added until the underlying stock closes again below \$50.
- (v) LEAPS. For stocks in the \$1 Strike Program, the Exchange may list one \$1 strike price interval between each standard \$5 strike interval, with the \$1 strike price interval being \$2 above the standard strike for each interval above the price of the underlying stock, and \$2 below the standard strike for each interval below the price of the underlying stock ("2 wings"). For example, if the price of the underlying stock is \$24.50, the Exchange may list the following standard strikes in \$5 intervals: \$15, \$20, \$25, \$30 and \$35. Between these standard \$5 strikes, the Exchange may list the following \$2 wings: \$18, \$27 and \$32. In addition, the Exchange may list the \$1 strike price interval which is \$2 above the standard strike just below the underlying price at the time of listing. In the above example, since the standard strike just below the underlying price (\$24.50) is \$20, the Exchange may list a \$22 strike. The Exchange may add additional long-term options series strikes as the price of the underlying stock moves, consistent with the OLPP.

Additional long-term option strikes may not be listed within \$1 of an existing strike until less than nine months to expiration.

A security shall remain in the \$1 Strike Program until otherwise designated by NOM.

(c) The Exchange may list \$1 strike prices up to \$5 in any series having greater than nine (9) months until expiration (LEAPS(R)) in up to 200 option classes on individual stocks. The Exchange may not list \$1 strike price intervals within \$0.50 on an existing \$2.50 strike price in the same expiration, except that strike prices of \$2 and \$3 shall be permitted within \$0.50 of a \$2.50 strike price for classes also selected to participate in the \$0.50 Strike Program.

(d) Delisting Policy. For options classes selected to participate in the \$1 Strike Program, the Exchange will, on a monthly basis, review series that were originally listed under the \$1 Strike Program with strike prices that are more than \$5 from the current value of an options class and delist those series with no open interest in both the put and the call series having a: (i) strike higher than the highest strike price with open interest in the put

and/or call series for a given expiration month; and (ii) strike lower than the lowest strike price with open interest in the put and/or call series for a given expiration month. If the Exchange identifies series for delisting pursuant to this policy, the Exchange shall notify other options exchanges with similar delisting policies regarding the eligible series for delisting, and shall work jointly with such other exchanges to develop a uniform list of series to be delisted so as to ensure uniform series delisting of multiply listed options classes.

Notwithstanding the above delisting policy, the Exchange may grant member requests to add strikes and/or maintain strikes in series of options classes traded pursuant to the \$1 Strike Program that are eligible for delisting.

.03

(a) NOM may select up to 60 options classes on individual stocks for which the interval of strike prices will be \$2.50 where the strike price is greater than \$25 but less than \$50. In addition to those options selected by NOM, the strike price interval may be \$2.50 in any multiply-traded option once another exchange trading that option selects such option, as part of this program.

(b) In addition, on any option class that has been selected as part of the \$2.50 Strike Price Program pursuant to paragraph (a) above, the Exchange may list \$2.50 strike prices between \$50 and \$100, provided the \$2.50 strike prices between \$50 and \$100 are no more than \$10 from the closing price of the underlying stock in its primary market on the preceding day. For example, if an option class has been selected as part of \$2.50 Strike Price Program, and the underlying stock closes at \$48.50 in its primary market, the Exchange may list the \$52.50 strike price and the \$57.50 strike price on the next business day. If an underlying security closes at \$54, the Exchange may list the \$52.50 strike price, the \$57.50 strike price, and the \$62.50 strike price on the next business day.

(c) An option class shall remain in the \$2.50 Strike Price Program until otherwise designated by the Exchange and a decertification notice is sent to the Options Clearing Corporation.

.04 *Quarterly Options Series Program:* The Exchange may list and trade P.M. settled options series that expire at the close of business on the last business day of a calendar quarter ("Quarterly Options Series"). The Exchange may list Quarterly Options Series for up to five (5) currently listed options classes that are either index options or options on exchange traded funds ("ETF"). In addition, the Exchange may also list Quarterly Options Series on any options classes that are selected by other securities exchanges that employ a similar program under their respective rules.

(a) The Exchange may list series that expire at the end of the next consecutive four (4) calendar quarters, as well as the fourth quarter of the next calendar year.

(b) Initial Series. The strike price of each Quarterly Options Series will be fixed at a price per share, with at least two strike prices above and two strike prices below the value of the underlying security at about the time that a Quarterly Options Series is opened for trading on the Exchange. The Exchange shall list strike prices for a Quarterly Options Series that are within \$5 from the closing price of the underlying on the preceding day.

(c) Additional Series. Additional Quarterly Options Series of the same class may be opened for trading on the Exchange when the Exchange deems it necessary to maintain an orderly market, to meet customer demand or when the market price of the underlying security moves substantially from the initial exercise price or prices. To the extent that any additional strike prices are listed by the Exchange, such additional strike prices shall be within thirty percent (30%) above or below the closing price of the underlying ETF (or "Fund Shares") as defined in Chapter IV, Section 3(i) on the preceding day. The Exchange may also open additional strike prices of Quarterly Options Series in ETF options that are more than 30% above or below the current price of the underlying ETF provided that demonstrated customer interest exists for such series, as expressed by institutional, corporate, or individual customers or their brokers. Market Makers trading for their own account shall not be considered when determining customer interest under this provision. The opening of new Quarterly Options Series shall not affect the series of options of the same class previously opened.

(d) The interval between strike prices on Quarterly Options Series shall be the same as the interval for strike prices for series in that same options class that expire in accordance with the normal monthly expiration cycle.

(e) Reserved.

(f) Delisting Policy. With respect to Quarterly Options Series added pursuant to the above paragraphs, the Exchange will, on a monthly basis review series that are outside of a range of five (5) strikes above and five (5) strikes below the current price of the ETF, and delist series with no open interest in both the call and the put series having a (i) strike higher than the highest price with open interest in the put and/or call series for a given expiration month; and (ii) strike lower than the lowest strike price with open interest in the put and/or the call series for a given expiration month.

Notwithstanding the above referenced delisting policy, customer requests to add strikes and/or maintain strikes in Quarterly Options Series eligible for delisting shall be granted. In connection with the above referenced delisting policy, if the Exchange identifies series for delisting, the Exchange shall notify other option exchanges with similar delisting policies regarding eligible series for delisting, and shall work with such other exchanges to develop a uniform list of series to be delisted, so as to help to ensure uniform delisting of multiply listed Quarterly Options Series in ETF options.

.05 The interval between strike prices of series of options on individual stocks may be \$0.50 or greater beginning at \$.50 where the strike price is \$5.50 or less, but only for options classes whose underlying security closed at or below \$5.00 in its primary market

on the previous trading day and which have national average daily volume that equals or exceeds 1000 contracts per day as determined by The Options Clearing Corporation during the preceding three calendar months. The listing of \$0.50 strike prices shall be limited to options classes overlying no more than 20 individual stocks (the "\$0.50 Strike Program") as specifically designated by NOM. NOM may list \$0.50 strike prices on any other option classes if those classes are specifically designated by other securities exchanges that employ a similar \$0.50 Strike Program under their respective rules. A stock shall remain in the \$0.50 Strike Program until otherwise designated by NOM.

.06 Range Limitations for New Option Series: Range Limitations applicable to equity options, options on Exchange Traded Funds, and options on Trust Issued Receipts opened for trading are adopted by the Exchange to codify a quote mitigation strategy in the Options Listing Procedures Plan ("OLPP").

- (a) Except as provided in subparagraphs (b) through (d) below, if the price of the underlying security is less than or equal to \$20, the Exchange shall not list new option series with an exercise price more than 100% above or below the price of the underlying security. However, the foregoing restriction shall not prohibit the listing of at least three exercise prices per expiration month in an option class. Except as provided in Supplementary Material to Section 6 at .07(d), if the price of the underlying security is greater than \$20, the Exchange shall not list new option series with an exercise price more than 50% above or below the price of the underlying security.

The price of the underlying security is measured by:

- (i) for intra-day add-on series and next-day series additions, the daily high and low of all prices reported by all national securities exchanges;
 - (ii) for new expiration months, the daily high and low of all prices reported by all national securities exchanges on the day the Exchange determines to list a new series; and
 - (iii) for option series to be added as a result of pre-market trading, the most recent share price reported by all national securities exchanges between 8:45 a.m. and 9:30 a.m. Eastern Time
- (b) The series exercise price range limitations contained in subparagraph (a) above do not apply with regard to:
- (i) the listing of \$1 strike prices in option classes participating in the \$1 Strike Program.
- (c) The Exchange may designate up to five option classes to which the series exercise price range may be up to 100% above and below the price of the underlying security (which underlying security price shall be determined in accordance with

subparagraph (i) above). Such designations shall be made on an annual basis and shall not be removed during the calendar year unless the option class is delisted by the Exchange, in which case the Exchange may designate another option class to replace the delisted class. If a designated option class is delisted by the Exchange but continues to trade on at least one options exchange, the option class shall be subject to the limitations on listing new series set forth in this Supplementary Material .06 unless designated by another exchange.

- (d) If the Exchange has designated five option classes pursuant to subparagraph (c) above, and requests that one or more additional option classes be excepted from the limitations on listing new series set forth in subparagraph (a) above, the additional option class(es) may so be designated upon the unanimous consent of all exchanges that trade such option class(es). Additionally, the Exchange may increase the percentage range for the listing of new series to more than 100% above and below the price of the underlying security for an option class, upon the unanimous consent of all exchanges that trade such option class(es).

Exceptions for an additional class or for an increase of the exercise price range shall apply to all standard expiration months existing at the time of the unanimous consent, plus the next standard expiration month to be added, and also to any nonstandard expirations that occur prior to the next standard monthly expiration.

- (e) The Exchange can list an options series that is listed by another options exchange, provided that at the time such series was listed it was not prohibited under the provisions of the OLPP or the rules of the exchange that initially listed the series.

.07 Short Term Option Series: After an option class has been approved for listing and trading on the Exchange, the Exchange may open for trading on any Thursday or Friday that is a business day ("Short Term Option Opening Date") series of options on that class that expire at the close of business on each of the next five consecutive Fridays that are business days ("Short Term Option Expiration Date"). If the Exchange is not open for business on the respective Thursday or Friday, the Short Term Option Opening Date will be the first business day immediately prior to that respective Thursday or Friday. Similarly, if the Exchange is not open for business on the Friday of the following business week, the Short Term Option Expiration Date will be the first business day immediately prior to that Friday. With respect to Wednesday SPY Expirations, the Exchange may open for trading on any Tuesday or Wednesday that is a business day series of options on the SPDR S&P 500 ETF Trust (SPY) to expire on any Wednesday of the month that is a business day and is not a Wednesday in which Quarterly Options Series expire ("Wednesday SPY Expirations"). With respect to Monday SPY Expirations, the Exchange may open for trading on any Friday or Monday that is a business day series of options on the SPY to expire on any Monday of the month that is a business day and is not a Monday in which Quarterly Options Series expire ("Monday SPY Expirations"), provided that Monday SPY Expirations that are listed on a Friday must be listed at least one business week and one business day prior to the expiration. The Exchange may list up to five consecutive Wednesday SPY Expirations and five consecutive Monday SPY

Expirations at one time; the Exchange may have no more than a total of five Wednesday SPY Expirations and a total of five Monday SPY Expirations. Monday and Wednesday SPY Expirations will be subject to the provisions of this Rule. Regarding Short Term Option Series:

- (a) The Exchange may select up to fifty (50) currently listed option classes on which Short Term Option Series may be opened on any Short Term Option Opening Date. In addition to the fifty-option class restriction, the Exchange also may list Short Term Option Series on any option classes that are selected by other securities exchanges that employ a similar program under their respective rules. For each option class eligible for participation in the Short Term Option Series Program, the Exchange may open up to thirty (30) Short Term Option Series for each expiration date in that class. The Exchange may also open Short Term Option Series that are opened by other securities exchanges in option classes selected by such exchanges under their respective short term option rules.
- (b) With the exception of Monday and Wednesday SPY Expirations, no Short Term Option Series may expire in the same week in which monthly option series on the same class expire. In the case of Quarterly Options Series, no Short Term Option Series may expire on the same day as an expiration of Quarterly Option Series on the same class.
- (c) The strike price of each Short Term Option Series will be fixed at a price per share, with approximately the same number of strike prices being opened above and below the value of the underlying security at about the time that the Short Term Option Series are initially opened for trading on the Exchange (e.g., if seven (7) series are initially opened, there will be at least three (3) strike prices above and three (3) strike prices below the value of the underlying security). Any strike prices listed by the Exchange shall be reasonably close to the price of the underlying equity security and within the following parameters: (i) if the price of the underlying security is less than or equal to \$20, strike prices shall be not more than one hundred percent (100%) above or below the price of the underlying security; and (ii) if the price of the underlying security is greater than \$20, strike prices shall be not more than fifty percent (50%) above or below the price of the underlying security.
- (d) If the Exchange opens less than thirty (30) Short Term Option Series for a Short Term Option Expiration Date, additional series may be opened for trading on the Exchange when the Exchange deems it necessary to maintain an orderly market, to meet customer demand or when the market price of the underlying security moves substantially from the exercise price or prices of the series already opened. Any additional strike prices listed by the Exchange shall be reasonably close to the price of the underlying equity security and within the following parameters: (i) if the price of the underlying security is less than or equal to \$20, additional strike prices shall be not more than one hundred percent (100%) above or below the price of the underlying security; and (ii) if the price of the underlying security is greater than

\$20, additional strike prices shall be not more than fifty percent (50%) above or below the price of the underlying security.

The Exchange may also open additional strike prices of Short Term Option Series that are more than 50% above or below the current price of the underlying security (if the price is greater than \$20); provided that demonstrated customer interest exists for such series, as expressed by institutional, corporate or individual customers or their brokers. Market-Makers trading for their own account shall not be considered when determining customer interest under this provision. The opening of the new Short Term Option Series shall not affect the series of options of the same class previously opened.

In the event that the underlying security has moved such that there are no series that are at least 10% above or below the current price of the underlying security, the Exchange will delist any series with no open interest in both the call and the put series having a: (i) strike higher than the highest price with open interest in the put and/or call series for a given expiration week; and (ii) strike lower than the lowest strike price with open interest in the put and/or the call series for a given expiration week. The opening of the new Short Term Option Series shall not affect the series of options of the same class previously opened.

(e) The interval between strike prices on Short Term Option Series may be (i) \$0.50 or greater where the strike price is less than \$100, and \$1 or greater where the strike price is between \$100 and \$150 for all classes that participate in the Short Term Options Series Program; (ii) \$0.50 for classes that trade in one dollar increments in Related non-Short Term Options and that participate in the Short Term Option Series Program; or (iii) \$2.50 or greater where the strike price is above \$150. Related non-Short Term Option series shall be opened during the month prior to expiration of such Related non-Short Term Option series in the same manner as permitted in Supplementary Material to Section 6 at .07 and in the same strike price intervals that are permitted in Supplementary Material to Section 6 at .07.

.08 Mini Options Contracts

(a) After an option class on a stock, Exchange-Traded Fund Share, Trust Issued Receipt, Exchange Traded Note, and other Index Linked Security with a 100 share deliverable has been approved for listing and trading on the Exchange, series of option contracts with a 10 share deliverable on that stock, Exchange-Traded Fund Share, Trust Issued Receipt, Exchange Traded Note, and other Index Linked Security may be listed for all expirations opened for trading on the Exchange. Mini Option contracts may currently be listed on SPDR S&P 500 ("SPY"), Apple Inc. ("AAPL"), SPDR Gold Trust ("GLD"), Alphabet Inc. ("GOOGL") and Amazon.com Inc. ("AMZN").

- (b) Strike prices for Mini Options shall be set at the same level as for regular options. For example, a call series strike price to deliver 10 shares of stock at \$125 per share has a total deliverable value of \$1250, and the strike price will be set at 125.
- (c) No additional series of Mini Options may be added if the underlying security is trading at \$90 or less. The underlying security must trade above \$90 for five consecutive days prior to listing Mini Options contracts in an additional expiration month.
- (d) The minimum price variation for bids and offers for Mini Options shall be the same as permitted for standard options on the same security. For example, if a security participates in the Penny Pilot Program, Mini Options on the same underlying security may be quoted in the same minimum increments, e.g., \$0.01 for all quotations in series that are quoted at less than \$3 per contract and \$0.05 for all quotations in series that are quoted at \$3 per contract or greater, \$0.01 for all SPY option series, and Mini Options do not separately need to qualify for the Penny Pilot Program.

.09 U.S. Dollar-Settled Foreign Currency Options. Within each class of approved U.S. Dollar- Settled Foreign Currency options, the Exchange may open for trading series of options expiring in consecutive calendar months ("consecutive month series"), as provided in subparagraph (A), and series of options expiring at three-month intervals ("cycle month series"), as provided in subparagraph (B) of this paragraph. Prior to the opening of trading in any series of U.S. Dollar- Settled Foreign Currency Options, the Exchange shall fix the expiration month and exercise price of option contracts included in each such series.

(A) Consecutive Month Series

With respect to each class of U.S. Dollar-Settled Foreign Currency options, series of options having up to four consecutive expiration months may be opened for trading simultaneously, with the shortest-term series initially having no more than two months to expiration. Additional consecutive month series of the same class may be opened for trading on the Exchange at or about the time a prior consecutive month series expires, and the expiration month of each such new series shall normally be the month immediately succeeding the expiration month of the then outstanding consecutive month series of the same class of options having the longest remaining time to expiration.

(B) Cycle Month Series

The Exchange may designate one expiration cycle for each class of U.S. Dollar-Settled Foreign Currency option. An expiration cycle shall consist of four calendar months ("cycle months") occurring at three-month intervals.

With respect to any particular class of U.S. Dollar-Settled Foreign Currency option, series of options expiring in the four cycle months designated by the Exchange for that class may be opened for trading simultaneously, with the shortest-term series initially having approximately three months to expiration. Additional cycle month series of the same class may be opened for trading on the Exchange at or about the time a prior cycle month series expires, and the expiration month of each such new series shall normally be approximately three months after the expiration month of the then outstanding cycle month series of the same class of options having the longest remaining time to expiration.

(C) Long-Term Series

The Exchange may list, with respect to any U.S. Dollar-Settled Foreign Currency, options having up to three years from the time they are listed until expiration. There may be up to ten options series, options having up to thirty-six months from the time they are listed until expiration. There may be up to six additional expiration months. Strike price interval, bid/ask differential and continuity rules shall not apply to such options series until the time to expiration is less than nine months.

(D) For each expiration month opened for trading of U.S. Dollar-Settled Foreign Currency options, in addition to the strike prices listed by the Exchange pursuant to the Supplementary Material at .09 to this Section 6, the Exchange shall also list a single strike price of \$0.01.

(E) Additional series of options of the same class may be opened for trading on the Exchange as the market price of the underlying foreign currency moves substantially from the initial exercise price or prices. The opening of a new series of options on the Exchange shall not affect any other series of options of the same class previously opened.

The Exchange may initially list exercise strike prices for each expiration of U.S. Dollar-Settled Foreign Currency options on currencies within a 40 percent band around the current Exchange Spot Price at fifty cent (\$.50) intervals. Thus, if the Exchange Spot Price of the Euro were at \$100.00, the Exchange would list strikes in \$.50 intervals up to \$120.00 and down to \$80.00, for a total of eighty-one strike prices available for trading. As the Exchange Spot Price for U.S. Dollar-Settled Foreign Currency options moves, the Exchange may list new strike prices that, at the time of listing, do not exceed the Exchange Spot Price by more than 20 percent and are not less than the Exchange Spot Price by more than 20 percent. For example, if at the time of initial listing, the Exchange Spot Price of the Euro is at \$100.00, the strike prices the Exchange will list will be \$80.00 to \$120.00. If the Exchange Spot Price then moves to \$105.00, the Exchange may list additional strikes at the following prices: \$105.50 to \$126.00.

The exercise price of each series of U.S. Dollar-Settled Foreign Currency options opened for trading on the Exchange normally shall be fixed at a price per unit which

is reasonably close to the current Exchange Spot Price per unit of the underlying foreign currency in the foreign exchange market at or before the time such series of options is first opened for trading on the Exchange, as determined by finding the arithmetic mean of Exchange Spot Prices.

- (i) Exchange Spot Price - The term "Exchange Spot Price" in respect of an option contract on a foreign currency means the cash market spot price, for the sale of one foreign currency for another, quoted by various foreign exchange participants for the sale of a single unit of such foreign currency for immediate delivery that is calculated from the foreign currency price quotation reported by the foreign currency price quotation dissemination system selected by the Exchange, to which an appropriate multiplier is applied. The multiplier(s) will be: 100 for the British pound, the Euro, the Swiss Franc, the Canadian dollar, the Australian dollar, the Brazilian real, and the New Zealand dollar; 1,000 for the Chinese yuan, the Danish krone, the Mexican peso, the Norwegian krone, the South African rand, and the Swedish krona; 10,000 for the Japanese yen and the Russian ruble; and 100,000 for the South Korean won.

Sec. 7 Adjustments

Options contracts shall be subject to adjustments in accordance with the Rules of the Clearing Corporation. Nasdaq will announce adjustments, and such changes will be effective for all subsequent transactions in that series at the time specified in the announcement.

Sec. 8 Long-Term Options Contracts

(a) Notwithstanding conflicting language in Section 5 of this Chapter IV (Series of Options Contracts Open for Trading), Nasdaq may list long-term options contracts that expire from twelve (12) to thirty-nine (39) months from the time they are listed. There may be up to ten expiration months for options on the SPDR® S&P 500® exchange-traded fund (the "SPY ETF") and up to six (6) expiration months for options on all other securities. Strike price interval, bid/ask differential and continuity rules shall not apply to such options series until the time to expiration is less than nine (9) months.

(b) After a new long-term options contract series is listed, such series will be opened for trading either when there is buying or selling interest, or forty (40) minutes prior to the close, whichever occurs first. No quotations will be posted for such options series until they are opened for trading.

Sec. 9 U.S. Dollar-Settled Foreign Currency Option Closing Settlement Value

U.S. Dollar-Settled Foreign Currency options are settled in U.S. dollars.

The closing settlement value for the U.S. Dollar-Settled Foreign Currency options on the Australian dollar, the Euro, the British pound, the Canadian dollar, the Swiss franc, the Japanese yen, the Mexican peso, the Brazilian real, the Chinese yuan, the Danish krone, the New Zealand dollar, the Norwegian krone, the Russian ruble, the South African rand, the South Korean won, and the Swedish krona shall be the Exchange Spot Price at

12:00:00 Eastern Time (noon) on the business day of expiration, or, in the case of an option contract expiring on a day that is not a business day, on the business day prior to the expiration date unless the Exchange determines to apply an alternative closing settlement value as a result of extraordinary circumstances.

Neither the Exchange, nor any agent of the Exchange shall have any liability for damages, claims, losses or expenses caused by any errors, omissions, or delays in calculating or disseminating the current settlement value or the closing settlement value resulting from an act, condition, or cause beyond the reasonable control of the Exchange including but not limited to, an act of God; fire; flood; extraordinary weather conditions; war; insurrection; riot; strike; accident; action of government; communications or power failure; equipment or software malfunction; any error, omission, or delay in the reports of transactions in one or more underlying currencies or any error, omission or delay in the reports of the current settlement value or the closing settlement value by the Exchange.

The Exchange shall post the closing settlement value on its website or disseminate it through one or more major market data vendors.]

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Chapter VI Trading Systems

Sec. 1 Definitions

The following definitions apply to Chapter VI for the trading of options listed on NOM.

(a) No change.

(b) The term "System Securities" shall mean all options that are currently trading on NOM pursuant to [Chapter IV]Options 4[above]. All other options shall be "Non System Securities."

(c) – (h) No change.

Sec. 2 Days and Hours of Business

(a) No change.

(b) Except for unusual conditions as may be determined by the Board, hours during which transactions in options on individual stocks may be made on NOM shall correspond to the normal business days and hours for business set forth in the rules of the primary market trading the securities underlying NOM options. Notwithstanding the foregoing, transactions may be effected in options contracts on Fund Shares, as defined in [Chapter 4]Options 4, Section 3(i); and in options contracts on exchange-traded notes including Index-Linked Securities, as defined in [Chapter IV]Options 4, Section 3(1), on NOM until 4:15 p.m.

(c) No change.

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Sec. 5 Minimum Increments

(a) The Board may establish minimum quoting increments for options contracts traded on NOM. Such minimum increments established by the Board will be designated as a stated policy, practice, or interpretation with respect to the administration of this Section within the meaning of Section 19 of the Exchange Act and will be filed with the SEC as a rule change for effectiveness upon filing. Until such time as the Board makes a change in the increments, the following principles shall apply:

(1) – (3) No change.

(4) All Mini Options contracts shall have a minimum price variation as set forth in [Chapter IV]Options 4, Supplementary Material .08 to Section 6.

(b) No change.

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Chapter XIV Index Rules

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Sec. 3 Designation of a Broad-Based Index

(a) The component securities of an index underlying a broad-based index option contract need not meet the requirements of Section 3 of [Chapter IV]Options 4 of these Rules (Criteria for Underlying Securities). Except as set forth in subparagraph (b) below, the listing of a class of index options on a broad-based index requires the filing of a proposed rule change to be approved by the SEC under Section 19(b) of the Exchange Act.

(b) NOM may trade options on a broad-based index pursuant to Rule 19b-4(e) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, if each of the following conditions is satisfied:

(1) – (5) No change.

(6) Component securities that account for at least eighty percent (80%) of the weight of the index satisfy the requirements of Section 3 of [Chapter IV]Options 4 applicable to individual underlying securities;

(7) – (15) No change.

(c) – (e) No change.

* * * * *

Sec. 6 Designation of Narrow-Base and Micro-Narrow-Based Index Options

(a) The component securities of an index underlying a narrow-based index option contract need not meet the requirements of Section 3 of [Chapter IV]Options 4 of these Rules (Criteria for Underlying Securities). Except as set forth in subparagraph (b) below, the listing of a class of index options on a narrow-based index requires the filing of a

proposed rule change to be approved by the SEC under Section 19(b) of the Exchange Act.

(b) *Narrow-Based Index*. NOM may trade options on a narrow-based index pursuant to Rule 19b-4(e) of the 1934 Act, if each of the following conditions is satisfied:

(1) – (6) No change.

(7) Component securities that account for at least 90% of the weight of the index and at least 80% of the total number of component securities in the index satisfy the requirements of [Chapter IV]Options 4, Section 3 applicable to individual underlying securities;

(8) – (12) No change.

(c) – (d) No change.

(e) The following maintenance listing standards shall apply to each class of index options originally listed pursuant to paragraph (d) above:

(1) No change.

(2) Subject to subparagraphs (9) and (10) below, the component securities that account for at least 90% of the total index weight and at least 80% of the total number of component securities in the index must meet the requirements of Section 3 of [Chapter IV]Options 4.

(3) – (15) No change.

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Sec. 11 Terms of Index Options Contracts

(a) – (b) No change.

(c) Procedures for Adding and Deleting Strike Prices. The procedures for adding and deleting strike prices for index options are provided in Section 6 of [Chapter IV]Options 4 of these Rules (Series of Options Contracts Open for Trading), as amended by the following:

(1) – (4) No change.

(d) – (i) No change.

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The Nasdaq Stock Market LLC Rules

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OPTIONS RULES

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Options 4 Options Listing Rules

Section 1. Designation of Securities

Securities traded on the Exchange are options contracts, each of which is designated by reference to the issuer of the underlying security or name of underlying foreign currency, expiration month or expiration date, exercise price and type (put or call).

Section 2. Rights and Obligations of Holders and Writers

Subject to the provisions of this Chapter, the rights and obligations of holders and writers of option contracts of any class of options dealt in on the Exchange shall be as set forth in the Rules of the Clearing Corporation.

Section 3. Criteria for Underlying Securities

(a) Underlying securities with respect to which put or call options contracts are approved for listing and trading on the Exchange must meet the following criteria:

i. The security must be registered with the SEC and be an "NMS stock" as defined in Rule 600 of Regulation NMS under the Exchange Act; and

ii. the security shall be characterized by a substantial number of outstanding shares that are widely held and actively traded.

(b) In addition, the Exchange shall from time to time establish standards to be considered in evaluating potential underlying securities for the Exchange options transactions. There are many relevant factors which must be considered in arriving at such a determination, and the fact that a particular security may meet the standards established by the Exchange does not necessarily mean that it will be selected as an underlying security. The Exchange may give consideration to maintaining diversity among various industries and issuers in selecting underlying securities. Notwithstanding the foregoing, an underlying security will not be selected unless:

i. There are a minimum of seven (7) million shares of the underlying security which are owned by persons other than those required to report their stock holdings under Section 16(a) of the Exchange Act.

ii. There are a minimum of 2,000 holders of the underlying security.

iii. The issuer is in compliance with any applicable requirements of the Exchange Act or Rules thereunder.

iv. Trading volume (in all markets in which the underlying security is traded) has been at least 2,400,000 shares in the preceding twelve (12) months.

v. Either:

1) If the underlying security is a "covered security" as defined under Section 18(b)(1)(A) of the Securities Act of 1933, the market price per share of the underlying security has been at least \$3.00 for the previous three consecutive business days preceding the date on which the Exchange submits a certificate to the Clearing Corporation for listing and trading, as measured by the closing price reported in the primary market in which the underlying security is traded; or

2) If the underlying security is not a "covered security," the market price per share of the underlying security has been at least \$7.50 for the majority of business days during the three (3) calendar months preceding the date of selection, as measured by the lowest closing price reported in any market in which the underlying security traded on each of the subject days.

(c) Securities of Restructured Companies

i. Definitions. The following definitions shall apply to the provisions of this paragraph (c):

1) "Restructuring Transaction" refers to a spin-off, reorganization, recapitalization, restructuring or similar corporate transaction.

2) "Restructure Security" refers to an equity security that a company issues, or anticipates issuing, as the result of a Restructuring Transaction of the company.

3) "Original Equity Security" refers to a company's equity security that is issued and outstanding prior to the effective date of a Restructuring Transaction of the company.

4) "Relevant Percentage" refers to either: (i) twenty-five percent (25%), when the applicable measure determined with respect to the Original Equity Security or the business it represents includes the business represented by the Restructure Security; or (ii) thirty-three and one-third percent (33-1/3%), when the applicable measure determined with respect to the Original Equity Security or the business it represents excludes the business represented by the Restructure Security.

ii. "Share" and "Number of Shareholder" Standards. In determining whether a Restructure Security satisfies the share standard set forth in this Section 3(b)(i) (the "Share Standard") or the number of holders standard set forth in this Section 3(b)(ii) (the "Number of Shareholders Standard"), the Exchange may rely upon the facts and circumstances that it expects to exist on the option's intended listing date, rather than on the date on which the Exchange selects for options trading the underlying Restructure Security.

1) The Exchange may assume that: (i) both the "Share" and "Number of Shareholders" Standards are satisfied if, on the option's intended listing date, the Exchange expects no

fewer than forty (40) million shares of the Restructure Security to be issued and outstanding; and (ii) either such Standard is satisfied if, on the option's intended listing day, the Exchange expects the Restructure Security to be listed on an exchange or automatic quotation system that has, and is subject to, an initial listing requirement that is no less stringent than the Standard in question.

2) The Exchange may not rely on any such assumption, however, if a reasonable the Exchange investigation or that of another exchange demonstrates that either the Share Standard or Number of Shareholders Standard will not in fact be satisfied on an option's intended listing date.

3) In addition, in the case of a Restructuring Transaction in which the shares of a Restructure Security are issued or distributed to the holders of shares of an Original Equity Security, the Exchange may determine that either the Share Standard or the Number of Shareholders Standard is satisfied based upon the Exchange 's knowledge of the outstanding shares or number of shareholders of the Original Equity Security.

iii. "Trading Volume" Standard. In determining whether a Restructure Security that is issued or distributed to the holders of shares of an Original Equity Security (but not a Restructure Security that is issued pursuant to a public offering or rights distribution) satisfies the trading volume standard set forth in Section 3(b)(iv) (the "Trading Volume Standard"), the Exchange may consider the trading volume history of the Original Equity Security prior to the "ex-date" of the Restructuring Transaction if the Restructure Security satisfies the "Substantiality Test" set forth in subparagraph (v) below.

iv. "Market Price" Standard. In determining whether a Restructure Security satisfies the market price history standard set forth in Section 3(b)(v) (the "Market Price Standard"), Nasdaq Regulation may consider the market price history of the Original Equity Security prior to the "ex-date" of the Restructuring Transaction if:

1) the Restructure Security satisfies the "Substantiality Test" set forth in subparagraph (v) below; and

2) in the case of the application of the Market Price Standard to a Restructure Security that is distributed pursuant to a public offering or a rights distribution: (i) the Restructure Security trades "regular way" on an exchange or automatic quotation system for at least the five trading days immediately preceding the date of selection; and (ii) at the close of trading on each trading day on which the Restructure Security trades "regular way" prior to the date of selection, and the opening of trading on the date of selection, the market price of the Restructure Security was at least \$7.50, or, if the Restructure Security is a "covered security," as defined in Section 3(b)(v)(1), the market price of the Restructure Security was at least \$3.00.

v. The "Substantiality Test." A Restructure Security satisfies the "Substantiality Test" if:

1) the Restructure Security has an aggregate market value of at least \$500 million; or

2) at least one of the following conditions is met:

(a) the aggregate market value of the Restructure Security equals or exceeds the Relevant Percentage of the aggregate market value of the Original Equity Security;

(b) the aggregate book value of the assets attributed to the business represented by the Restructure Security equals or exceeds both \$50 million and the Relevant Percentage of the aggregate book value of the assets attributed to the business represented by the Original Equity Security; or

(c) the revenues attributed to the business represented by the Restructure Security equals or exceeds both \$50 million and the Relevant Percentage of the revenues attributed to the business represented by the Original Equity Security.

vi. A Restructure Security's aggregate market value may be determined from "when issued" prices, if available.

vii. In calculating comparative aggregate market values for the purpose of assessing whether a Restructure Security qualifies to underlie an option, the Exchange shall use the Restructure Security's closing price on its primary market on the last business day prior to the selection date or the Restructure Security's opening price on its primary market on the selection date and shall use the corresponding closing or opening price of the related Original Equity Security.

viii. In calculating comparative asset values and revenues, the Exchange shall use either: (a) the issuer's latest annual financial statements or (b) the issuer's most recently available interim financial statements (so long as such interim financial statements cover a period of not less than three months), whichever are more recent. Those financial statements may be audited or unaudited and may be pro forma.

ix. Except in the case of a Restructure Security that is distributed pursuant to a public offering or rights distribution, the Exchange may not rely upon the trading volume or market price history of an Original Equity Security as Paragraph (c) of this Section 3 permits for any trading day unless it relies upon both of those measures for that trading day.

x. Once the Exchange commences to rely upon a Restructure Security's trading volume and market price history for any trading day, the Exchange may not rely upon the trading volume and market price history of the security's related Original Equity Security for any trading day thereafter.

xi. "When Issued" Trading Prohibited. The Exchange shall not list for trading options contracts that overlie a Restructure Security that is not yet issued and outstanding, regardless of whether the Restructure Security is trading on a "when issued" basis or on another basis that is contingent upon the issuance or distribution of shares.

(d) In considering underlying securities, the Exchange shall ordinarily rely upon information made publicly available by the issuer and/or the markets in which the security is traded.

(e) The word "security" shall be broadly interpreted to mean any equity security, as defined in Rule 3a11-1 under the Exchange Act, which is appropriate for options trading, and the word "shares" shall mean the unit of trading of such security.

(f) Securities deemed appropriate for options trading shall include nonconvertible preferred stock issues and American Depositary Receipts ("ADRs") if they meet the criteria and standards set forth in this Section 3 and if, in the case of ADRs:

i. the Exchange has in place an effective surveillance sharing agreement with the primary exchange in the home country where the security underlying the ADR is traded; or

ii. the combined trading volume of the ADR and other related ADRs and securities (as defined below) occurring in the U.S. ADR market or in markets with which the Exchange has in place an effective surveillance sharing agreement represents (on a share equivalent basis) at least fifty percent (50%) of the combined worldwide trading volume in the ADR, the security underlying the ADR, other classes of common stock related to the underlying security, and ADRs overlying such other stock (together "other related ADRs and securities") over the three month period preceding the date of selection of the ADR for options trading; or

iii.

1) the combined trading volume of the ADR and other related ADRs and securities occurring in the U.S. ADR market and in markets where the Exchange has in place an effective surveillance sharing agreement, represents (on a share equivalent basis) at least twenty percent (20%) of the combined worldwide trading volume in the ADR and in other related ADRs and securities over the three month period preceding the date of selection of the ADR for options trading,

2) the average daily trading volume for the security in the U.S. markets over the three (3) months preceding the selection of the ADR for options trading is 100,000 or more shares, and

3) the trading volume is at least 60,000 shares per day in U.S. markets on a majority of the trading days for the three (3) months preceding the date of selection of the ADR for options trading ("Daily Trading Volume Standard"); or

iv. the SEC otherwise authorizes the listing.

(g) Securities deemed appropriate for options trading shall include shares issued by registered closed-end management investment companies that invest in the securities of

issuers based in one or more foreign countries ("International Funds") if they meet the criteria and standards set forth in this Section 3 and either:

i. the Exchange has a market information sharing agreement with the primary home exchange for each of the securities held by the fund, or

ii. the International Fund is classified as a diversified fund as that term is defined by Section 5(b) of the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended, and the securities held by the fund are issued by issuers based in five (5) or more countries.

(h) A "market information sharing agreement" for purposes of this Section is an agreement that would permit the Exchange to obtain trading information relating to the securities held by the fund including the identity of the Participant of the foreign exchange executing a trade. International Fund shares not meeting the criteria of paragraph (i) shall be deemed appropriate for options trading if the SEC specifically authorizes the listing thereof.

(i) Securities deemed appropriate for options trading shall include shares or other securities ("Exchange-Traded Fund Shares"), that are traded on a national securities exchange and are defined as an "NMS stock" under Rule 600 of Regulation NMS, and that (i) represent interests in registered investment companies (or series thereof) organized as open-end management investment companies, unit investment trusts or similar entities, that hold portfolios of securities and/or financial instruments including, but not limited to, stock index futures contracts, options on futures, options on securities and indexes, equity caps, collars and floors, swap agreements, forward contracts, repurchase agreements and reverse repurchase agreements comprising or otherwise based on or representing investments in broad-based indexes or portfolios of securities and/or Financial Instruments and Money Market Instruments (the "Money Market Instruments") (or that hold securities in one or more other registered investment companies that themselves hold such portfolios of securities and/or Financial Instruments and Money Market Instruments), (ii) represent interests in a trust or similar entity that holds a specified non- U.S. currency or currencies deposited with the trust or similar entity when aggregated in some specified minimum number may be surrendered to the trust by the beneficial owner to receive the specified non-U.S. currency or currencies and pays the beneficial owner interest and other distributions on the deposited non-U.S. currency or currencies, if any, declared and paid by the trust ("Currency Trust Shares"), (iii) represent commodity pool interests principally engaged, directly or indirectly, in holding and/or managing portfolios or baskets of securities, commodity futures contracts, options on commodity futures contracts, swaps, forward contracts and/or options on physical commodities and /or non-U.S. currency ("Commodity Pool ETFs"), (iv) represent interests in the SPDR® Gold Trust, the iShares COMEX Gold Trust, the iShares Silver Trust, the ETFS Gold Trust, the ETFS Silver Trust, the ETFS Palladium Trust, the ETFS Platinum Trust or the Sprott Physical Gold Trust or (v) represents an interest in a registered investment company ("Investment Company") organized as an open-end management company or similar entity, that invests in a portfolio of securities selected by the Investment Company's investment adviser consistent with the Investment Company's

investment objectives and policies, which is issued in a specified aggregate minimum number in return for a deposit of a specified portfolio of securities and/or a cash amount with a value equal to the next determined net asset value ("NAV"), and when aggregated in the same specified minimum number, may be redeemed at a holder's request, which holder will be paid a specified portfolio of securities and/or cash with a value equal to the next determined NAV ("Managed Fund Share"); provided that all of the following conditions are met:

(A) the Exchange-Traded Fund Shares either (i) meet the criteria and guidelines set forth in paragraphs (a) and (b) above; or (ii) the Exchange-Traded Fund Shares are available for creation or redemption each business day from or through the issuing trust, investment company, commodity pool or other entity in cash or in kind at a price related to net asset value, and the issuer is obligated to issue Exchange-Traded Fund Shares in a specified aggregate number even if some or all of the investment assets and/or cash required to be deposited have not been received by the issuer, subject to the condition that the person obligated to deposit the investment assets has undertaken to deliver them as soon as possible and such undertaking is secured by the delivery and maintenance of collateral consisting of cash or cash equivalents satisfactory to the issuer of the Exchange-Traded Fund Shares, all as described in the Exchange-Traded Fund Shares' prospectus; and

(B) the Exchange-Traded Fund Shares meet the following criteria:

- (1) are listed pursuant to generic listing standards for series of portfolio depositary receipts and index fund shares based on international or global indexes, in which case a comprehensive surveillance agreement is not required; or
- (2) any non-U.S. component securities of an index or portfolio of securities on which the Exchange-Traded Fund Shares are based that are not subject to comprehensive surveillance agreements do not in the aggregate represent more than 50% of the weight of the index or portfolio;
- (3) component securities of an index or portfolio of securities on which the Exchange-Traded Fund Shares are based for which the primary market is in any one country that is not subject to a comprehensive surveillance agreement do not represent 20% or more of the weight of the index;
- (4) component securities of an index or portfolio of securities on for which the primary market is in any two countries that are not subject to comprehensive surveillance agreements do not represent 33% or more of the weight of the index;
- (5) For Currency Trust Shares, the Exchange has entered into an appropriate comprehensive surveillance sharing agreement with the marketplace or marketplaces with last sale reporting that represent(s) the highest volume in derivatives (options or futures) on the specified non- U.S. currency or currencies,

which are utilized by the national securities exchange where the underlying Currency Trust Shares are listed and traded; and

(6) For Commodity Pool ETFs that engage in holding and/or managing portfolios or baskets commodity futures contracts, options on commodity futures contracts, swaps, forward contracts, options on physical commodities, options on non-U.S. currency and/or securities, the Exchange has entered into a comprehensive surveillance sharing agreement with the marketplace or marketplaces with last sale reporting that represent(s) the highest volume in such commodity futures contracts and/or options on commodity futures contracts on the specified commodities or non-U.S. currency, which are utilized by the national securities exchange where the underlying Commodity Pool ETFs are listed and traded.

(j) Securities deemed appropriate for options trading shall include shares or other securities ("Trust Issued Receipts") that are principally traded on a national securities exchange or through the facilities of a national securities association and reported as a national market security, and that represent ownership of the specific deposited securities held by a trust, provided:

i. the Trust Issued Receipts (1) meet the criteria and standards for underlying securities set forth in paragraph (b) to this Rule; or (2) must be available for issuance or cancellation each business day from the Trust in exchange for the underlying deposited securities; and

ii. not more than 20% of the weight of the Trust Issued Receipt is represented by ADRs on securities for which the primary market is not subject to a comprehensive surveillance agreement.

(k) Notwithstanding the requirements set forth in Paragraphs (b)(i), (b)(ii), (b)(iv), and (b)(v) above, options may be listed for trading on the Exchange if:

(i) the underlying security meets the guidelines for continued listing in Options 4, Section 4; and

(ii) options on such underlying security are listed and traded on at least one other national securities exchange.

(l) Index-Linked Securities

i. Securities deemed appropriate for options trading shall include shares or other securities ("Equity Index-Linked Securities," "Commodity-Linked Securities," "Currency-Linked Securities," "Fixed Income Index-Linked Securities," "Futures-Linked Securities," and "Multifactor Index-Linked Securities," collectively known as "Index-Linked Securities") that are principally traded on a national securities exchange and an "NMS Stock" (as defined in Rule 600 of Regulation NMS under the Securities Exchange

Act of 1934), and represent ownership of a security that provides for the payment at maturity, as described below:

(1) Equity Index-Linked Securities are securities that provide for the payment at maturity of a cash amount based on the performance or the leveraged (multiple or inverse) performance of an underlying index or indexes of equity securities ("Equity Reference Asset");

(2) Commodity-Linked Securities are securities that provide for the payment at maturity of a cash amount based on the performance or the leveraged (multiple or inverse) performance of one or more physical commodities or commodity futures, options on commodities, or other commodity derivatives or Commodity-Based Trust Shares or a basket or index of any of the foregoing ("Commodity Reference Asset");

(3) Currency-Linked Securities are securities that provide for the payment at maturity of a cash amount based on the performance or the leveraged (multiple or inverse) performance of one or more currencies, or options on currencies or currency futures or other currency derivatives or Currency Trust Shares (as defined in this Section 3(i)), or a basket or index of any of the foregoing ("Currency Reference Asset");

(4) Fixed Income Index-Linked Securities are securities that provide for the payment at maturity of a cash amount based on the performance or the leveraged (multiple or inverse) performance of one or more notes, bonds, debentures or evidence of indebtedness that include, but are not limited to, U.S. Department of Treasury securities ("Treasury Securities"), government-sponsored entity securities ("GSE Securities"), municipal securities, trust preferred securities, supranational debt and debt of a foreign country or a subdivision thereof or a basket or index of any of the foregoing ("Fixed Income Reference Asset");

(5) Futures-Linked Securities are securities that provide for the payment at maturity of a cash amount based on the performance or the leveraged (multiple or inverse) performance of an index or indexes of futures contracts or options or derivatives on futures contracts ("Futures Reference Asset"); and

(6) Multifactor Index-Linked Securities are securities that provide for the payment at maturity of a cash amount based on the performance or the leveraged (multiple or inverse) performance of any combination of two or more Equity Reference Assets, Commodity Reference Assets, Currency Reference Assets, Fixed Income Reference Assets, or Futures Reference Assets ("Multifactor Reference Asset");

ii. For purposes of paragraph (1) of this Section 3, Equity Reference Assets, Commodity Reference Asset, Currency Reference Assets, Fixed Income Reference Assets, Futures Reference Assets together with Multifactor Reference Assets, collectively will be referred to as "Reference Assets."

iii. (1) The Index-Linked Securities must meet the criteria and guidelines for underlying securities set forth in subsection (b) of this Section 3; or

(2) the Index-Linked Securities must be redeemable at the option of the holder at least on a weekly basis through the issuer at a price related to the applicable underlying Reference Asset. In addition, the issuing company is obligated to issue or repurchase the securities in aggregation units for cash, or cash equivalents, satisfactory to the issuer of Index-Linked Securities which underlie the option as described in the Index-Linked Securities prospectus.

iv. Nasdaq will implement surveillance procedures for options on Index-Linked Securities, including adequate comprehensive surveillance sharing agreements with markets trading in non-U.S. components, as applicable.

(m) U.S. Dollar-Settled Foreign Currency Options. The British pound, the Swiss franc, the Canadian dollar, the Australian dollar, the Japanese yen, the U.S. dollar, the Mexican peso, the Euro, the Brazilian real, the Chinese yuan, the Danish krone, the New Zealand dollar, the Norwegian krone, the Russian ruble, the South African rand, the South Korean won, and the Swedish krona may be approved as underlying foreign currencies for options transactions by the Exchange, subject to any approval criteria the Exchange may deem necessary or appropriate in the interests of maintaining a fair and orderly market or for the protection of investors. In the event that any of the sovereign governments or the European Economic Community's European Monetary System issuing any of the above-mentioned currencies should issue a new currency intended to replace one of the above-mentioned currencies as the standard unit of the official medium of exchange of such government, such new currency also may be approved as an underlying foreign currency for options transactions by the Exchange, subject to any approval criteria the Exchange may deem necessary or appropriate in the interests of maintaining a fair and orderly market or for the protection of investors. Options trading in such new currency may occur simultaneously with options trading in any of the above-mentioned currencies; provided, however, that the Exchange shall withdraw its approval of options transactions in the currency which is intended to be replaced by such new currency as expeditiously as it deems consistent with the maintenance of a fair and orderly market or the protection of investors. The Exchange may determine to withdraw approval of an underlying foreign currency whenever it deems such withdrawal advisable in the public interest or for the protection of investors. In the event that the Exchange effects such a withdrawal, the Exchange shall not open for trading any additional series of options of the class covering that underlying foreign currency.

Section 4. Withdrawal of Approval of Underlying Securities

(a) If put or call options contracts with respect to an underlying security are approved for listing and trading on the Exchange, such approval shall continue in effect until such approval is affirmatively withdrawn by the Exchange. Whenever the Exchange determines that an underlying security previously approved for Exchange transactions does not meet the then current requirements for continuance of such approval or for any other reason should no longer be approved, the Exchange will not open for trading any

additional series of options of the class covering that underlying security and may prohibit any opening purchase transactions in series of options of that class previously opened (except that opening transactions by Market Makers executed to accommodate closing transactions of other market participants may be permitted) to the extent it deems such action necessary or appropriate; provided, however, that where exceptional circumstances have caused an underlying security not to comply with the Exchange's current approval maintenance requirements, regarding number of publicly held shares of publicly held principal amount, number of shareholders, trading volume or market price the Exchange may, in the interest of maintaining a fair and orderly market or for the protection of investors, determine to continue to open additional series of option contracts of the class covering that underlying security.

(b) An underlying security will not be deemed to meet the Exchange's requirements for continued approval whenever any of the following occur:

i. There are fewer than 6,300,000 shares of the underlying security held by persons other than those who are required to report their security holdings under Section 16(a) of the Exchange Act.

ii. There are fewer than 1,600 holders of the underlying security.

iii. The trading volume (in all markets in which the underlying security is traded) has been less than 1,800,000 shares in the preceding twelve (12) months.

iv. Reserved.

v. The underlying security ceases to be an "NMS stock" as defined in Rule 600 of Regulation NMS under the Exchange Act.

vi. If an underlying security is approved for options listing and trading under the provisions of Section 3 of this Options 4 (Criteria for Underlying Securities), the trading volume of the Original Security (as therein defined) prior to but not after the commencement of trading in the Restructure Security (as therein defined), including "when-issued" trading, may be taken into account in determining whether the trading volume requirement of (iii) of this paragraph (b) is satisfied.

(c) Reserved.

(d) In considering whether any of the events specified in paragraph (b) of this Section 4 have occurred with respect to an underlying security, the Exchange shall ordinarily rely on information made publicly available by the issuer and/or the markets in which such security is traded.

(e) If prior to the delisting of a class of options contracts covering an underlying security that has been found not to meet the Exchange's requirements for continued approval, the Exchange determines that the underlying security again meets the Exchange's

requirements, the Exchange may open for trading additional series of options of that class and may lift any restriction on opening purchase transactions imposed by this Section 4.

(f) Whenever the Exchange announces that approval of an underlying security has been withdrawn for any reason or that the Exchange has been informed that the issuer of an underlying security has ceased to be in compliance with SEC reporting requirements, each Participant shall, prior to effecting any transaction in options contracts with respect to such underlying security for a Customer, inform such Customer of such fact and of the fact that the Exchange may prohibit further transactions in such options contracts to the extent it shall deem such action necessary and appropriate.

(g) If an ADR was initially deemed appropriate for options trading on the grounds that fifty percent (50%) or more of the worldwide trading volume (on a share-equivalent basis) in the ADR and other related ADRs and securities takes place in U.S. markets or in markets with which Nasdaq Regulation has in place an effective surveillance sharing agreement, or if an ADR was initially deemed appropriate for options trading based on the daily trading volume standard in Section 3 of this Options 4 (Criteria for Underlying Securities), the Exchange may not open for trading additional series of options on the ADR unless:

i. The percentage of worldwide trading volume in the ADR and other related securities that takes place in the U.S. and in markets with which the Exchange has in place effective surveillance sharing agreements for any consecutive three (3) month period is either: (1) at least thirty percent (30%) without regard to the average daily trading volume in the ADR, or (2) at least fifteen percent (15%) when the average U.S. daily trading volume in the ADR for the previous three (3) months is at least 70,000 shares; or

ii. the Exchange then has in place an effective surveillance sharing agreement with the primary exchange in the home country where the security underlying the ADR is traded; or

iii. the SEC has otherwise authorized the listing thereof.

(h) Exchange-Traded Fund Shares approved for options trading pursuant to Section 3 of this Options 4 will not be deemed to meet the requirements for continued approval, and the Exchange shall not open for trading any additional series of option contracts of the class covering such Exchange-Traded Fund Shares if the security is delisted from trading as provided in subparagraph (b)(v) of this Section. In addition, the Exchange shall consider the suspension of opening transactions in any series of options of the class covering Exchange-Traded Fund Shares in any of the following circumstances:

i. In the case of options covering Exchange-Traded Fund Shares approved pursuant to Section 3(i)(iv)(1), in accordance with the terms of subparagraphs (b)(i), (ii) and (iii) of this Section 4;

ii. In the case of options covering Exchange-Traded Fund Shares approved pursuant to Section 3(i)(iv)(2) of this Options 4, following the initial twelve-month period beginning upon the commencement of trading in the Exchange-Traded Fund Shares on a national securities exchange and are defined as an "NMS stock" under Rule 600 of Regulation NMS, there were fewer than 50 record and/or beneficial holders of such Exchange-Traded Fund Shares for 30 or more consecutive trading days;

iii. the value of the index or portfolio of securities or non-U.S. currency, portfolio of commodities including commodity futures contracts, options on commodity futures contracts, swaps, forward contracts, options on physical commodities and/or Financial Instruments or Money Market Instruments, on which the Exchange-Traded Fund Shares are based is no longer calculated or available; or

iv. such other event occurs or condition exists that in the opinion of the Exchange makes further dealing in such options on the Exchange inadvisable.

(i) Securities initially approved for options trading pursuant to paragraph (j) of Section 3 of this Options 4 (such securities are defined and referred to in that paragraph as "Trust Issued Receipts") shall not be deemed to meet the Exchange's requirements for continued approval, and the Exchange shall not open for trading any additional series of option contracts of the class covering such Trust Issued Receipts, whenever the Trust Issued Receipts are delisted and trading in the Receipts is suspended on a national securities exchange, or the Trust Issued Receipts are no longer traded as national market securities through the facilities of a national securities association. In addition, the Exchange shall consider the suspension of opening transactions in any series of options of the class covering Trust Issued Receipts in any of the following circumstances:

i. in accordance with the terms of paragraph (b) of this Section 4 in the case of options covering Trust Issued Receipts when such options were approved pursuant to subparagraph (j)(i)(1) under Section 3 of this Options 4;

ii. upon annual review, the Trust has more than 60 days remaining until termination and there are fewer than 50 record and/or beneficial holders of Trust Issued Receipts for 30 or more consecutive trading days;

iii. the Trust has fewer than 50,000 receipts issued and outstanding;

iv. the market value of all receipts issued and outstanding is less than \$1,000,000; or

v. such other event shall occur or condition exist that in the opinion of the Exchange makes further dealing in such options on the Exchange inadvisable.

(j) Reserved.

(k) Index Linked Securities

Absent exceptional circumstances, Index-Linked Securities ("Securities") initially approved for options trading pursuant to paragraph (1) of Options 4, Section 3 shall not be deemed to meet the Exchange's requirements for continued approval, and the Exchange shall not open for trading any additional series or option contracts of the class covering such Securities whenever the underlying Securities are delisted and trading in the Securities is suspended on a national securities exchange, or the Securities are no longer an "NMS Stock" (as defined in Rule 600 of Regulation NMS under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934). In addition, the Exchange shall consider the suspension of opening transactions in any series of options of the class covering Index-Linked Securities in any of the following circumstances:

i. The underlying Index-Linked Security fails to comply with the terms of paragraph (1) of Options 4, Section 3;

ii. In accordance with the terms of paragraph (b) of this Section 4, in the case of options covering Index-Linked Securities when such options were approved pursuant to paragraph (1) of Options 4, Section 3, except that, in the case of options covering Index-Linked Securities approved pursuant to paragraph (1)(iii)(2) of Options 4, Section 3 that are redeemable at the option of the holder at least on a weekly basis, then option contracts of the class covering such Securities may only continue to be open for trading as long as the Securities are listed on a national securities exchange and are "NMS" stock as defined in Rule 600 of Regulation NMS;

iii. In the case of any Index-Linked Security trading pursuant to paragraph (1) of Options 4, Section 3, the value of the Reference Asset is no longer calculated; or

iv. Such other event shall occur or condition exist that in the opinion of the Exchange make further dealing in such options on the Exchange inadvisable.

(1) Inadequate Volume Delisting.

Absent exceptional circumstances, a security initially approved for options trading may be deemed by the Exchange not to meet the requirements for continued approval, in which case the Exchange will not open for trading any additional series of equity option contracts of the class of options and may determine to delist the class of options if it meets the following criteria:

i. The option has been trading on the Exchange not less than six (6) months; and

ii. the Exchange average daily volume ("ADV") of the entire class of options over the last six (6) month period was less than twenty (20) contracts.

If the option is singly listed only on the Exchange, the Exchange will cease to add new series and may delist the class of options when there is no remaining open interest;

Should the Exchange determine to delist an equity option pursuant to this subsection (1), it will provide notification of the determination to delist such option not less than three (3) days prior to the scheduled delisting date.

(m) If an option series is listed but restricted to closing transactions on another national securities exchange, the Exchange may list such series (even if such series would not otherwise be eligible for listing under the Exchange's rules), which shall also be restricted to closing transactions on the Exchange.

Section 5. Reserved

Reserved.

Section 6. Series of Options Contracts Open for Trading

(a) After a particular class of options has been approved for listing and trading on the Exchange by the Exchange, the Exchange from time to time may open for trading series of options in that class. Only options contracts in series of options currently open for trading may be purchased or written on the Exchange. Prior to the opening of trading in a given series, the Exchange will fix the type of option, expiration month, year and exercise price of that series. Exercise-price setting parameters adopted as part of the Options Listing Procedures Plan ("OLPP") are set forth in Supplementary Material .06. For Short Term Option Series, the Exchange will fix a specific expiration date and exercise price, as provided in Supplementary Material .02. For Quarterly Options Series, the Exchange will fix a specific expiration date and exercise price, as provided in Supplementary Material .03.

(b) At the commencement of trading on the Exchange of a particular class of options, the Exchange will open a minimum of one (1) series of options in that class. The exercise price of the series will be fixed at a price per share, relative to the underlying stock price in the primary market at about the time that class of options is first opened for trading on the Exchange.

(c) Additional series of options of the same class may be opened for trading on the Exchange when the Exchange deems it necessary to maintain an orderly market, to meet Customer demand or when the market price of the underlying stock moves more than five strike prices from the initial exercise price or prices. The opening of a new series of options shall not affect the series of options of the same class previously opened. New series of options on an individual stock may be added until the beginning of the month in which the options contract will expire. Due to unusual market conditions, the Exchange, in its discretion, may add a new series of options on an individual stock until the close of trading on the business day prior to the business day of expiration, or, in the case of an option contract expiring on a day that is not a business day, on the second business day prior to expiration.

(d) Except as otherwise provided in the Supplementary Material hereto the interval between strike prices of series of options on individual stocks will be:

- i. \$2.50 or greater where the strike price is \$25.00 or less;
- ii. \$5.00 or greater where the strike price is greater than \$25.00; and
- iii. \$10.00 or greater where the strike price is greater than \$200.00.

iv. The Exchange may select up to 60 options classes on individual stocks for which the interval of strike prices will be \$2.50 where the strike price is greater than \$25 but less than \$50 (the "\$2.50 Strike Price Program"). On any option class that has been selected as part of this \$2.50 Strike Price Program, \$2.50 strike prices between \$50 and \$100 may be listed, provided that \$2.50 strike prices between \$50 and \$100 are no more than \$10 from the closing price of the underlying stock in its primary market on the preceding day. For example, if an options class has been selected as part of the \$2.50 Strike Price Program, and the underlying stock closes at \$48.50 in its primary market, the Exchange may list the \$52.50 strike price and the \$57.50 strike price on the next business day. If an underlying security closes at \$54, the Exchange may list the \$52.50 strike price, the \$57.50 strike price and the \$62.50 strike price on the next business day. The Exchange may list a strike price interval of \$2.50 in any multiply-traded option once an exchange selects an option as part of the \$2.50 Strike Price Program.

The interval between strike prices of series of options on Exchange-Traded Fund Shares approved for options trading pursuant to Section 3 (i) of this Options 4 shall be fixed at a price per share which is reasonably close to the price per share at which the underlying security is traded in the primary market at or about the same time such series of options is first open for trading on the Exchange, or at such intervals as may have been established on another options exchange prior to the initiation of trading on the Exchange.

(e) Nasdaq will open at least one expiration month for each class of options open for trading on NOM.

(f) The interval of strike prices may be \$2.50 in any multiply-traded option class to the extent permitted on NOM by the Securities and Exchange Commission or once another exchange trading that option lists strike prices of \$2.50 on such options class.

(g) New series of equity options, options on Exchange-Traded Funds, and options on Trust Issued Receipts opened for trading shall be subject to the range limitations set forth in Supplementary Material .01 to this Section 6.

Supplementary Material to Section 6

.01 \$1 Strike Price Interval Program

(a) Program Description. The interval between strike prices of series of options on individual stocks may be \$1.00 or greater strike price intervals where the strike price is \$50 or less, but not less than \$1. Except as provided in subparagraph (c) below, the listing of \$1 strike price intervals shall be limited to option classes overlying no more than one

hundred fifty (150) individual stocks as specifically designated by the Exchange. The Exchange may list \$1 strike price intervals on any other option classes if those classes are specifically designated by other national securities exchanges that employ a \$1 Strike Price Interval Program under their respective rules. If a class participates in the \$1 Strike Price Interval Program, \$2.50 strike price intervals are not permitted between \$1 and \$50 for non-LEAPS and LEAPS.

(b) Initial and Additional Series. To be eligible for inclusion into the \$1 Strike Price Interval Program, an underlying security must close below \$50 in the primary market on the previous trading day.

After a security is added to the \$1 Strike Price Interval Program, the Exchange may list \$1 strike price intervals from \$1 to \$50 according to the following parameters:

(i) If the price of the underlying stock is equal to or less than \$20, the Exchange may list series with an exercise price up to 100% above and 100% below the price of the underlying stock. However, the foregoing restriction shall not prohibit the listing of at least five (5) strike prices above and below the price of the underlying stock per expiration month in an option class. For example, if the price of the underlying stock is \$2, the Exchange would be permitted to list the following series: \$1, \$2, \$3, \$4, \$5, \$6 and \$7.

(ii) If the price of the underlying stock is greater than \$20, the Exchange may list series with an exercise price up to 50% above and 50% below the price of the underlying security up to \$50.

(iii) For the purpose of adding strikes under the \$1 Strike Price Interval Program, the "price of the underlying stock" shall be measured in the same way as "the price of the underlying security" is as set forth in .06(a) of Supplemental Material to Section 6.

(iv) No additional series in \$1 strike price intervals may be listed if the underlying stock closes at or above \$50 in its primary market. Additional series in \$1 strike price intervals may not be added until the underlying stock closes again below \$50.

(v) LEAPS. For stocks in the \$1 Strike Price Interval Program, the Exchange may list one \$1 strike price interval between each standard \$5 strike interval, with the \$1 strike price interval being \$2 above the standard strike for each interval above the price of the underlying stock, and \$2 below the standard strike for each interval below the price of the underlying stock ("2 wings"). For example, if the price of the underlying stock is \$24.50, the Exchange may list the following standard strikes in \$5 intervals: \$15, \$20, \$25, \$30 and \$35. Between these standard \$5 strikes, the Exchange may list the following \$2 wings: \$18, \$27 and \$32. In addition, the Exchange may list the \$1 strike price interval, which is \$2 above the standard strike just below the underlying price at the time of listing. In the above example, since the standard strike just below the underlying price (\$24.50) is \$20, the Exchange may list a \$22 strike. The Exchange may add additional

long-term options series strikes as the price of the underlying stock moves, consistent with the OLPP.

Additional long-term option strikes may not be listed within \$1 of an existing strike until less than nine months to expiration.

A security shall remain in the \$1 Strike Price Interval Program until otherwise designated by the Exchange.

(c) The Exchange may list \$1 strike prices up to \$5 in LEAPS in up to 200 option classes on individual stocks. The Exchange may not list \$1 strike price intervals within \$0.50 of an existing \$2.50 strike in the same expiration.

(d) Delisting Policy. For options classes selected to participate in the \$1 Strike Program, the Exchange will, on a monthly basis, review series that were originally listed under the \$1 Strike Program with strike prices that are more than \$5 from the current value of an options class and delist those series with no open interest in both the put and the call series having a: (i) strike higher than the highest strike price with open interest in the put and/or call series for a given expiration month; and (ii) strike lower than the lowest strike price with open interest in the put and/or call series for a given expiration month. If the Exchange identifies series for delisting pursuant to this policy, the Exchange shall notify other options exchanges with similar delisting policies regarding the eligible series for delisting, and shall work jointly with such other exchanges to develop a uniform list of series to be delisted so as to ensure uniform series delisting of multiply listed options classes.

Notwithstanding the above delisting policy, the Exchange may grant member requests to add strikes and/or maintain strikes in series of options classes traded pursuant to the \$1 Strike Program that are eligible for delisting.

.02 Select Provisions of Options Listing Procedures Plan. Select provisions of the OLPP were adopted by the Exchange as a quote mitigation strategy and are codified in the OLPP.

(a) The exercise price of each options series listed by the Exchange shall be fixed at a price per share which is reasonably close to the price of the underlying equity security, Exchange Traded Fund ("ETF" and referred to as Exchange Traded Fund Shares in Rule 502(h)) or Trust Issued Receipt ("TIR") at or about the time the Exchange determines to list such series. Additionally, except as provided in subparagraphs (b) through (d) below, if the price of the underlying security is less than or equal to \$20, the Exchange shall not list new option series with an exercise price more than 100% above or below the price of the underlying security. However, the foregoing restriction shall not prohibit the listing of at least three exercise prices per expiration month in an option class. Except as provided in Supplementary Material to Section 6 at .07(d), if the price of the underlying security is greater than

\$20, the Exchange shall not list new option series with an exercise price more than 50% above or below the price of the underlying security.

The price of the underlying security is measured by:

(i) for intra-day add-on series and next-day series additions, the daily high and low of all prices reported by all national securities exchanges;

(ii) for new expiration months, the daily high and low of all prices reported by all national securities exchanges on the day the Exchange determines its preliminary notification of a new series; and

(iii) for option series to be added as a result of pre-market trading, the most recent share price reported by all national securities exchanges between 8:45 a.m. and 9:30 a.m. Eastern Time

(b) The series exercise price range limitations contained in subparagraph (a) above do not apply with regard to:

(i) the listing of \$1 strike prices in option classes participating in the \$1 Strike Price Interval Program. Instead, the Exchange shall be permitted to list \$1 strike prices to the fullest extent as permitted under its rules for the \$1 Strike Program.

(c) The provisions of this subparagraph (a) above shall not permit the listing of series that are otherwise prohibited by the rules of the Exchange or the OLPP. To the extent the rules of the Exchange permit the listing of new series that are otherwise prohibited by the provisions of the OLPP, the provisions of the OLPP shall govern.

The Exchange may list an options series that is listed by another options exchange, provided that at the time such series was listed it was not prohibited under the provisions of the OLPP or the rules of the exchange that initially listed the series.

.03 Short Term Option Series Program: After an option class has been approved for listing and trading on the Exchange, the Exchange may open for trading on any Thursday or Friday that is a business day ("Short Term Option Opening Date") series of options on that class that expire at the close of business on each of the next five Fridays that are business days and are not Fridays in which monthly options series or Quarterly Options Series expire ("Short Term Option Expiration Dates"). The Exchange may have no more than a total of five Short Term Option Expiration Dates, not including any Monday or Wednesday SPY Expirations as provided below. If the Exchange is not open for business on the respective Thursday or Friday, the Short Term Option Opening Date will be the first business day immediately prior to that respective Thursday or Friday. Similarly, if the Exchange is not open for business on a Friday, the Short Term Option Expiration Date will be the first business day immediately prior to that Friday. With respect to Wednesday SPY Expirations, the Exchange may open for trading on any Tuesday or Wednesday that is a business day series of options on the SPDR S&P 500 ETF Trust

(SPY) to expire on any Wednesday of the month that is a business day and is not a Wednesday in which Quarterly Options Series expire ("Wednesday SPY Expirations"). With respect to Monday SPY Expirations, the Exchange may open for trading on any Friday or Monday that is a business day series of options on the SPY to expire on any Monday of the month that is a business day and is not a Monday in which Quarterly Options Series expire ("Monday SPY Expirations"), provided that Monday SPY Expirations that are listed on a Friday must be listed at least one business week and one business day prior to the expiration. The Exchange may list up to five consecutive Wednesday SPY Expirations and five consecutive Monday SPY Expirations at one time; the Exchange may have no more than a total of five Wednesday SPY Expirations and a total of five Monday SPY Expirations. Monday and Wednesday SPY Expirations will be subject to the provisions of this Rule. Regarding Short Term Option Series:

- (a) Classes. The Exchange may select up to fifty (50) currently listed option classes on which Short Term Option Series may be opened on any Short Term Option Opening Date. In addition to the 50 option class restriction, the Exchange may also list Short Term Option Series on any option classes that are selected by other securities exchanges that employ a similar program under their respective rules. For each option class eligible for participation in the Short Term Option Series Program, the Exchange may open up to 30 Short Term Option Series for each expiration date in that class. The Exchange may also open Short Term Option Series that are opened by other securities exchanges in option classes selected by such exchanges under their respective short term option rules.
- (b) Expiration. With the exception of Monday and Wednesday SPY Expirations, no Short Term Option Series may expire in the same week in which monthly option series on the same class expire. In the case of Quarterly Options Series, no Short Term Option Series may expire on the same day as an expiration of Quarterly Options Series.
- (c) Initial Series. The Exchange may open up to 30 initial series for each option class that participates in the Short Term Option Series Program. The strike price of each Short Term Option Series will be fixed at a price per share, with approximately the same number of strike prices being opened above and below the value of the underlying security at about the time that the Short Term Option Series are initially opened for trading on the Exchange (e.g., if seven series are initially opened, there will be at least three strike prices above and three strike prices below the value of the underlying security). Any strike prices listed by the Exchange shall be reasonably close to the price of the underlying equity security and within the following parameters: (i) if the price of the underlying security is less than or equal to \$20, strike prices shall be not more than one hundred percent (100%) above or below the price of the underlying security; and (ii) if the price of the underlying security is greater than \$20, strike prices shall be not more than fifty percent (50%) above or below the price of the underlying security.

(d) Additional Series. If the Exchange opens less than thirty (30) Short Term Option Series for a Short Term Option Expiration Date, additional series may be opened for trading on the Exchange when the Exchange deems it necessary to maintain an orderly market, to meet customer demand or when the market price of the underlying security moves substantially from the exercise price or prices of the series already opened.

Any additional strike prices listed by the Exchange shall be reasonably close to the price of the underlying equity security and within the following parameters: (i) if the price of the underlying security is less than or equal to \$20, additional strike prices shall be not more than one hundred percent (100%) above or below the price of the underlying security; and (ii) if the price of the underlying security is greater than \$20, additional strike prices shall be not more than fifty percent (50%) above or below the price of the underlying security.

The Exchange may also open additional strike prices on Short Term Option Series that are more than 50% above or below the current price of the underlying security (if the price is greater than \$20); provided that demonstrated customer interest exists for such series, as expressed by institutional, corporate or individual customers or their brokers. Market makers trading for their own account shall not be considered when determining customer interest under this provision.

In the event that the underlying security has moved such that there are no series that are at least 10% above or below the current price of the underlying security, the Exchange will delist any series with no open interest in both the call and the put series having a: (i) strike higher than the highest strike price with open interest in the put and/or call series for a given expiration week; and (ii) strike lower than the lowest strike price with open interest in the put and/or the call series for a given expiration week. The opening of new Short Term Option Series shall not affect the series of options of the same class previously opened. Notwithstanding any other provisions in this section, Short Term Option Series may be added up to and including on the Short Term Option Expiration Date for that options series.

(e) Strike Interval. The interval between strike prices on Short Term Option Series shall be the same as the strike prices for series in that same option class that expire in accordance with the normal monthly expiration cycle. During the month prior to expiration of an option class that is selected for the Short Term Option Series Program pursuant to this rule ("Short Term Option"), the strike price intervals for the related non-Short Term Option ("Related non-Short Term Option") shall be the same as the strike price intervals for the Short Term Option.

.04 Quarterly Options Series Program: The Exchange may list and trade options series that expire at the close of business on the last business day of a calendar quarter ("Quarterly Options Series"). The Exchange may list Quarterly Options Series for up to five (5) currently listed options classes that are either index options or options on exchange traded funds ("ETFs"). In addition, the Exchange may also list Quarterly

Options Series on any options classes that are selected by other securities exchanges that employ a similar program under their respective rules.

(a) Expiration. The Exchange may list series that expire at the end of the next consecutive four (4) calendar quarters, as well as the fourth quarter of the next calendar year.

(b) The Exchange will not list a Short Term Option Series on an options class whose expiration coincides with that of a Quarterly Options Series on that same options class.

(c) Initial Series. The strike price of each Quarterly Options Series will be fixed at a price per share, with at least two strike prices above and two strike prices below the approximate value of the underlying security at about the time that a Quarterly Options Series is opened for trading on the Exchange. The Exchange shall list strike prices for a Quarterly Options Series that are within \$5 from the closing price of the underlying on the preceding day.

(d) Additional Series. Additional Quarterly Options Series of the same class may be opened for trading on the Exchange when the Exchange deems it necessary to maintain an orderly market, to meet customer demand or when the market price of the underlying security moves substantially from the initial exercise price or prices. To the extent that any additional strike prices are listed by the Exchange, such additional strike prices shall be within thirty percent (30%) above or below the closing price of the underlying ETF (or "Exchange-Traded Fund Shares") as defined in Rule 502(h)) on the preceding day. The Exchange may also open additional strike prices of Quarterly Options Series in ETF options that are more than 30% above or below the current price of the underlying ETF provided that demonstrated customer interest exists for such series, as expressed by institutional, corporate or individual customers or their brokers. Market Makers trading for their own account shall not be considered when determining customer interest under this provision. The opening of new Quarterly Options Series shall not affect the series of options of the same class previously opened.

(e) Strike Interval. The interval between strike prices on Quarterly Options Series shall be the same as the interval for strike prices for series in that same options class that expire in accordance with the normal monthly expiration cycle.

(f) Reserved.

(g)(i) Delisting Policy. With respect to Quarterly Options Series in ETF options added pursuant to the above paragraphs, the Exchange will, on a monthly basis, review series that are outside a range of five (5) strikes above and five (5) strikes below the current price of the underlying ETF, and delist series with no open interest in both the put and the call series having a: (1) strike higher than the highest strike price with open interest in the put and/or call series for a given expiration month;

and (2) strike lower than the lowest strike price with open interest in the put and/or call series for a given expiration month.

(ii) Notwithstanding the above referenced delisting policy, customer requests to add strikes and/or maintain strikes in Quarterly Options Series in ETF options in series eligible for delisting shall be granted.

(iii) In connection with the above referenced delisting policy, if the Exchange identifies series for delisting, the Exchange shall notify other options exchanges with similar delisting policies regarding eligible series for delisting, and shall work with such other exchanges to develop a uniform list of series to be delisted, so as to ensure uniform series delisting of multiply listed Quarterly Options Series in ETF options.

.05 Notwithstanding Supplementary Material .01 above, the intervals between strike prices for Mini-Nasdaq-100 Index ("MNX" or "Mini-NDX") options series shall be determined in accordance with Supplementary Material .15 below.

.06 \$0.50 Strike Program: The interval of strike prices of series of options on individual stocks may be \$0.50 or greater beginning at \$0.50 where the strike price is \$5.50 or less, but only for options classes whose underlying security closed at or below \$5.00 in its primary market on the previous trading day and which have national average daily volume that equals or exceeds 1000 contracts per day as determined by The Options Clearing Corporation during the preceding three calendar months. The listing of \$0.50 strike prices shall be limited to options classes overlying no more than 20 individual stocks (the "\$0.50 Strike Program") as specifically designated by the Exchange. The Exchange may list \$0.50 strike prices on any other option classes if those classes are specifically designated by other securities exchanges that employ a similar \$0.50 Strike Program under their respective rules. A stock shall remain in the \$0.50 Strike Program until otherwise designated by the Exchange.

.07 Notwithstanding Supplementary Material .01 above, the interval between strike prices of series of options on Index-Linked Securities, as defined in Rule 502(k)(1), will be \$1 or greater when the strike price is \$200 or less and \$5 or greater when the strike price is greater than \$200.

.08 Notwithstanding Supplementary Material .01 above, the interval between strike prices of series of options on Trust Issued Receipts, including Holding Company Depository Receipts (HOLDRs), will be \$1 or greater where the strike price is \$200 or less and \$5 or greater where the strike price is greater than \$200.

.09 Reserved.

.10 \$5 Strike Program: The interval of strike prices may be \$5 or greater where the strike price is more than \$200 in up to five (5) option classes on individual stocks or on any

other option classes if those classes are specifically designated by other securities exchanges that employ a similar \$5 Strike Program under their respective rules.

.11 Notwithstanding the requirements set forth in this section and any Supplementary Material thereto, the Exchange may list additional expiration months on options classes opened for trading on the Exchange if such expiration months are opened for trading on at least one other registered national securities exchange.

.12 \$0.50 and \$1.00 Strike Price Intervals for Options Used to Calculate Volatility Indexes. Notwithstanding the requirements set forth in this section and Supplementary Material .01, .06, and .07 above, the Exchange may open for trading series at \$0.50 or greater strike price intervals where the strike price is less than \$75 and \$1.00 or greater strike price intervals where the strike price is between \$75 and \$150 for options that are used to calculate a volatility index.

.13 Notwithstanding the requirements set forth in this section and any Supplementary Material thereto, the Exchange may open for trading Short Term Option Series on the Short Term Option Opening Date that expire on the Short Term Option Expiration Date at strike price intervals of (i) \$0.50 or greater where the strike price is less than \$100, and \$1 or greater where the strike price is between \$100 and \$150 for all option classes that participate in the Short Term Options Series Program; (ii) \$0.50 for option classes that trade in one dollar increments and are in the Short Term Option Series Program; or (iii) \$2.50 or greater where the strike price is above \$150.

.14 Notwithstanding any other provision regarding the interval of strike prices of series of options on Exchange-Traded Fund Shares in this rule, the interval of strike prices on SPDR® S&P 500® ETF ("SPY"), iShares Core S&P 500 ETF ("IVV"), and the SPDR® Dow Jones® Industrial Average ETF ("DIA") options will be \$1 or greater.

.15 Mini Options Contracts

(a) After an option class on a stock, Exchange-Traded Fund Share, Trust Issued Receipt, Exchange Traded Note, and other Index Linked Security with a 100 share deliverable has been approved for listing and trading on the Exchange, series of option contracts with a 10 share deliverable on that stock, Exchange-Traded Fund Share, Trust Issued Receipt, Exchange Traded Note, and other Index Linked Security may be listed for all expirations opened for trading on the Exchange. Mini Option contracts may currently be listed on SPDR S&P 500 ("SPY"), Apple Inc. ("AAPL"), SPDR Gold Trust ("GLD"), Alphabet Inc. ("GOOGL") and Amazon.com Inc. ("AMZN").

(b) Strike prices for Mini Options shall be set at the same level as for regular options. For example, a call series strike price to deliver 10 shares of stock at \$125 per share has a total deliverable value of \$1250, and the strike price will be set at 125.

(c) No additional series of Mini Options may be added if the underlying security is trading at \$90 or less. The underlying security must trade above \$90 for five consecutive days prior to listing Mini Options contracts in an additional expiration month.

(d) The minimum price variation for bids and offers for Mini Options shall be the same as permitted for standard options on the same security. For example, if a security participates in the Penny Pilot Program, Mini Options on the same underlying security may be quoted in the same minimum increments, e.g., \$0.01 for all quotations in series that are quoted at less than \$3 per contract and \$0.05 for all quotations in series that are quoted at \$3 per contract or greater, \$0.01 for all SPY option series, and Mini Options do not separately need to qualify for the Penny Pilot Program.

.16 U.S. Dollar-Settled Foreign Currency Options (“FCOs”). Within each class of approved U.S. Dollar- Settled Foreign Currency options, the Exchange may open for trading series of options expiring in consecutive calendar months ("consecutive month series"), as provided in subparagraph (A), and series of options expiring at three-month intervals ("cycle month series"), as provided in subparagraph (B) of this paragraph. Prior to the opening of trading in any series of U.S. Dollar- Settled FCOs, the Exchange shall fix the expiration month and exercise price of option contracts included in each such series.

(A) Consecutive Month Series

With respect to each class of U.S. Dollar-Settled FCOs, series of options having up to four consecutive expiration months may be opened for trading simultaneously, with the shortest-term series initially having no more than two months to expiration. Additional consecutive month series of the same class may be opened for trading on the Exchange at or about the time a prior consecutive month series expires, and the expiration month of each such new series shall normally be the month immediately succeeding the expiration month of the then outstanding consecutive month series of the same class of options having the longest remaining time to expiration.

(B) Cycle Month Series

The Exchange may designate one expiration cycle for each class of U.S. Dollar-Settled FCOs. An expiration cycle shall consist of four calendar months ("cycle months") occurring at three-month intervals.

With respect to any particular class of U.S. Dollar-Settled FCOs, series of options expiring in the four cycle months designated by the Exchange for that class may be opened for trading simultaneously, with the shortest-term series initially having approximately three months to expiration. Additional cycle month series of the same class may be opened for trading on the Exchange at or about the time a prior cycle month series expires, and the expiration month of each such new series shall

normally be approximately three months after the expiration month of the then outstanding cycle month series of the same class of options having the longest remaining time to expiration.

(C) Long-Term Series

The Exchange may list, with respect to any U.S. Dollar-Settled FCOs having up to three years from the time they are listed until expiration. There may be up to ten options series, options having up to thirty-six months from the time they are listed until expiration. There may be up to six additional expiration months. Strike price interval and bid/ask differential rules shall not apply to such options series until the time to expiration is less than nine months.

(D) For each expiration month opened for trading of U.S. Dollar-Settled FCOs, in addition to the strike prices listed by the Exchange pursuant to the Supplementary Material at .16 to this Section 6, the Exchange shall also list a single strike price of \$0.01.

(E) Additional series of options of the same class may be opened for trading on the Exchange as the market price of the underlying foreign currency moves substantially from the initial exercise price or prices. The opening of a new series of options on the Exchange shall not affect any other series of options of the same class previously opened.

Section 7. Adjustments

Options contracts shall be subject to adjustments in accordance with the Rules of the Clearing Corporation. The Exchange will announce adjustments, and such changes will be effective for all subsequent transactions in that series at the time specified in the announcement.

Section 8. Long-Term Options Contracts

(a) Notwithstanding conflicting language in Section 6 of this Options 4 (Series of Options Contracts Open for Trading), The Exchange may list long-term options contracts that expire from twelve (12) to thirty-nine (39) months from the time they are listed. There may be up to ten expiration months for options on the SPDR® S&P 500® exchange-traded fund (the "SPY ETF") and up to six (6) expiration months for options on all other securities. Strike price interval and bid/ask differential rules shall not apply to such options series until the time to expiration is less than nine months

(b) After a new long-term options contract series is listed, such series will be opened for trading either when there is buying or selling interest, or forty (40) minutes prior to the close, whichever occurs first. No quotations will be posted for such options series until they are opened for trading.

Section 9. U.S. Dollar-Settled Foreign Currency Option Closing Settlement Value

U.S. Dollar-Settled Foreign Currency options are settled in U.S. dollars.

The closing settlement value for the U.S. Dollar-Settled Foreign Currency options on the Australian dollar, the Euro, the British pound, the Canadian dollar, the Swiss franc, the Japanese yen, the Mexican peso, the Brazilian real, the Chinese yuan, the Danish krone, the New Zealand dollar, the Norwegian krone, the Russian ruble, the South African rand, the South Korean won, and the Swedish krona shall be the Exchange Spot Price at 12:00:00 Eastern Time (noon) on the business day of expiration, or, in the case of an option contract expiring on a day that is not a business day, on the business day prior to the expiration date unless the Exchange determines to apply an alternative closing settlement value as a result of extraordinary circumstances.

Neither the Exchange, nor any agent of the Exchange shall have any liability for damages, claims, losses or expenses caused by any errors, omissions, or delays in calculating or disseminating the current settlement value or the closing settlement value resulting from an act, condition, or cause beyond the reasonable control of the Exchange including but not limited to, an act of God; fire; flood; extraordinary weather conditions; war; insurrection; riot; strike; accident; action of government; communications or power failure; equipment or software malfunction; any error, omission, or delay in the reports of transactions in one or more underlying currencies or any error, omission or delay in the reports of the current settlement value or the closing settlement value by the Exchange.

The Exchange shall post the closing settlement value on its website or disseminate it through one or more major market data vendors.

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