| Required fields are shown with yellow backgrounds and asterisks. | | | | | | OMB Number: 3235-0045 Estimated average burden hours per response | |
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| Page 1 o | f * 24 | WASHING | EXCHANGE COMM GTON, D.C. 20549 prm 19b-4 | | File No. Idment No. (req. for | * SR - 2013 - * 36 Amendments *) | |
| Filing by NASDAQ OMX PHLX LLC. Pursuant to Rule 19b-4 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 | | | | | | | |
| Initial * | Amendment * | Withdrawal | Section 19(b)(2) * | Sectio | on 19(b)(3)(A) * Rule | Section 19(b)(3)(B) * | |
| Pilot | Extension of Time Period for Commission Action * | Date Expires * | | 19b-4(f) 19b-4(f) 19b-4(f) |)(2) 19b-4(f)(5) | | |
| | of proposed change pursuant t | o the Payment, Cleari Section 806(e)(2) | ng, and Settlement Ad | x of 2010 | Security-Based Sw to the Securities Ex Section 3C(b) | - | |
| Exhibit 2 | Sent As Paper Document Ex | khibit 3 Sent As Paper Do] | ocument | ` | | | |
| Description Provide a brief description of the action (limit 250 characters, required when Initial is checked *). Relating to trading QCC and PIXL Orders in Mini Options | | | | | | | |
| 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 N | ame * Angela | | Last Name * Dunn | | | | |
| Title * | Title * Associate General Counsel | | | | | | |
| E-mail * angela.dunn@nasdaqomx.com | | | | | | | |
| Teleph | one * (215) 496-5692 | 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 *) | | | | | | | |
| | 03/26/2013 | | Executive Vice Presi | dent and Ge | neral Counsel | | |
| Ву | Edward S. Knight | | | | | | |
| (Name *) NOTE: Clicking the button at right will digitally sign and lock this form. A digital signature is as legally binding as a physical signature, and once signed, this form cannot be changed. | | | | | | | |
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OMB APPROVAL

| SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549 | | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|--|--|
| For complete Form 19b-4 instructions please refer to the EFFS website. | | | | | |
| Form 19b-4 Information * Add Remove View | 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 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, 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. | | | | |
| Add Remove View 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 CopiesAddRemoveView | 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. | | | | |
| 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 Add Remove View | 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. | | | | |

SR-Phlx-2013-36

1. <u>Text of the Proposed Rule Change</u>

(a) NASDAQ OMX PHLX LLC ("Phlx" or "Exchange"), pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act")¹ and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,² proposes to address the manner in which options contracts overlying 10 shares of a security ("Mini Options") will trade in a PIXL³ auction or as a Qualified Contingent Cross ("QCC") Order.⁴

A notice of the proposed rule change for publication in the <u>Federal Register</u> is attached hereto as <u>Exhibit 1</u> and the text of proposed Exchange Rules is attached hereto as <u>Exhibit 5</u>

(b) Not applicable.

(c) Not applicable.

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

The proposed rule change was approved by senior management of the Exchange pursuant to authority delegated by the Board of Directors of the Exchange on July 10,

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

³ PIXL is the Exchange's price improvement mechanism known as Price Improvement XL or (PIXLSM). <u>See</u> Rule 1080(n).

⁴ A QCC Order is comprised of an order to buy or sell at least 1000 contracts that is identified as being part of a qualified contingent trade, as that term is defined in Rule 1080(o)(3), coupled with a contra-side order to buy or sell an equal number of contracts. The QCC Order must be executed at a price at or between the National Best Bid and Offer ("NBBO") and be rejected if a Customer order is resting on the Exchange book at the same price. A QCC Order shall only be submitted electronically from off the floor to the PHLX XL II System. See Rule 1080(o). See also Securities Exchange Act Release No. 64249 (April 7, 2011), 76 FR 20773 (April 13, 2011) (SR-Phlx-2011-47) (a rule change to establish a QCC Order to facilitate the execution of stock/option Qualified Contingent Trades ("QCTs") that satisfy the requirements of the trade through exemption in connection with Rule 611(d) of the Regulation NMS).

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

2012. Exchange staff will advise the Board of Directors of any action taken pursuant to delegated authority. No other action by the Exchange is necessary for the filing of the rule change.

Questions and comments on the proposed rule change may be directed to Angela Saccomandi Dunn, Associate General Counsel, at (215) 496-5692.

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

a. <u>Purpose</u>

The purpose of the proposed rule change is to further clarify the manner in which Mini Options will trade in a PIXL auction or as a QCC Order pursuant to Exchange Rule 1080. The Exchange previously filed to list and trade Mini Options.⁵ Exchange Rule 1080 entitled "Phlx XL and Phlx XL II" describes the manner in which PIXL orders⁶ and QCC Orders⁷ trade on the Exchange. The Exchange will describe below the manner in which it seeks to clarify Rules 1064 and 1080 with respect to Mini Options.

With respect to PIXL, Rule 1080(n) specifies that a member may electronically submit for execution an order it represents as agent on behalf of a public customer, broker

⁵ <u>See</u> Securities Exchange Act Release No. 68132 (November 1, 2012), 77 FR 66904 (November 7, 2012) (SR-Phlx-2012-126). The Exchange amended amend Rules 1001 (Position Limits), 1012 (Series of Options Open for Trading) and 1033 (Bids and Offers – Premium) to list and trade Mini Options overlying five (5) high-priced securities for which the standard contract overlying the same security exhibits significant liquidity. Specifically, the Exchange filed to list Mini Options on SPDR S&P 500 ("SPY"), Apple, Inc. ("AAPL"), SPDR Gold Trust ("GLD"), Google Inc. ("GOOG") and Amazon.com Inc. ("AMZN").

⁶ <u>See</u> Exchange Rule 1080(n).

⁷ <u>See</u> Exchange Rule 1080(o). The Exchange is also proposing to amend Rule 1064 entitled "Crossing, Facilitation and Solicited Orders," as this rule also describes the manner in which QCC Orders shall trade on Phlx.

dealer, or any other entity ("PIXL Order") against principal interest or against any other order (except as provided in Rule 1080(n)(i)(E)) it represents as agent (an "Initiating Order") provided it submits the PIXL Order for electronic execution into the PIXL Auction ("Auction") pursuant to this Rule. The Exchange is proposing to clarify that with respect to Mini Options, the same contract size shall apply consistent with standard options. The Exchange proposes to add a sentence to Rule 1080(n) to note that a Mini Options PIXL Order will trade consistent with standard options.

Today the Exchange provides the Commission certain PIXL pilot reports, including, but not limited to orders of fewer than 50 contracts into the PIXL Auction.⁸

⁸ Regarding PIXL Orders of fewer than 50 contracts, the Exchange has undertaken to provide the following information on a monthly basis during the pilot period: (1) The number of orders of fewer than 50 contracts entered into the PIXL Auction; (2) The percentage of all orders of fewer than 50 contracts sent to Phlx that are entered into the PIXL Auction; (3) The percentage of all Phlx trades represented by orders of fewer than 50 contracts; (4) The percentage of all Phlx trades effected through the PIXL Auction represented by orders of fewer than 50 contracts; (5) The percentage of all contracts traded on Phlx represented by orders of fewer than 50 contracts; (6) The percentage of all contracts effected through the PIXL Auction represented by orders of fewer than 50 contracts; (7) The spread in the option, at the time an order of fewer than 50 contracts is submitted to the PIXL Auction; (8) The number of orders of 50 contracts or greater entered into the PIXL Auction; (9) The percentage of all orders of 50 contracts or greater sent to Phlx that are entered into the PIXL Auction; (10) The spread in the option, at the time an order of 50 contracts or greater is submitted to the PIXL Auction; (11) Of PIXL trades where the PIXL Order is for the account of a public customer, and is for a size of fewer than 50 contracts, the percentage done at the NBBO plus \$.01, plus \$.02, plus \$.03, etc.; (12) Of PIXL trades where the PIXL Order is for the account of a public customer, and is for a size of 50 contracts or greater, the percentage done at the NBBO plus \$.01, plus \$.02, plus \$.03, etc.; and (13) Of PIXL trades where the PIXL Order is for the account of a broker dealer or any other person or entity that is not a public customer, and is for a size of fewer than 50 contracts, the percentage done at the NBBO plus \$.01, plus \$.02, plus \$.03, etc. (14) Of PIXL trades where the PIXL Order is for the account of a broker dealer or any other person or entity that is not a public customer, and is for a size of 50 contracts or greater, the percentage done at the NBBO plus \$.01, plus \$.02, plus \$.03, etc.; and (15) The number of orders submitted by Initiating Members when the spread was \$.05, \$.10, \$.15, etc. For each spread, specify the percentage of contracts in orders of fewer than 50 contracts submitted to the PIXL

The Exchange will also submit to the Commission these same reports with respect to Mini Options for PIXL Orders fewer than 500 contracts as well as the pilot reports for Mini Options in the other categories.⁹ The Exchange will provide this information for a

Auction that were traded by: (a) The Initiating Member that submitted the order to the PIXL; (b) Phlx Market Makers assigned to the class; (c) other Phlx members; (d) Public Customer Orders; and (e) unrelated orders (orders in standard increments entered during the PIXL Auction). For each spread, also specify the percentage of contracts in orders of 50 contracts or greater submitted to the PIXL Auction that were traded by: (a) the Initiating Member that submitted the order to the PIXL Auction; (b) Phlx market makers assigned to the class; (c) other Phlx members; (d) Public Customer Orders; and (e) unrelated orders (orders in standard increments entered during the PIXL Auction). See Securities Exchange Act Release Nos. 63027 (October 1, 2010), 75 FR 62160 (October 7, 2010) (SR-Phlx-2010-108) (initial order approving PIXL), 65043 (August 5, 2011), 76 FR 49824 (August 11, 2011), (SR-Phlx-2011-104) (order extending the PIXL pilot program through July 18, 2012); 67399 (July 11, 2012), 77 FR 42048 (July 17, 2012) (SR-Phlx-2012-94) (order extending the PIXL pilot program through July 18, 2013). The PIXL pilot period is set to expire on July 18, 2013. See Rule 1080(n).

⁹ In the order approving PIXL, the Exchange undertook to provide the Commission with the below information on a monthly basis during the pilot period in addition to the other pilot reports noted herein. The Exchange will provide Mini Options pilot reports for the following categories in addition to the reports noted above, except for reports requiring orders of 50 contracts the Exchange would instead provide reports for orders of 500 contracts with respect to Mini Options: (1) The number of times that the PBBO crossed the PIXL Order stop price on the same side of the market as the PIXL Order and prematurely ended the PIXL Auction, and at what time the PIXL Auction ended; (2) The number of times that a trading halt prematurely ended the PIXL auction and at what time the trading halt ended the PIXL Auction; (3) Of the Auctions terminated early due to the PBBO crossing the PIXL order stop price, the number that resulted in price improvement over the PIXL Order stop price, and the average amount of price improvement provided to the PIXL Order; (4) In the Auctions terminated early due to the PBBO crossing the PIXL order stop price, the percentage of contracts that received price improvement over the PIXL order stop price; (5) Of the Auctions terminated early due to a trading halt, the number that resulted in price improvement over the PIXL Order stop price, and the average amount of price improvement provided to the PIXL Order; (6) In the auctions terminated early due to a trading halt, the percentage of contracts that received price improvement over the PIXL order stop price; and (7) The average amount of price improvement provided to the PIXL Order when the PIXL Auction is not terminated early (*i.e.*, runs the full one second). (8) The number of times an unrelated market or marketable limit order (against the PBBO) on the opposite side of the PIXL Order is received during the Auction Period; and (9) The price(s) at which an unrelated market or marketable limit order (against the PBBO) on the opposite side of the PIXL Order that is

particular month not later than the last business day of the subsequent month, as is the

case with other PIXL pilot reports.

received during the Auction Period is executed, compared to the execution price of the PIXL Order.

Regarding PIXL auto-match, the Exchange has undertaken to provide the following information on a monthly basis during the pilot period: (1) The percentage of all Phlx trades effected through the PIXL Auction in which the Initiating Member has chosen the auto-match feature, and the average amount of price improvement provided to the PIXL Order when the Initiating Member has chosen the auto-match feature vs. the average amount of price improvement provided to the PIXL Order when the Initiating Member has chosen a stop price submission.

Regarding competition, the Exchange has undertaken to provide the following information on a monthly basis during the pilot period: (1) For the first Wednesday of each month: (a) The total number of PIXL auctions on that date; (b) the number of PIXL auctions where the order submitted to the PIXL was fewer than 50 contracts; (c) the number of PIXL auctions where the order submitted to the PIXL was 50 contracts or greater; (d) the number of PIXL auctions (for orders of fewer than 50 contracts) with 0 participants (excluding the initiating participant), 1 participant (excluding the initiating participant), 2 participants (excluding the initiating participant), 3 participants (excluding the initiating participant), 4 participants (excluding the initiating participant), etc., and (e) the number of PIXL auctions (for orders of 50 contracts or greater) with 0 participants (excluding the initiating participant), 1 participant (excluding the initiating participant), 2 participants (excluding the initiating participant), 3 participants (excluding the initiating participant), 4 participants (excluding the initiating participant), etc.; and (2) For the third Wednesday of each month: (a) The total number of PIXL auctions on that date; (b) the number of PIXL auctions where the order submitted to the PIXL was fewer than 50 contracts; (c) the number of PIXL auctions where the order submitted to the PIXL was 50 contracts or greater; (d) the number of PIXL auctions (for orders of fewer than 50 contracts) with 0 participants (excluding the initiating participant), 1 participant (excluding the initiating participant), 2 participants (excluding the initiating participant), 3 participants (excluding the initiating participant), 4 participants (excluding the initiating participant), etc., and (e) the number of PIXL auctions (for orders of 50 contracts or greater) with 0 participants (excluding the initiating participant), 1 participant (excluding the initiating participant), 2 participants (excluding the initiating participant), 3 participants (excluding the initiating participant), 4 participants (excluding the initiating participant), etc. See Securities Exchange Act Release Nos. 63027 (October 1, 2010), 75 FR 62160 (October 7, 2010) (SR-Phlx-2010-108) (initial order approving PIXL), 65043 (August 5, 2011), 76 FR 49824 (August 11, 2011), (SR-Phlx-2011-104) (order extending the PIXL pilot program through July 18, 2012); 67399 (July 11, 2012), 77 FR 42048 (July 17, 2012) (SR-Phlx-2012-94) (order extending the PIXL pilot program through July 18, 2013). The PIXL pilot period is set to expire on July 18, 2013. See Rule 1080(n).

With respect to QCC Orders, Exchange Rule 1080(o) provides that a QCC Order is comprised of an order to buy or sell at least 1000 contracts that is identified as being part of a qualified contingent trade, as that term is defined in subsection Rule 1080(o)(3), coupled with a contra-side order to buy or sell an equal number of contracts. The Exchange proposes to permit Mini Option QCC Orders to be defined as an order to buy or sell at least 10,000 contracts, instead of 1,000 contracts. The Exchange proposes to add text to Rule 1080(o) and Rule 1064(e) to note the different quantity required to transact QCC Orders in Mini Options.

The Exchange proposes to commence trading Mini Options on March 28, 2013.¹⁰ The Exchange will not commence trading of Mini Options contracts until specific fees for Mini Options contracts trading have been filed with the Commission.

b. <u>Statutory Basis</u>

The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the provisions of Section 6 of the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934 ("Exchange Act"),¹¹ in general, and with Section 6(b)(5) of the Exchange Act,¹² in particular, in that the proposal is designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest.

¹¹ 15 U.S.C. 78f.

¹² 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

¹⁰ The Exchange noted in SR-Phlx-2012-126 that it would not commence trading of Mini Option contracts until specific fees for Mini Options contracts trading have been filed with the Commission. <u>See</u> Securities Exchange Act Release No. 68132 (November 1, 2012), 77 FR 66904 (November 7, 2012) (SR-Phlx-2012-126). The Exchange has filed such fees. <u>See</u> SR-Phlx-2013-35 (not yet published).

Specifically, the Exchange believes that investors and other market participants would benefit from the current rule proposal because it would allow market participants to take advantage of legitimate investment strategies and execute PIXL Orders and QCC Orders in Mini Options. Additionally, the Exchange believes the proposed rule change will avoid investor confusion by clarifying how Mini Options will trade the same or different as compared to standard options with respect to PIXL Orders and QCC Orders.

The Exchange believes that trading PIXL Orders in Mini Options and standard options in the same manner will avoid investor confusion. Also, the Exchange believes that the current PIXL rules in Rule 1080(n) as applied to Mini Options will promote just and equitable principles of trade and continue to permit fair competition. The Exchange does not believe treating Mini Option and standard option PIXL Orders in a like manner creates any unfair disadvantage to investors.

The Exchange believes that adjusting the quantity of a QCC Orders in Rule 1080(o) (applicable to electronic orders) and Rule 1064(e) (applicable to floor orders) from 1,000 to 10,000 contracts with respect to QCC Orders will protect investors by maintaining the same number of underlying securities for Mini Options as with standard options. The Exchange believes that maintaining the same number of underlying securities will prevent unfair discrimination among market participants. All members are eligible to transact PIXL Orders and QCC Orders on Phlx.

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

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on competition not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. All members may transact PIXL Orders and QCC Orders on Phlx. The rule change does not permit unfair discrimination and does not impose a burden on Members with respect to trading Mini Options.

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

No written comments were either solicited or received.

6. <u>Extension of Time Period for Commission Action</u>

Not applicable

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

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act¹³ and Rule 19b-4(f)(6)¹⁴ thereunder, the Exchange has designated this proposal as one that effects a change 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. Specifically, the proposed rule change seeks to amend its rules to accommodate the trading of Mini Options specifically for PIXL and QCC transactions. This proposal is consistent with the already approved concept that Exchange rules that apply to the trading of standard option contracts will also apply to Mini Options. The Exchange also provided the Commission with written notice of its intent to file the proposal, along with a brief description and text of the proposal, prior to the date of the filing of the proposed rule change as required by Rule 19b-4(f)(6).

¹³ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

¹⁴ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

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. Furthermore, a proposed rule change filed pursuant to Rule 19b-4(f)(6) under the Act¹⁵ normally does not become operative for 30 days after the date of its filing. However, Rule $19b-4(f)(6)^{16}$ permits the Commission to designate a shorter time if such action is consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest. The Exchange has requested that the Commission waive the 30-day operative delay and designate the proposed rule change to become operative upon filing. The Exchange believes that the changes proposed herein should be effective prior to or on the anticipated launch date of March 28, 2013 in order to minimize confusion and provide clarity and certainty to all market participants. Without waiving the 30-day operative delay, certain Mini Options contracts may not be able to trade QCC Orders on the launch date. The Exchange believes that such an outcome could create confusion and should be avoided. The proposed rule change would therefore protect investors. The Exchange also believes that the proposed rule change protects investors and the public interest because it permits the trading of Mini Options in QCC and clarifies the trading of PIXL Orders and ensures investors that QCC Orders involving Mini Options are afforded the same level of protection as standard options as soon as they are launched. As a result, the Exchange believes that good reason exists for the Commission to waive the 30-day operative delay so that it is established prior to or on the

¹⁵ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

¹⁶ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

anticipated launch date of March 28, 2013. For the foregoing reasons, the Exchange believes the rule filing qualifies for expedited effectiveness as a "noncontroversial" rule change under Rule 19b-4(f)(6) of the Act.

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

The proposed rule change is not based on the rules of another self-regulatory

organization or of the Commission.

- Security-Based Swap Submissions Filed Pursuant to Section 3C of the Act Not applicable.
- 10. <u>Advance Notices Filed Pursuant to Section 806(e) of the Payment, Clearing and</u> <u>Settlement Supervision Act</u>

Not applicable.

- 11. Exhibits
 - 1. Notice of proposed rule for publication in the <u>Federal Register</u>.
 - 5. Proposed Rule Text.

<u>Exhibit 1</u>

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. ; File No. SR-Phlx-2013-36)

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change by NASDAQ OMX PHLX LLC Relating to trading QCC and PIXL Orders in Mini Options

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 March 26, 2013, NASDAQ OMX

PHLX LLC ("Phlx" or "Exchange") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission

("SEC" or "Commission") the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II, and III,

below, which Items have been prepared by the Exchange. The Commission is publishing

this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

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

The Exchange proposes to address the manner in which options contracts overlying 10 shares of a security ("Mini Options") will trade in a PIXL³ auction or as a Qualified Contingent Cross ("QCC") Order.⁴

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

³ PIXL is the Exchange's price improvement mechanism known as Price Improvement XL or (PIXLSM). <u>See</u> Rule 1080(n).

⁴ A QCC Order is comprised of an order to buy or sell at least 1000 contracts that is identified as being part of a qualified contingent trade, as that term is defined in Rule 1080(o)(3), coupled with a contra-side order to buy or sell an equal number of contracts. The QCC Order must be executed at a price at or between the National Best Bid and Offer ("NBBO") and be rejected if a Customer order is resting on the Exchange book at the same price. A QCC Order shall only be submitted electronically from off the floor to the PHLX XL II System. See Rule 1080(o). See also Securities Exchange Act Release No. 64249 (April 7, 2011), 76 FR 20773 (April 13, 2011) (SR-Phlx-2011-47) (a rule change to establish a QCC Order to facilitate the execution of stock/option Qualified

The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Exchange's Website at <u>http://www.nasdaqtrader.com/micro.aspx?id=PHLXRulefilings</u>, at the principal office of the Exchange, and at the Commission's Public Reference Room.

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

In its filing with the Commission, the Exchange included statements concerning the purpose of and basis for the proposed rule change and discussed any comments it received on the proposed rule change. The text of these statements may be examined at the places specified in Item IV below. The Exchange has prepared summaries, set forth in sections A, B, and C below, of the most significant aspects of such statements.

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

1. <u>Purpose</u>

The purpose of the proposed rule change is to further clarify the manner in which

Mini Options will trade in a PIXL auction or as a QCC Order pursuant to Exchange Rule

1080. The Exchange previously filed to list and trade Mini Options.⁵ Exchange Rule

1080 entitled "Phlx XL and Phlx XL II" describes the manner in which PIXL orders⁶ and

Contingent Trades ("QCTs") that satisfy the requirements of the trade through exemption in connection with Rule 611(d) of the Regulation NMS).

⁵ <u>See</u> Securities Exchange Act Release No. 68132 (November 1, 2012), 77 FR 66904 (November 7, 2012) (SR-Phlx-2012-126). The Exchange amended amend Rules 1001 (Position Limits), 1012 (Series of Options Open for Trading) and 1033 (Bids and Offers – Premium) to list and trade Mini Options overlying five (5) high-priced securities for which the standard contract overlying the same security exhibits significant liquidity. Specifically, the Exchange filed to list Mini Options on SPDR S&P 500 ("SPY"), Apple, Inc. ("AAPL"), SPDR Gold Trust ("GLD"), Google Inc. ("GOOG") and Amazon.com Inc. ("AMZN").

⁶ <u>See</u> Exchange Rule 1080(n).

QCC Orders⁷ trade on the Exchange. The Exchange will describe below the manner in which it seeks to clarify Rules 1064 and 1080 with respect to Mini Options.

With respect to PIXL, Rule 1080(n) specifies that a member may electronically submit for execution an order it represents as agent on behalf of a public customer, broker dealer, or any other entity ("PIXL Order") against principal interest or against any other order (except as provided in Rule 1080(n)(i)(E)) it represents as agent (an "Initiating Order") provided it submits the PIXL Order for electronic execution into the PIXL Auction ("Auction") pursuant to this Rule. The Exchange is proposing to clarify that with respect to Mini Options, the same contract size shall apply consistent with standard options. The Exchange proposes to add a sentence to Rule 1080(n) to note that a Mini Options PIXL Order will trade consistent with standard options.

Today the Exchange provides the Commission certain PIXL pilot reports, including, but not limited to orders of fewer than 50 contracts into the PIXL Auction.⁸

⁷ <u>See</u> Exchange Rule 1080(o). The Exchange is also proposing to amend Rule 1064 entitled "Crossing, Facilitation and Solicited Orders," as this rule also describes the manner in which QCC Orders shall trade on Phlx.

⁸ Regarding PIXL Orders of fewer than 50 contracts, the Exchange has undertaken to provide the following information on a monthly basis during the pilot period: (1) The number of orders of fewer than 50 contracts entered into the PIXL Auction; (2) The percentage of all orders of fewer than 50 contracts sent to Phlx that are entered into the PIXL Auction; (3) The percentage of all Phlx trades represented by orders of fewer than 50 contracts; (4) The percentage of all Phlx trades effected through the PIXL Auction represented by orders of fewer than 50 contracts; (5) The percentage of all contracts traded on Phlx represented by orders of fewer than 50 contracts; (6) The percentage of all contracts effected through the PIXL Auction represented by orders of fewer than 50 contracts; (7) The spread in the option, at the time an order of fewer than 50 contracts is submitted to the PIXL Auction; (8) The number of orders of 50 contracts or greater entered into the PIXL Auction; (9) The percentage of all orders of 50 contracts or greater sent to Phlx that are entered into the PIXL Auction; (10) The spread in the option, at the time an order of 50 contracts or greater is submitted to the PIXL Auction; (11) Of PIXL trades where the PIXL Order is for the account of a public customer, and is for a size of fewer than 50 contracts, the percentage done at the NBBO plus \$.01, plus \$

The Exchange will also submit to the Commission these same reports with respect to Mini Options for PIXL Orders fewer than 500 contracts as well as the pilot reports for Mini Options in the other categories.⁹ The Exchange will provide this information for a

.02, plus \$.03, etc.; (12) Of PIXL trades where the PIXL Order is for the account of a public customer, and is for a size of 50 contracts or greater, the percentage done at the NBBO plus \$.01, plus \$.02, plus \$.03, etc.; and (13) Of PIXL trades where the PIXL Order is for the account of a broker dealer or any other person or entity that is not a public customer, and is for a size of fewer than 50 contracts, the percentage done at the NBBO plus \$.01, plus \$.02, plus \$.03, etc. (14) Of PIXL trades where the PIXL Order is for the account of a broker dealer or any other person or entity that is not a public customer, and is for a size of 50 contracts or greater, the percentage done at the NBBO plus \$.01, plus \$.02, plus \$.03, etc.; and (15) The number of orders submitted by Initiating Members when the spread was \$.05, \$.10, \$.15, etc. For each spread, specify the percentage of contracts in orders of fewer than 50 contracts submitted to the PIXL Auction that were traded by: (a) The Initiating Member that submitted the order to the PIXL; (b) Phlx Market Makers assigned to the class; (c) other Phlx members; (d) Public Customer Orders; and (e) unrelated orders (orders in standard increments entered during the PIXL Auction). For each spread, also specify the percentage of contracts in orders of 50 contracts or greater submitted to the PIXL Auction that were traded by: (a) the Initiating Member that submitted the order to the PIXL Auction; (b) Phlx market makers assigned to the class; (c) other Phlx members; (d) Public Customer Orders; and (e) unrelated orders (orders in standard increments entered during the PIXL Auction). See Securities Exchange Act Release Nos. 63027 (October 1, 2010), 75 FR 62160 (October 7, 2010) (SR-Phlx-2010-108) (initial order approving PIXL), 65043 (August 5, 2011), 76 FR 49824 (August 11, 2011), (SR-Phlx-2011-104) (order extending the PIXL pilot program through July 18, 2012); 67399 (July 11, 2012), 77 FR 42048 (July 17, 2012) (SR-Phlx-2012-94) (order extending the PIXL pilot program through July 18, 2013). The PIXL pilot period is set to expire on July 18, 2013. See Rule 1080(n).

⁹ In the order approving PIXL, the Exchange undertook to provide the Commission with the below information on a monthly basis during the pilot period in addition to the other pilot reports noted herein. The Exchange will provide Mini Options pilot reports for the following categories in addition to the reports noted above, except for reports requiring orders of 50 contracts the Exchange would instead provide reports for orders of 500 contracts with respect to Mini Options: (1) The number of times that the PBBO crossed the PIXL Order stop price on the same side of the market as the PIXL Order and prematurely ended the PIXL Auction, and at what time the PIXL Auction ended; (2) The number of times that a trading halt prematurely ended the PIXL auction and at what time the PBBO crossing the PIXL order stop price, the number that resulted in price improvement over the PIXL Order; (4) In the Auctions terminated early due to the PBBO crossing the PIXL Order; (4) In the Auctions terminated early due to the PBBO crossing the PIXL order is the Auctions terminated early due to the PIXL Order; (4) In the Auctions terminated early due to the PBBO crossing the PIXL order is the Auctions terminated early due to the PBBO crossing the PIXL order is the Auctions terminated early due to the PIXL Order; (4) In the Auctions terminated early due to the PBBO crossing the PIXL order is the Auctions terminated early due to the PIXL Order; (4) In the Auctions terminated early due to the PBBO crossing the PIXL order is the Auctions terminated early due to the PIXL order; (4) In the Auctions terminated early due to the PBBO crossing the PIXL order is the Auctions terminated early due to the PIXL order; (4) In the Auctions terminated early due to the PBBO crossing the PIXL order; (4) In the Auctions terminated early due to the PBBO crossing the PIXL order; (4) In the Auctions terminated early due to the PBBO crossing the PIXL order; (4) In the Auctions terminated early due to the PBBO crossing the PIXL order; (4) In the Auctions terminat

PIXL order stop price, the percentage of contracts that received price improvement over the PIXL order stop price; (5) Of the Auctions terminated early due to a trading halt, the number that resulted in price improvement over the PIXL Order stop price, and the average amount of price improvement provided to the PIXL Order; (6) In the auctions terminated early due to a trading halt, the percentage of contracts that received price improvement over the PIXL order stop price; and (7) The average amount of price improvement provided to the PIXL Order when the PIXL Auction is not terminated early (*i.e.*, runs the full one second). (8) The number of times an unrelated market or marketable limit order (against the PBBO) on the opposite side of the PIXL Order is received during the Auction Period; and (9) The price(s) at which an unrelated market or marketable limit order (against the PBBO) on the opposite side of the PIXL Order that is received during the Auction Period; and (9) The price(s) at which an unrelated market or marketable limit order (against the PBBO) on the opposite side of the PIXL Order that is received during the Auction Period; sexcuted, compared to the execution price of the PIXL Order.

Regarding PIXL auto-match, the Exchange has undertaken to provide the following information on a monthly basis during the pilot period: (1) The percentage of all Phlx trades effected through the PIXL Auction in which the Initiating Member has chosen the auto-match feature, and the average amount of price improvement provided to the PIXL Order when the Initiating Member has chosen the auto-match feature vs. the average amount of price improvement provided to the PIXL Order when the Initiating Member has chosen a stop price submission.

Regarding competition, the Exchange has undertaken to provide the following information on a monthly basis during the pilot period: (1) For the first Wednesday of each month: (a) The total number of PIXL auctions on that date; (b) the number of PIXL auctions where the order submitted to the PIXL was fewer than 50 contracts; (c) the number of PIXL auctions where the order submitted to the PIXL was 50 contracts or greater; (d) the number of PIXL auctions (for orders of fewer than 50 contracts) with 0 participants (excluding the initiating participant), 1 participant (excluding the initiating participant), 2 participants (excluding the initiating participant), 3 participants (excluding the initiating participant), 4 participants (excluding the initiating participant), etc., and (e) the number of PIXL auctions (for orders of 50 contracts or greater) with 0 participants (excluding the initiating participant), 1 participant (excluding the initiating participant), 2 participants (excluding the initiating participant), 3 participants (excluding the initiating participant), 4 participants (excluding the initiating participant), etc.; and (2) For the third Wednesday of each month: (a) The total number of PIXL auctions on that date; (b) the number of PIXL auctions where the order submitted to the PIXL was fewer than 50 contracts; (c) the number of PIXL auctions where the order submitted to the PIXL was 50 contracts or greater; (d) the number of PIXL auctions (for orders of fewer than 50 contracts) with 0 participants (excluding the initiating participant), 1 participant (excluding the initiating participant), 2 participants (excluding the initiating participant), 3 participants (excluding the initiating participant), 4 participants (excluding the initiating participant), etc., and (e) the number of PIXL auctions (for orders of 50 contracts or greater) with 0 participants (excluding the initiating participant), 1 participant (excluding the initiating participant), 2 participants (excluding the initiating participant), 3 participants (excluding the initiating participant), 4 participants (excluding the initiating

particular month not later than the last business day of the subsequent month, as is the case with other PIXL pilot reports.

With respect to QCC Orders, Exchange Rule 1080(o) provides that a QCC Order is comprised of an order to buy or sell at least 1000 contracts that is identified as being part of a qualified contingent trade, as that term is defined in subsection Rule 1080(o)(3), coupled with a contra-side order to buy or sell an equal number of contracts. The Exchange proposes to permit Mini Option QCC Orders to be defined as an order to buy or sell at least 10,000 contracts, instead of 1,000 contracts. The Exchange proposes to add text to Rule 1080(o) and Rule 1064(e) to note the different quantity required to transact QCC Orders in Mini Options.

The Exchange proposes to commence trading Mini Options on March 28, 2013.¹⁰ The Exchange will not commence trading of Mini Options contracts until specific fees

for Mini Options contracts trading have been filed with the Commission.

2. <u>Statutory Basis</u>

The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the provisions of Section 6 of the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934 ("Exchange Act"),¹¹

¹⁰ The Exchange noted in SR-Phlx-2012-126 that it would not commence trading of Mini Option contracts until specific fees for Mini Options contracts trading have been filed with the Commission. <u>See</u> Securities Exchange Act Release No. 68132 (November 1, 2012), 77 FR 66904 (November 7, 2012) (SR-Phlx-2012-126). The Exchange has filed such fees. <u>See</u> SR-Phlx-2013-35 (not yet published).

¹¹ 15 U.S.C. 78f.

participant), etc. <u>See</u> Securities Exchange Act Release Nos. 63027 (October 1, 2010), 75 FR 62160 (October 7, 2010) (SR-Phlx-2010-108) (initial order approving PIXL), 65043 (August 5, 2011), 76 FR 49824 (August 11, 2011), (SR-Phlx-2011-104) (order extending the PIXL pilot program through July 18, 2012); 67399 (July 11, 2012), 77 FR 42048 (July 17, 2012) (SR-Phlx-2012-94) (order extending the PIXL pilot program through July 18, 2012); 67399 (July 11, 2012), 77 FR 42048 (July 17, 2012) (SR-Phlx-2012-94) (order extending the PIXL pilot program through July 18, 2013). The PIXL pilot period is set to expire on July 18, 2013. See Rule 1080(n).

in general, and with Section 6(b)(5) of the Exchange Act,¹² in particular, in that the proposal is designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest.

Specifically, the Exchange believes that investors and other market participants would benefit from the current rule proposal because it would allow market participants to take advantage of legitimate investment strategies and execute PIXL Orders and QCC Orders in Mini Options. Additionally, the Exchange believes the proposed rule change will avoid investor confusion by clarifying how Mini Options will trade the same or different as compared to standard options with respect to PIXL Orders and QCC Orders.

The Exchange believes that trading PIXL Orders in Mini Options and standard options in the same manner will avoid investor confusion. Also, the Exchange believes that the current PIXL rules in Rule 1080(n) as applied to Mini Options will promote just and equitable principles of trade and continue to permit fair competition. The Exchange does not believe treating Mini Option and standard option PIXL Orders in a like manner creates any unfair disadvantage to investors.

The Exchange believes that adjusting the quantity of a QCC Orders in Rule 1080(o) (applicable to electronic orders) and Rule 1064(e) (applicable to floor orders) from 1,000 to 10,000 contracts with respect to QCC Orders will protect investors by maintaining the same number of underlying securities for Mini Options as with standard options. The Exchange believes that maintaining the same number of underlying

¹² 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

securities will prevent unfair discrimination among market participants. All members are eligible to transact PIXL Orders and QCC Orders on Phlx.

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

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on competition not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. All members may transact PIXL Orders and QCC Orders on Phlx. The rule change does not permit unfair discrimination and does not impose a burden on Members with respect to trading Mini Options.

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

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)(ii) of the Act¹³ and subparagraph (f)(6) of Rule 19b-4 thereunder.¹⁴

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

¹³ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(a)(ii).

¹⁴ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

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. The Exchange has provided the Commission written notice of its intent to file the proposed rule change, along with a brief description and text of the proposed rule change, at least five business days prior to the date of filing of the proposed rule change.

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 (<u>http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml</u>); or
- Send an e-mail to <u>rule-comments@sec.gov</u>. Please include File Number SR-Phlx-2013-36 on the subject line.

Paper comments:

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

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-Phlx-2013-36. 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-Phlx-2013-36 and should be submitted on or before [insert date 21 days from publication in the <u>Federal Register</u>].

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.¹⁵

Kevin M. O'Neill Deputy Secretary

¹⁵ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

Exhibit 5

New text is underlined; deleted text is in brackets.

Rule 1064. Crossing, Facilitation and Solicited Orders

(a) – (d) No Change

(e) A Floor Qualified Contingent Cross Order is comprised of an order to buy or sell at least 1000 contracts, or 10,000 contracts in the case of Mini Options, that is identified as being part of a qualified contingent trade, as that term is defined in subsection (3) below, coupled with a contra-side order to buy or sell an equal number of contracts.

(1) No Change

(a) – (c) No Change

(2) - (3) No Change

••• Commentary: -----

.01 - .04 No Change

* * * * *

Rule 1080. Phlx XL and Phlx XL II

(a) – (m) No Change

(n) Price Improvement XL ("PIXL")

A member may electronically submit for execution an order it represents as agent on behalf of a public customer, broker dealer, or any other entity ("PIXL Order") against principal interest or against any other order (except as provided in sub-paragraph (n)(i)(E) below) it represents as agent (an "Initiating Order") provided it submits the PIXL Order for electronic execution into the PIXL Auction ("Auction") pursuant to this Rule. <u>The contract size specified in Rule 1080(n)</u> as applicable to PIXL Orders shall apply to Mini Options.

(i) – (vii) No Change

(o) Qualified Contingent Cross Order.

A Qualified Contingent Cross Order is comprised of an order to buy or sell at least 1000 contracts, or 10,000 contracts in the case of Mini Options, that is identified as being part of a qualified contingent trade, as that term is defined in subsection (3) below, coupled with a contraside order to buy or sell an equal number of contracts.

(1) - (3) No Change

••• Commentary: -----

.01 - .08 No Change

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