$\label{lem:red} \textit{Required fields are shown with yellow backgrounds and asterisks}.$ 

OMB APPROVAL

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Page 1 of * 34		SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION File No.* SR - 2020 - * 32 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549 Form 19b-4 Amendment No. (req. for Amendments *)				
Filing by Nasdaq PHLX LLC						
Pursuant to Rule 19b-4 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934						
Initial * ✓	Amendment *	Withdrawal	Section 19(b)(2) *	Section .	on 19(b)(3)(A) *	Section 19(b)(3)(B) *
Pilot	Extension of Time Period for Commission Action *	Date Expires *		19b-4(f	)(2) 19b-4(f)(5)	
	of proposed change pursuant	to the Payment, Clear Section 806(e)(2) *	ing, and Settlement Ad	ct of 2010	Security-Based Swap to the Securities Excl Section 3C(b)(2	-
Exhibit 2 Sent As Paper Document  Exhibit 3 Sent As Paper Document  Exhibit 3 Sent As Paper Document						
Provide a brief description of the action (limit 250 characters, required when Initial is checked *).  A proposal to amend Options 3, Section 3 to conform the rule to Section 3.1 of the Plan for the Purpose of Developing and Implementing Procedures Designed to Facilitate the Listing and Trading of Standardized 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 * Sun		Last Name * Kim			
Title *	Title * Associate General Counsel  E-mail * Sun.Kim@nasdaq.com					
E-mail						
Teleph	one * (646) 420-7816	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 *)						
	06/23/2020		EVP and Chief Legal	Oπicer		
Ву	John A. Zecca					
(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.						

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

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

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

(a) Nasdaq PHLX LLC ("Phlx" or "Exchange"), pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act")<sup>1</sup> and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,<sup>2</sup> is filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC" or "Commission") a proposal to amend Options 3, Section 3 to conform the rule to Section 3.1 of the Plan for the Purpose of Developing and Implementing Procedures Designed to Facilitate the Listing and Trading of Standardized Options (the "OLPP").

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

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

## 2. 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 25, 2019. 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:

Sun Kim Associate General Counsel Nasdaq, Inc. 646-420-7816

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

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

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

## a. <u>Purpose</u>

The purpose of this rule change is to amend Options 3, Section 3 (Minimum Increments) to align the rule with the recently approved amendment to the OLPP.

#### Background

On January 23, 2007, the Commission approved on a limited basis a Penny Pilot in option classes in certain issues ("Penny Pilot"). The Penny Pilot was designed to determine whether investors would benefit from options being quoted in penny increments, and in which classes the benefits were most significant. The Penny Pilot was expanded and extended numerous times over the last 13 years.<sup>3</sup> In each instance, these approvals relied upon the consideration of data periodically provided by the Exchanges that analyzed how quoting options in penny increments affects spreads, liquidity, quote traffic, and volume. Today, the Penny Pilot includes 363 option classes, which are among the most actively traded, multiply listed option classes. The Penny Pilot is scheduled to expire by its own terms on June 30, 2020.<sup>4</sup>

In light of the imminent expiration of the Penny Pilot on June 30, 2020, the Exchange, together with other participating exchanges, filed, on July 18, 2019 a proposal

The Penny Pilot was established on the Exchange in December 2006 and was last extended in December 2019. See Securities Exchange Act Release Nos. 54886 (December 6, 2006), 71 FR 74979 (December 13, 2006) (SR-Phlx-2006-74); and 87748 (December 13, 2019), 84 FR 69803 (December 19, 2019) (SR-Phlx-2019-55).

See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 87748 (December 13, 2019), 84 FR 69803 (December 19, 2019) (SR-Phlx-2019-55).

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to amend the OLPP.<sup>5</sup> On April 1, 2020 the Commission approved the amendment to the OLPP to make permanent the Pilot Program (the "OLPP Program").<sup>6</sup>

The OLPP Program replaces the Penny Pilot by instituting a permanent program that would permit quoting in penny increments for certain option classes. Under the terms of the OLPP Program, designated option classes would continue to be quoted in \$0.01 and \$0.05 increments according to the same parameters for the Penny Pilot. In addition, the OLPP Program would: (i) establish an annual review process to add option classes to, or to remove option classes from, the OLPP Program; (ii) to allow an option class to be added to the OLPP Program if it is a newly listed option class and it meets certain criteria; (iii) to allow an option class to be added to the OLPP Program if it is an option class that has seen a significant growth in activity; (iv) to provide that if a corporate action involves one or more option classes in the OLPP Program, all adjusted and unadjusted series and classes emerging as a result of the corporate action will be included in the OLPP Program; and (v) to provide that any series in an option class participating in the OLPP Program that have been delisted, or are identified by OCC as ineligible for opening Customer transactions, will continue to trade pursuant to the OLPP Program until they expire.

To conform its Rules to the OLPP Program, the Exchange proposes to delete the current rule text in Supplementary Material.01 to Options 3, Section 3 (the "Penny Pilot Rule"), and replace it with the requirements for the proposed Penny Interval Program

See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 87681 (December 9, 2019), 84 FR 68960 (December 17, 2019) ("Notice").

See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 88532 (April 1, 2020), 85 FR 19545 (April 7, 2020) (File No. 4-443) ("Approval Order").

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from the OLPP Program, which is described below, and to replace references to the "Penny Pilot" in several Exchange rules with "Penny Interval Program."

The Exchange also proposes to delete obsolete and superfluous language in Options 3, Section 3(a)(1) regarding amendments to the minimum increments that may be established by the Board and designated as a stated policy, practice or interpretation within the meaning of the Act, and the process for such amendments by rule filing.<sup>7</sup> Today, the Exchange may determine to establish a change to the minimum increments within its Rules and must submit proposed rule changes for such amendments to the Commission.<sup>8</sup> In connection with the foregoing change, the Exchange also proposes to renumber current subparagraphs (a)(2) and (3) in Options 3, Section 3 as subparagraphs (a)(1) and (2).

## Penny Interval Program

The Exchange proposes to codify the OLPP Program in Supplementary Material .01 to Options 3, Section (Requirements for Penny Interval Program) (the "Penny Program"), which will replace the Penny Pilot Rule and permanently permit the Exchange to quote certain option classes in minimum increments of one cents (\$0.01) and five cents (\$0.05) ("penny increments"), as set forth in Supplementary Material .01 to

See Options 3, Section 3(a)(1), which specifically provides: "However, the Board of Directors may establish different minimum trading increments. The Exchange will designate any such change as a stated policy, practice or interpretation with respect to the administration of this Rule, within the meaning of Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Exchange Act and will file a proposed rule change with the Securities and Exchange Commission to be effective upon filing."

Decisions to change the minimum increments relate to Exchange trading and operations, and thus are made by Exchange management via delegated authority from the Board, rather than the Board itself, which is generally not involved in determinations related to day-to-day operations of the Exchange.

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Options 3, Section 3. The penny increments that currently apply under the Penny Pilot as set forth in existing Supplementary Material .01 to Options 3, Section 3 will continue to apply for options classes included in the Penny Program. Specifically, new subparagraphs (a)(1) – (3) in Supplementary Material .01 to Options 3, Section 3 will state that for options contracts traded pursuant to the Penny Program as described within Supplementary Material .01 to Options 3, Section 3, the following minimum increments will apply: (1) one cent (\$0.01) for all options contracts in QQQ, SPY, and IWM; (2) one cent (\$0.01) for all other options contracts included in the Penny Interval Program that are trading at less than \$3.00; and (3) five cents (\$0.05) for all other options contracts included in the Penny Interval Program that are trading at or above \$3.00.

The Penny Program would initially apply to the 363 most actively traded multiply listed option classes, based on National Cleared Volume at The Options Clearing Corporation ("OCC") in the six full calendar months ending in the month of approval (i.e., November 2019 - April 2020) that currently quote in penny increments, or overlie securities priced below \$200, or any index at an index level below \$200. Eligibility for inclusion in the Penny Program will be determined at the close of trading on the monthly Expiration Friday of the second full month following April 1, 2020 (i.e., June 19, 2020).

Once in the Penny Program, an option class will remain included until it is no longer among the 425 most actively traded option classes at the time the annual review is conducted (described below), at which point it will be removed from the Penny Program. As described in more detail below, the removed class will be replaced by the next most actively traded multiply listed option class overlying securities priced below \$200 per share, or any index at an index level below \$200, and not yet in the Penny Program.

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Advanced notice regarding the option classes included, added, or removed from the Penny Program will be provided to the Exchange's membership via Options Trader Alert and published by the Exchange on its website.

#### Annual Review

The Penny Program would include an annual review process that applies objective criteria to determine option classes to be added to, or removed from, the Penny Program. Specifically, on an annual basis beginning in December 2020 and occurring every December thereafter, the Exchange will review and rank all multiply listed option classes based on National Cleared Volume at OCC for the six full calendar months from June 1<sup>st</sup> through November 30<sup>th</sup> for determination of the most actively traded option classes. Any option classes not yet in the Penny Program may be added to the Penny Program if the class is among the 300 most actively traded multiply listed option classes and priced below \$200 per share or any index at an index level below \$200.

Following the annual review, option classes to be added to the Penny Program would begin quoting in penny increments (i.e., \$0.01 if trading at less than \$3; and \$0.05 if trading at \$3 and above) on the first trading day of January. In addition, following the annual review, any option class in the Penny Program that falls outside of the 425 most actively traded option classes would be removed from the Penny Program. After the annual review, option classes that are removed from the Penny Program will be subject to the minimum trading increments set forth in Options 3, Section 3, effective on the first trading day of April.

Changes to the Composition of the Penny Program Outside of the Annual Review

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Newly Listed Option Classes and Option Classes with Significant Growth in Activity

The Penny Program would specify a process and parameters for including option classes in the Penny Program outside the annual review process in two circumstances. These provisions are designed to provide objective criteria to add to the Penny Program new option classes in issues with the most demonstrated trading interest from market participants and investors on an expedited basis prior to the annual review, with the benefit that market participants and investors will then be able to trade these new option classes based upon quotes expressed in finer trading increments.

First, the Penny Program provides for certain newly listed option classes to be added to the Penny Program outside of the annual review process, provided that (i) the class is among the 300 most actively traded, multiply listed option classes, as ranked by National Cleared Volume at OCC, in its first full calendar month of trading; and (ii) the underlying security is priced below \$200 or the underlying index is at an index level below \$200. Such newly listed option classes added to the Penny Program pursuant to this process would remain in the Penny Program for one full calendar year and then would be subject to the annual review process.

Second, the Penny Program would allow an option class to be added to the Penny Program outside of the annual review process if it is an option class that meets certain specific criteria. Specifically, new option classes may be added to the Penny Program if:

(i) the option class is among the 75 most actively traded multiply listed option classes, as ranked by National Cleared Volume at OCC, in the prior six full calendar months of trading and (ii) the underlying security is priced below \$200 or the underlying index is at

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an index level below \$200. Any option class added under this provision will be added on the first trading day of the second full month after it qualifies and will remain in the Penny Program for the rest of the calendar year, after which it will be subject to the annual review process.

#### Corporate Actions

The Penny Program would also specify a process to address option classes in the Penny Program that undergo a corporate action and is designed to ensure continuous liquidity in the affected option classes. Specifically, if a corporate action involves one or more option classes in the Penny Program, all adjusted and unadjusted series of an option class would continue to be included in the Penny Program. Furthermore, neither the trading volume threshold, nor the initial price test would apply to option classes added to the Penny Program as a result of the corporate action. Finally, the newly added adjusted and unadjusted series of the option class would remain in the Penny Program for one full calendar year and then would become subject to the annual review process.

#### Delisted or Ineligible Option Classes

Finally, the Penny Program would provide a mechanism to address option classes that have been delisted or those that are no longer eligible for listing. Specifically, any series in an option class participating in the Penny Program in which the underlying has been delisted, or is identified by OCC as ineligible for opening customer transactions,

For example, if Company A acquires Company B and Company A is not in the Penny Program but Company B is in the Penny Program, once the merger is consummated and an options contract adjustment is effective, then Company A would be added to the Penny Program and remain in the Penny Program for one calendar year.

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would continue to quote pursuant to the terms of the Penny Program until all options series have expired.

## <u>Technical Changes</u>

The Exchange proposes to replace references to the Penny Pilot with references to the Penny Interval Program in Options 3, Section 8(a)(viii) and in Options 8, Section 33(d)(2). The Exchange also proposes to replace the obsolete reference to "Commentary" with "Supplementary Material to Options 3, Section 3" in Options 3, Section 3. Further, the Exchange proposes in Options 3, Section 3(a)(3) to replace "minimum changes" with "minimum trading increments" for greater consistency within the Rule. Lastly, the Exchange proposes to remove the stray punctuation at the end of the Supplementary Material to Options 3, Section 3 header.

The Exchange believes these technical changes would add clarity, transparency, and internal consistency to the Exchange's rules, making them easier for market participants to navigate.

#### <u>Implementation</u>

The Exchange proposes to implement the Penny Program on July 1, 2020, which is the first trading day of the third month following the Approval Order issued on April 1, 2020 – i.e., July 1, 2020.

#### b. <u>Statutory Basis</u>

The Exchange believes that its proposal is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act, <sup>10</sup> in general, and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(5) of the Act, <sup>11</sup> in particular,

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

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

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in that it is designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system, and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest.

In particular, the proposed rule change, which conforms the Exchange rules to the recently adopted OLPP Program, allows the Exchange to provide market participants with a permanent Penny Program for quoting options in penny increments, which maximizes the benefit of quoting in a finer quoting increment to investors while minimizing the burden that a finer quoting increment places on quote traffic.

Accordingly, the Exchange believes that the proposal is consistent with the Act because, in conforming the Exchange rules to the OLPP Program, the Penny Program would employ processes, based upon objective criteria, that would rebalance the composition of the Penny Program, thereby helping to ensure that the most actively traded option classes are included in the Penny Program, which helps facilitate the maintenance of a fair and orderly market.

The Exchange notes that the proposed technical changes in Options 3, Section 3, Options 3, Section 8(a)(viii), and Options 8, Section 33(d)(2) would provide clarity and transparency to the Exchange's rules, would promote just and equitable principles of trade, and remove impediments to, and perfect the mechanism of, a free and open market and a national market system. The proposed rule changes would also provide internal consistency within Exchange rules and operate to protect investors and the investing public by making the Exchange's rules easier to navigate and comprehend.

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## 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. The proposed Penny Program, which modifies the Exchange's rules to align them with the Commission approved OLPP Program, is not designed to be a competitive filing nor does it impose an undue burden on intermarket competition as the Exchange anticipates that the options exchanges will adopt substantially identical rules. Moreover, the Exchange believes that by conforming Exchange rules to the OLPP Program, the Exchange would promote regulatory clarity and consistency, thereby reducing burdens on the marketplace and facilitating investor protection. To the extent that there is a competitive burden on those option classes that do not qualify for the Penny Program, the Exchange believes that it is appropriate because the proposal should benefit all market participants and investors by maximizing the benefit of a finer quoting increment in those option classes with the most trading interest while minimizing the burden of greater quote traffic in option classes with less trading interest. The Exchange believes that adopting rules, which it anticipates will likewise be adopted by all option exchanges that are participants in the OLPP, would allow for continued competition between Exchange market participants trading similar products as their counterparts on other exchanges. while at the same time allowing the Exchange to continue to compete for order flow with other exchanges.

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

No written comments were either solicited or received.

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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)<sup>12</sup> of the Act and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder<sup>13</sup> in that it 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.

The Exchange believes that the proposal is non-controversial, does not pose an undue burden on competition, and does not raise any novel issues as the proposed changes would allow the Exchange to conform its rules to the recently adopted OLPP Program to the benefit of market participants. The proposal allows the Exchange to provide market participants with a permanent Penny Program for quoting options in penny increments, and objective criteria for modifying the option classes included as Penny Program issues, which maximizes the benefit to investors while minimizing the burden that a finer quoting increment places on quote traffic. Further, the Exchange notes that this proposal does not propose any new policies or provisions, but instead seeks to modify Exchange rules to conform to the OLPP Program, which was approved on April

<sup>15</sup> U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(iii).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

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1, 2020. Accordingly, the proposal would allow the Exchange to modify its rules to be consistent with the OLPP Program as soon as possible.

The Exchange believes that proposed technical changes are non-controversial and does not impact competition but instead would benefit investors and the investing public by conforming Exchange rules to the OLPP Program and making the Exchange rules easier to navigate. The Exchange believes that the proposed additional specificity would promote a free and open market for the benefit of investors and the investing public.

Furthermore, Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii)<sup>14</sup> requires a self-regulatory organization to give the Commission written notice of its intent to file a proposed rule change under that subsection at least five business days prior to the date of filing, or such shorter time as designated by the Commission. The Exchange has provided such notice.

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.

A proposed rule change filed under Rule 19b-4(f)(6) normally does not become operative prior to 30 days after the date of filing. Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii), however, permits the Commission to designate a shorter time if such action is consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest. The Exchange requests that the Commission waive the 30-day operative delay contained in Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii) so that the Exchange can

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6)(iii).

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implement the proposal without delay. This proposal would not pose an undue burden on competition and does not raise any novel issues but instead seeks to modify Exchange rules to conform to the recently approved OLPP Program. Thus, the waiver of the operative delay would be consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest because it would enable the Exchange to implement without delay the Penny Program, in conformance with the OLPP Program.

- 8. <u>Proposed Rule Change Based on Rules of Another Self-Regulatory Organization or of the Commission</u>
  - The proposed rule change is based on the proposal by NYSE Arca, Inc. 15
- 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.

See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 88943 (May 26, 2020), 85 FR 33255 (June 1, 2020) (SR-NYSEArca-2020-50).

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**EXHIBIT 1** 

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. ; File No. SR-Phlx-2020-32)

June , 2020

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Nasdaq PHLX LLC; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change to Amend Options 3, Section 3

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act"), <sup>1</sup> and Rule 19b-4 thereunder, <sup>2</sup> notice is hereby given that on June 23, 2020, Nasdaq 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 Proposed Rule Change</u>

The Exchange proposes to amend Options 3, Section 3 to conform the rule to Section 3.1 of the Plan for the Purpose of Developing and Implementing Procedures

Designed to Facilitate the Listing and Trading of Standardized Options (the "OLPP").

The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Exchange's Website at <a href="http://nasdaqphlx.cchwallstreet.com">http://nasdaqphlx.cchwallstreet.com</a>, at the principal office of the Exchange, and at the Commission's Public Reference Room.

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

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

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

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

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

## 1. <u>Purpose</u>

The purpose of this rule change is to amend Options 3, Section 3 (Minimum Increments) to align the rule with the recently approved amendment to the OLPP.

#### Background

On January 23, 2007, the Commission approved on a limited basis a Penny Pilot in option classes in certain issues ("Penny Pilot"). The Penny Pilot was designed to determine whether investors would benefit from options being quoted in penny increments, and in which classes the benefits were most significant. The Penny Pilot was expanded and extended numerous times over the last 13 years.<sup>3</sup> In each instance, these approvals relied upon the consideration of data periodically provided by the Exchanges that analyzed how quoting options in penny increments affects spreads, liquidity, quote traffic, and volume. Today, the Penny Pilot includes 363 option classes, which are among

The Penny Pilot was established on the Exchange in December 2006 and was last extended in December 2019. See Securities Exchange Act Release Nos. 54886 (December 6, 2006), 71 FR 74979 (December 13, 2006) (SR-Phlx-2006-74); and 87748 (December 13, 2019), 84 FR 69803 (December 19, 2019) (SR-Phlx-2019-55).

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the most actively traded, multiply listed option classes. The Penny Pilot is scheduled to expire by its own terms on June 30, 2020.<sup>4</sup>

In light of the imminent expiration of the Penny Pilot on June 30, 2020, the Exchange, together with other participating exchanges, filed, on July 18, 2019 a proposal to amend the OLPP.<sup>5</sup> On April 1, 2020 the Commission approved the amendment to the OLPP to make permanent the Pilot Program (the "OLPP Program").<sup>6</sup>

The OLPP Program replaces the Penny Pilot by instituting a permanent program that would permit quoting in penny increments for certain option classes. Under the terms of the OLPP Program, designated option classes would continue to be quoted in \$0.01 and \$0.05 increments according to the same parameters for the Penny Pilot. In addition, the OLPP Program would: (i) establish an annual review process to add option classes to, or to remove option classes from, the OLPP Program; (ii) to allow an option class to be added to the OLPP Program if it is a newly listed option class and it meets certain criteria; (iii) to allow an option class to be added to the OLPP Program if it is an option class that has seen a significant growth in activity; (iv) to provide that if a corporate action involves one or more option classes in the OLPP Program, all adjusted and unadjusted series and classes emerging as a result of the corporate action will be included in the OLPP Program; and (v) to provide that any series in an option class participating in the OLPP Program that have been delisted, or are identified by OCC as ineligible for

See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 87748 (December 13, 2019), 84 FR 69803 (December 19, 2019) (SR-Phlx-2019-55).

See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 87681 (December 9, 2019), 84 FR 68960 (December 17, 2019) ("Notice").

See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 88532 (April 1, 2020), 85 FR 19545 (April 7, 2020) (File No. 4-443) ("Approval Order").

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opening Customer transactions, will continue to trade pursuant to the OLPP Program until they expire.

To conform its Rules to the OLPP Program, the Exchange proposes to delete the current rule text in Supplementary Material.01 to Options 3, Section 3 (the "Penny Pilot Rule"), and replace it with the requirements for the proposed Penny Interval Program from the OLPP Program, which is described below, and to replace references to the "Penny Pilot" in several Exchange rules with "Penny Interval Program."

The Exchange also proposes to delete obsolete and superfluous language in Options 3, Section 3(a)(1) regarding amendments to the minimum increments that may be established by the Board and designated as a stated policy, practice or interpretation within the meaning of the Act, and the process for such amendments by rule filing.<sup>7</sup> Today, the Exchange may determine to establish a change to the minimum increments within its Rules and must submit proposed rule changes for such amendments to the Commission.<sup>8</sup> In connection with the foregoing change, the Exchange also proposes to renumber current subparagraphs (a)(2) and (3) in Options 3, Section 3 as subparagraphs (a)(1) and (2).

## Penny Interval Program

See Options 3, Section 3(a)(1), which specifically provides: "However, the Board of Directors may establish different minimum trading increments. The Exchange will designate any such change as a stated policy, practice or interpretation with respect to the administration of this Rule, within the meaning of Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Exchange Act and will file a proposed rule change with the Securities and Exchange Commission to be effective upon filing."

Decisions to change the minimum increments relate to Exchange trading and operations, and thus are made by Exchange management via delegated authority from the Board, rather than the Board itself, which is generally not involved in determinations related to day-to-day operations of the Exchange.

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The Exchange proposes to codify the OLPP Program in Supplementary Material .01 to Options 3, Section (Requirements for Penny Interval Program) (the "Penny Program"), which will replace the Penny Pilot Rule and permanently permit the Exchange to quote certain option classes in minimum increments of one cents (\$0.01) and five cents (\$0.05) ("penny increments"), as set forth in Supplementary Material .01 to Options 3, Section 3. The penny increments that currently apply under the Penny Pilot as set forth in existing Supplementary Material .01 to Options 3, Section 3 will continue to apply for options classes included in the Penny Program. Specifically, new subparagraphs (a)(1) - (3) in Supplementary Material .01 to Options 3, Section 3 will state that for options contracts traded pursuant to the Penny Program as described within Supplementary Material .01 to Options 3, Section 3, the following minimum increments will apply: (1) one cent (\$0.01) for all options contracts in OOO, SPY, and IWM; (2) one cent (\$0.01) for all other options contracts included in the Penny Interval Program that are trading at less than \$3.00; and (3) five cents (\$0.05) for all other options contracts included in the Penny Interval Program that are trading at or above \$3.00.

The Penny Program would initially apply to the 363 most actively traded multiply listed option classes, based on National Cleared Volume at The Options Clearing Corporation ("OCC") in the six full calendar months ending in the month of approval (i.e., November 2019 - April 2020) that currently quote in penny increments, or overlie securities priced below \$200, or any index at an index level below \$200. Eligibility for inclusion in the Penny Program will be determined at the close of trading on the monthly Expiration Friday of the second full month following April 1, 2020 (i.e., June 19, 2020).

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Once in the Penny Program, an option class will remain included until it is no longer among the 425 most actively traded option classes at the time the annual review is conducted (described below), at which point it will be removed from the Penny Program. As described in more detail below, the removed class will be replaced by the next most actively traded multiply listed option class overlying securities priced below \$200 per share, or any index at an index level below \$200, and not yet in the Penny Program. Advanced notice regarding the option classes included, added, or removed from the Penny Program will be provided to the Exchange's membership via Options Trader Alert and published by the Exchange on its website.

#### Annual Review

The Penny Program would include an annual review process that applies objective criteria to determine option classes to be added to, or removed from, the Penny Program. Specifically, on an annual basis beginning in December 2020 and occurring every December thereafter, the Exchange will review and rank all multiply listed option classes based on National Cleared Volume at OCC for the six full calendar months from June 1<sup>st</sup> through November 30<sup>th</sup> for determination of the most actively traded option classes. Any option classes not yet in the Penny Program may be added to the Penny Program if the class is among the 300 most actively traded multiply listed option classes and priced below \$200 per share or any index at an index level below \$200.

Following the annual review, option classes to be added to the Penny Program would begin quoting in penny increments (i.e., \$0.01 if trading at less than \$3; and \$0.05 if trading at \$3 and above) on the first trading day of January. In addition, following the annual review, any option class in the Penny Program that falls outside of the 425 most

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actively traded option classes would be removed from the Penny Program. After the annual review, option classes that are removed from the Penny Program will be subject to the minimum trading increments set forth in Options 3, Section 3, effective on the first trading day of April.

Changes to the Composition of the Penny Program Outside of the Annual Review

Newly Listed Option Classes and Option Classes with Significant Growth in

Activity

The Penny Program would specify a process and parameters for including option classes in the Penny Program outside the annual review process in two circumstances. These provisions are designed to provide objective criteria to add to the Penny Program new option classes in issues with the most demonstrated trading interest from market participants and investors on an expedited basis prior to the annual review, with the benefit that market participants and investors will then be able to trade these new option classes based upon quotes expressed in finer trading increments.

First, the Penny Program provides for certain newly listed option classes to be added to the Penny Program outside of the annual review process, provided that (i) the class is among the 300 most actively traded, multiply listed option classes, as ranked by National Cleared Volume at OCC, in its first full calendar month of trading; and (ii) the underlying security is priced below \$200 or the underlying index is at an index level below \$200. Such newly listed option classes added to the Penny Program pursuant to this process would remain in the Penny Program for one full calendar year and then would be subject to the annual review process.

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Second, the Penny Program would allow an option class to be added to the Penny Program outside of the annual review process if it is an option class that meets certain specific criteria. Specifically, new option classes may be added to the Penny Program if:

(i) the option class is among the 75 most actively traded multiply listed option classes, as ranked by National Cleared Volume at OCC, in the prior six full calendar months of trading and (ii) the underlying security is priced below \$200 or the underlying index is at an index level below \$200. Any option class added under this provision will be added on the first trading day of the second full month after it qualifies and will remain in the Penny Program for the rest of the calendar year, after which it will be subject to the annual review process.

## Corporate Actions

The Penny Program would also specify a process to address option classes in the Penny Program that undergo a corporate action and is designed to ensure continuous liquidity in the affected option classes. Specifically, if a corporate action involves one or more option classes in the Penny Program, all adjusted and unadjusted series of an option class would continue to be included in the Penny Program. Furthermore, neither the trading volume threshold, nor the initial price test would apply to option classes added to the Penny Program as a result of the corporate action. Finally, the newly added adjusted and unadjusted series of the option class would remain in the Penny Program for one full calendar year and then would become subject to the annual review process.

For example, if Company A acquires Company B and Company A is not in the Penny Program but Company B is in the Penny Program, once the merger is consummated and an options contract adjustment is effective, then Company A would be added to the Penny Program and remain in the Penny Program for one calendar year.

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#### Delisted or Ineligible Option Classes

Finally, the Penny Program would provide a mechanism to address option classes that have been delisted or those that are no longer eligible for listing. Specifically, any series in an option class participating in the Penny Program in which the underlying has been delisted, or is identified by OCC as ineligible for opening customer transactions, would continue to quote pursuant to the terms of the Penny Program until all options series have expired.

#### Technical Changes

The Exchange proposes to replace references to the Penny Pilot with references to the Penny Interval Program in Options 3, Section 8(a)(viii) and in Options 8, Section 33(d)(2). The Exchange also proposes to replace the obsolete reference to "Commentary" with "Supplementary Material to Options 3, Section 3" in Options 3, Section 3. Further, the Exchange proposes in Options 3, Section 3(a)(3) to replace "minimum changes" with "minimum trading increments" for greater consistency within the Rule. Lastly, the Exchange proposes to remove the stray punctuation at the end of the Supplementary Material to Options 3, Section 3 header.

The Exchange believes these technical changes would add clarity, transparency, and internal consistency to the Exchange's rules, making them easier for market participants to navigate.

#### **Implementation**

The Exchange proposes to implement the Penny Program on July 1, 2020, which is the first trading day of the third month following the Approval Order issued on April 1, 2020 – i.e., July 1, 2020.

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## 2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that its proposal is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act, <sup>10</sup> in general, and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(5) of the Act, <sup>11</sup> in particular, in that it is designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system, and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest.

In particular, the proposed rule change, which conforms the Exchange rules to the recently adopted OLPP Program, allows the Exchange to provide market participants with a permanent Penny Program for quoting options in penny increments, which maximizes the benefit of quoting in a finer quoting increment to investors while minimizing the burden that a finer quoting increment places on quote traffic.

Accordingly, the Exchange believes that the proposal is consistent with the Act because, in conforming the Exchange rules to the OLPP Program, the Penny Program would employ processes, based upon objective criteria, that would rebalance the composition of the Penny Program, thereby helping to ensure that the most actively traded option classes are included in the Penny Program, which helps facilitate the maintenance of a fair and orderly market.

The Exchange notes that the proposed technical changes in Options 3, Section 3, Options 3, Section 8(a)(viii), and Options 8, Section 33(d)(2) would provide clarity and transparency to the Exchange's rules, would promote just and equitable principles of

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

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

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trade, and remove impediments to, and perfect the mechanism of, a free and open market and a national market system. The proposed rule changes would also provide internal consistency within Exchange rules and operate to protect investors and the investing public by making the Exchange's rules easier to navigate and comprehend.

#### 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 Penny Program, which modifies the Exchange's rules to align them with the Commission approved OLPP Program, is not designed to be a competitive filing nor does it impose an undue burden on intermarket competition as the Exchange anticipates that the options exchanges will adopt substantially identical rules. Moreover, the Exchange believes that by conforming Exchange rules to the OLPP Program, the Exchange would promote regulatory clarity and consistency, thereby reducing burdens on the marketplace and facilitating investor protection. To the extent that there is a competitive burden on those option classes that do not qualify for the Penny Program, the Exchange believes that it is appropriate because the proposal should benefit all market participants and investors by maximizing the benefit of a finer quoting increment in those option classes with the most trading interest while minimizing the burden of greater quote traffic in option classes with less trading interest. The Exchange believes that adopting rules, which it anticipates will likewise be adopted by all option exchanges that are participants in the OLPP, would allow for continued competition between Exchange market participants trading similar products as their counterparts on other exchanges, while at the same time allowing the Exchange to continue to compete for order flow with other exchanges.

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

No written comments were either solicited or received.

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

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 Act<sup>12</sup> and subparagraph (f)(6) of Rule 19b-4 thereunder.<sup>13</sup>

At any time within 60 days of the filing of the proposed rule change, the Commission summarily may temporarily suspend such rule change if it appears to the Commission that such action is 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.

<sup>15</sup> U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(iii).

<sup>17</sup> 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.

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### 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 <u>rule-comments@sec.gov</u>. Please include File Number SR-Phlx-2020-32 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-Phlx-2020-32. This file number should be included on the subject line if e-mail is used. To help the Commission process and review your comments more efficiently, please use only one method. The Commission will post all comments on the Commission's Internet Web site (<a href="http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml">http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml</a>).

Copies of the submission, all subsequent amendments, all written statements with respect to the proposed rule change that are filed with the Commission, and all written communications relating to the proposed rule change between the Commission and any person, other than those that may be withheld from the public in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552, will be available for website viewing and printing in the Commission's Public Reference Room, 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549, on official business days between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Copies of the filing

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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-2020-32 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.  $^{14}$ 

J. Matthew DeLesDernier Assistant Secretary

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

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**EXHIBIT 5** 

Deleted text is [bracketed]. New text is <u>underlined</u>.

#### **Nasdaq PHLX LLC Rules**

\* \* \* \* \*

#### **Options 3 Options Trading Rules**

\* \* \* \* \*

#### **Section 3. Minimum Increments**

- (a) Except as provided in [Commentary]Supplementary Material to Options 3, Section 3 below, all options on stocks, index options, and Exchange Traded Fund Shares trading at a price of \$3.00 or higher shall have a minimum increment of \$.10, and all options on stocks and index options trading at a price under \$3.00 shall have a minimum increment of \$.05.
  - (1) [However, the Board of Directors may establish different minimum trading increments. The Exchange will designate any such change as a stated policy, practice or interpretation with respect to the administration of this Rule, within the meaning of Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Exchange Act and will file a proposed rule change with the Securities and Exchange Commission to be effective upon filing.
  - (2)] An order received at a price expressed in other than the appropriate minimum trading increment described in this Rule shall be rejected by the System.
  - ([3]2) Different minimum [changes]trading increments for dealings in option contracts other than those specified in paragraph (a) may also be fixed by the Exchange from time to time for option contracts of a particular series.

#### Supplementary Material to Options 3, Section 3[:]

.01 [Penny Pilot Program: For a pilot period scheduled to expire June 30, 2020 or the date of permanent approval, if earlier (the "pilot"), certain options shall be quoted and traded on the Exchange in minimum increments of \$0.01 for all series in such options with a price of less than \$3.00, and in minimum increments of \$0.05 for all series in such options with a price of \$3.00 or higher, except that options overlying the PowerShares QQQ Trust ("QQQQ")®, SPDR S&P 500 Exchange Traded Funds ("SPY"), and iShares Russell 2000 Index Funds ("IWM") shall be quoted and traded in minimum increments of \$0.01 for all series regardless of the price. A list of such options shall be communicated to membership via an Options Trader Alert ("OTA") posted on the Exchange's web site.

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The Exchange may replace any pilot issues that have been delisted with the next most actively traded multiply listed options classes that are not yet included in the pilot, based on trading activity in the previous six months. The replacement issues may be added to the pilot on the second trading day in the first month of each quarter.]

Requirements for Penny Interval Program. The Exchange will list option classes for the Penny Interval Program ("Penny Program") with minimum quoting requirements ("penny increments") of one cent (\$0.01) and five cents (\$0.05), as set forth in this Supplementary Material .01 to Options 3, Section 3. The list of the option classes included in the Penny Program will be announced by the Exchange via Options Trader Alert and published by the Exchange on its website.

- (a) For options contracts traded pursuant to the Penny Program as described in this Supplementary Material .01, the following minimum increments will apply:
  - (1) one cent (\$0.01) for all options contracts in QQQ, SPY, and IWM;
  - (2) one cent (\$0.01) for all other options contracts included in the Penny Program that are trading at less than \$3.00; and
  - (3) five cents (\$0.05) for all other options contracts included in the Penny Program that are trading at or above \$3.00.
- (b) Initial Selection. On the first trading day of the third full calendar month after April 1, 2020, the Penny Program will apply only to the 363 most actively traded multiply listed option classes, based on OCC's National Cleared Volume in the six full calendar months ending in the month of approval, that (i) currently quote in penny increments, or (ii) overlie securities priced below \$200, or any index at an index level below \$200. Eligibility for inclusion in the Penny Program will be determined at the close of trading on the monthly Expiration Friday of the second full month following April 1, 2020.
- (c) Annual Review. Commencing in December 2020 and each December thereafter, OCC will rank all multiply listed option classes based on National Cleared Volume for the six full calendar months from June 1 through November 30 for determination of the most actively traded option classes.
  - (1) Addition to the Penny Program. Based on the Annual Review, any option class not in the Penny Program that is among the 300 most actively traded multiply listed option classes overlying securities priced below \$200, or an index at an index level below \$200, will be added to the Penny Program on the first trading day of January.
  - (2) Removal from the Penny Program. Except as provided in (d), (e), (f) and (g) below, based on the Annual Review, any option class in the Penny Program that falls outside the 425 most actively traded multiply listed option classes will be removed from the Penny Program on the first trading day of April.

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(d) Newly listed Option Classes. The Exchange may add to the Penny Program a newly listed option class provided that (i) it is among the 300 most actively traded multiply listed option classes, as ranked by National Cleared Volume at OCC, in its first full calendar month of trading and (ii) the underlying security is priced below \$200 or the underlying index is at an index level below \$200. Any option class added under this provision will be added on the first trading day of the month after it qualifies and will remain in the Penny Program for one full calendar year, after which it will be subject to the Annual Review stated in section (c) above.

- (e) Classes with Significant Growth in Activity. The Exchange may add any option class to the Penny Program, provided that (i) it is among the 75 most actively traded multiply listed option classes, as ranked by National Cleared Volume at OCC, in the past six full calendar months of trading and (ii) the underlying security is priced below \$200 or the underlying index is at an index level below \$200. Any option class added under this provision will be added on the first trading day of the second full month after it qualifies and will remain in the Penny Program for the rest of the calendar year, after which it will be subject to the Annual Review stated in section (c) above.
- (f) Corporate Actions. If a corporate action involves one or more option classes in the Penny Program, all adjusted and unadjusted series of the option class will be included in the Penny Program. Any new option class added to the Penny Program under this provision will remain in the Penny Program for at least one full calendar year, after which it will be subject to the Annual Review stated in section (c) above.
- (g) Delisted or Ineligible Option Classes. Any series in an option class participating in the Penny Program in which the underlying security has been delisted, or are identified by OCC as ineligible for opening customer transactions, will continue to quote pursuant to the terms of the Penny Program until all such options have expired.

.02 - .03 No change.

\* \* \* \* \*

#### **Section 8. Options Opening Process**

(a) **Definitions**. The Exchange conducts an electronic opening for all option series traded on Phlx using its System.

\* \* \* \* \*

(viii) A Quality Opening Market is a bid/ask differential applicable to the best bid and offer from all Valid Width Quotes defined in a table to be determined by the Exchange and published on the Exchange's web site. The calculation of Quality Opening Market is based on the best bid and offer of Valid Width Quotes. The differential between the best bid and offer are compared to reach this determination. The allowable differential, as determined by the Exchange, takes into account the type of security (for example, Penny [Pilot] versus non-Penny Interval Program[Pilot] issue), volatility, option premium, and liquidity. The Quality

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Opening Market differential is intended to ensure the price at which the Exchange opens reflects current market conditions.

\* \* \* \*

### **Options 8 Floor Trading**

\* \* \* \* \*

#### **Section 33. Accommodation Transactions**

\* \* \* \* \*

- (d) **Limit Orders Priced Below \$1**: Limit orders with a price of at least \$0 but less than \$1 per option contract may trade under the terms and conditions in Options 8, Section 33 above in each series of option contracts open for trading on the Exchange, except that:
  - (1) Bids and offers for opening transactions are only permitted to accommodate closing transactions.
  - (2) These procedures are available for trading in all options classes trading on the Exchange, including options classes participating in the Penny <u>Interval[Pilot]</u> Program.
  - (3) Transactions shall be reported for clearing utilizing forms, formats and procedures established by the Exchange.

\* \* \* \* \*