

Required fields are shown with yellow backgrounds and asterisks.

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549  
Form 19b-4

File No. \* SR 2022 - \* 01

Amendment No. (req. for Amendments \*)

Filing by Nasdaq PHLX LLC

Pursuant to Rule 19b-4 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

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

<input type="checkbox"/> 19b-4(f)(1)	<input type="checkbox"/> 19b-4(f)(4)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19b-4(f)(2)	<input type="checkbox"/> 19b-4(f)(5)
<input type="checkbox"/> 19b-4(f)(3)	<input type="checkbox"/> 19b-4(f)(6)

Notice of proposed change pursuant to the Payment, Clearing, and Settlement Act of 2010  
Section 806(e)(1) \*

Section 806(e)(2) \*

Security-Based Swap Submission pursuant to the Securities Exchange Act of 1934  
Section 3C(b)(2) \*

Exhibit 2 Sent As Paper Document

Exhibit 3 Sent As Paper Document

**Description**

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

Amend Phlx Pricing Schedule at Options 7, Section 3

**Contact Information**

Provide the name, telephone number, and e-mail address of the person on the staff of the self-regulatory organization prepared to respond to questions and comments on the action.

First Name \*  Last Name \*

Title \*

E-mail \*

Telephone \*  Fax


**Signature**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange of 1934, Nasdaq PHLX LLC has duty caused this filing to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duty authorized.

Date  (Title \*)

By    
(Name \*)

NOTE: Clicking the signature block at right will initiate digitally signing the form. A digital signature is as legally binding as a physical signature, and once signed, this form cannot be changed.



DN:  
email=john.zecca@nasdaq.com  
Date: 2021.12.30 13:51:34  
-05'00'

Required fields are shown with yellow backgrounds and astericks.

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

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

**Form 19b-4 Information \***

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SR-Phlx-2022-01 19b-4.doc

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 \***

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SR-Phlx-2022-01 Exhibit 1.doc

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 Advanced Notice by Clearing Agencies \***

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The Notice section of this Form 19b-4 must comply with the guidelines for publication in the Federal Register as well as any requirements for electronic filing as published by the Commission (if applicable). The Office of the Federal Register (OFR) offers guidance on Federal Register publication requirements in the Federal Register Document Drafting Handbook, October 1998 Revision. For example, all references to the federal securities laws must include the corresponding cite to the United States Code in a footnote. All references to SEC rules must include the corresponding cite to the Code of Federal Regulations in a footnote. All references to Securities Exchange Act Releases must include the release number, release date, Federal Register cite, Federal Register date, and corresponding file number (e.g., SR-[SRO]-xx-xx). A material failure to comply with these guidelines will result in the proposed rule change 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**

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

Exhibit Sent As Paper Document

**Exhibit 3 - Form, Report, or Questionnaire**

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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 Sent As Paper Document

**Exhibit 4 - Marked Copies**

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The full text shall be marked, in any convenient manner, to indicate additions to and deletions from the immediately preceding filing. The purpose of Exhibit 4 is to permit the staff to identify immediately the changes made from the text of the rule with which it has been working.

**Exhibit 5 - Proposed Rule Text**

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SR-Phlx-2022-01 Exhibit 5.doc

The self-regulatory organization may choose to attach as Exhibit 5 proposed changes to rule text in place of providing it in Item I and which may otherwise be more easily readable if provided separately from Form 19b-4. Exhibit 5 shall be considered part of the proposed rule change

**Partial Amendment**

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If the self-regulatory organization is amending only part of the text of a lengthy proposed rule change, it may, with the Commission's permission, file only those portions of the text of the proposed rule change in which changes are being made if the filing (i.e. partial amendment) is clearly understandable on its face. Such partial amendment shall be clearly identified and marked to show deletions and additions.

1. Text of the Proposed Rule Change

(a) 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 Phlx’s Pricing Schedule at Options 7, Section 3, “Rebates and Fees for Adding and Removing Liquidity in SPY.” The Exchange also proposes to remove obsolete rule text within Options 7, Section 9, “Other Member Fees.”

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

(b) Not applicable.

(c) Not applicable.

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 (the “Board”) on November 5, 2020. Exchange staff will advise the Board of any action taken pursuant to delegated authority. No other action is necessary for the filing of the rule change.

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

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

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

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

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

a. Purpose

Phlx proposes to amend its pricing at Options 7, Section 3, “Rebates and Fees for Adding and Removing Liquidity in SPY.” Specifically, Phlx proposes to amend its Simple Order Customer<sup>3</sup> Fee for Removing Liquidity in options overlying the SPDR<sup>®</sup> S&P 500 ETF Trust (“SPY”). The Exchange also proposes to remove obsolete rule text within Options 7, Section 9, “Other Member Fees.” Each change will be described below.

Options 7, Section 3

Today, the Exchange assesses a \$0.38 per contract Customer Simple Order Fee for Removing Liquidity in SPY. The Exchange assesses a Lead Market Maker,<sup>4</sup> Market Maker,<sup>5</sup> Firm,<sup>6</sup> Broker-Dealer<sup>7</sup> and Professional<sup>8</sup> Simple Order Fee for Removing

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<sup>3</sup> The term “Customer” applies to any transaction that is identified by a member or member organization for clearing in the Customer range at The Options Clearing Corporation (“OCC”) which is not for the account of a broker or dealer or for the account of a “Professional” (as that term is defined in Options 1, Section 1(b)(45)). See Options 7, Section 1(c).

<sup>4</sup> The term “Lead Market Maker” applies to transactions for the account of a Lead Market Maker (as defined in Options 2, Section 12(a)). A Lead Market Maker is an Exchange member who is registered as an options Lead Market Maker pursuant to Rule Options 2, Section 12(a). An options Lead Market Maker includes a Remote Lead Market Maker which is defined as an options Lead Market Maker in one or more classes that does not have a physical presence on an Exchange floor and is approved by the Exchange pursuant to Options 2, Section 11.

<sup>5</sup> The term “Market Maker” is defined in Options 1, Section 1(b)(28) as a member of the Exchange who is registered as an options Market Maker pursuant to Options 2, Section 12(a). A Market Maker includes SQTs and RSQTs as well as on and Floor Market Makers.

Liquidity in SPY of \$0.48 per contract. The Exchange proposes to increase the Customer Simple Order Fee for Removing Liquidity in SPY from \$0.38 to \$0.41 per contract.

Notwithstanding the increase, the Customer Simple Order Fee for Removing Liquidity in SPY remains the lowest fee for removing liquidity in SPY. The Exchange believes that the Customer Simple Order Fee for Removing Liquidity in SPY will continue to attract order flow to the Exchange despite the increase.

#### Options 7, Section 9

The Exchange proposes to remove obsolete rule text within Options 7, Section 9.B, Port Fees. Options 7, Section 9.B refers to a technology infrastructure migration that occurred in 2019. The rule text related to the migration is now obsolete. At this time, the Exchange proposes to remove the rule text which describes the migration within Options 7, Section 9.B because it is outdated.

#### b. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that its proposal is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act,<sup>9</sup> in general, and furthers the objectives of Sections 6(b)(4) and 6(b)(5) of the Act,<sup>10</sup>

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<sup>6</sup> The term “Firm” applies to any transaction that is identified by a member or member organization for clearing in the Firm range at OCC.

<sup>7</sup> The term “Broker-Dealer” applies to any transaction which is not subject to any of the other transaction fees applicable within a particular category.

<sup>8</sup> The term “Professional” applies to transactions for the accounts of Professionals, as defined in Exchange Rule 1000(b)(43) means any person or entity that (i) is not a broker or dealer in securities, and (ii) places more than 390 orders in listed options per day on average during a calendar month for its own beneficial account(s).

<sup>9</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

<sup>10</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(4) and (5).

in particular, in that it provides for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees, and other charges among members and issuers and other persons using any facility, and is not designed to permit unfair discrimination between customers, issuers, brokers, or dealers.

The Exchange's proposed changes to its Pricing Schedule are reasonable in several respects. As a threshold matter, the Exchange is subject to significant competitive forces in the market for options securities transaction services that constrain its pricing determinations in that market. The fact that this market is competitive has long been recognized by the courts. In NetCoalition v. Securities and Exchange Commission, the D.C. Circuit stated as follows: “[n]o one disputes that competition for order flow is ‘fierce.’ ... As the SEC explained, ‘[i]n the U.S. national market system, buyers and sellers of securities, and the broker-dealers that act as their order-routing agents, have a wide range of choices of where to route orders for execution’; [and] ‘no exchange can afford to take its market share percentages for granted’ because ‘no exchange possesses a monopoly, regulatory or otherwise, in the execution of order flow from broker dealers’ ....”<sup>11</sup>

The Commission and the courts have repeatedly expressed their preference for competition over regulatory intervention in determining prices, products, and services in the securities markets. In Regulation NMS, while adopting a series of steps to improve the current market model, the Commission highlighted the importance of market forces in determining prices and SRO revenues and, also, recognized that current regulation of the market system “has been remarkably successful in promoting market competition in its

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<sup>11</sup> NetCoalition v. SEC, 615 F.3d 525, 539 (D.C. Cir. 2010) (quoting Securities Exchange Act Release No. 59039 (December 2, 2008), 73 FR 74770, 74782-83 (December 9, 2008) (SR-NYSEArca-2006-21)).

broader forms that are most important to investors and listed companies.”<sup>12</sup>

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

#### Options 7, Section 3

The Exchange’s proposal to increase the Customer Simple Order Fee for Removing Liquidity in SPY from \$0.38 to \$0.41 per contract is reasonable. Notwithstanding the increase, the Customer Simple Order Fee for Removing Liquidity in SPY remains the lowest fee for removing liquidity in SPY. The Exchange believes that the Customer Simple Order Fee for Removing Liquidity in SPY will continue to attract order flow to the Exchange despite the increase.

The Exchange’s proposal to increase the Customer Simple Order Fee for Removing Liquidity in SPY from \$0.38 to \$0.41 per contract is equitable and not unfairly discriminatory. Priority Customers continue to be assessed the lowest Simple Order Fee for Removing Liquidity in SPY. Priority Customer liquidity benefits all market participants by providing more trading opportunities, which attracts Market Makers. An increase in the activity of these market participants in turn facilitates tighter spreads,

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<sup>12</sup> Securities Exchange Act Release No. 51808 (June 9, 2005), 70 FR 37496, 37499 (June 29, 2005) (“Regulation NMS Adopting Release”).

which may cause an additional corresponding increase in order flow from other market participants.

#### Options 7, Section 9

The Exchange's proposal to remove obsolete rule text within Options 7, Section 9.B, Port Fees is reasonable, equitable and not unfairly discriminatory. Options 7, Section 9.B refers to a technology infrastructure migration that occurred in 2019. The rule text related to the migration is outdated and would not apply to any Phlx market participant.

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

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

#### Inter-market Competition

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



practices, the Exchange believes that the degree to which fee changes in this market may impose any burden on competition is extremely limited.

#### Intra-market Competition

The proposed amendments do not impose an undue burden on intra-market competition.

#### Options 7, Section 3

The Exchange's proposal to increase the Customer Simple Order Fee for Removing Liquidity in SPY from \$0.38 to \$0.41 per contract does not impose an undue burden on competition. Priority Customers continue to be assessed the lowest Simple Order Fee for Removing Liquidity in SPY. Priority Customer liquidity benefits all market participants by providing more trading opportunities, which attracts Market Makers. An increase in the activity of these market participants in turn facilitates tighter spreads, which may cause an additional corresponding increase in order flow from other market participants.

#### Options 7, Section 9

The Exchange's proposal to remove obsolete rule text within Options 7, Section 9.B, Port Fees does not impose an undue burden on competition. The rule text related to the migration is outdated and would not apply to any Phlx market participant.

5. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed Rule Change Received from Members, Participants, or Others  
No written comments were either solicited or received.
6. Extension of Time Period for Commission Action  
Not applicable.

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

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(ii) of the Act,<sup>13</sup> the Exchange has designated this proposal as establishing or changing a due, fee, or other charge imposed by the self-regulatory organization on any person, whether or not the person is a member of the self-regulatory organization, which renders the proposed rule change effective upon filing.

At any time within 60 days of the filing of the proposed rule change, the Commission summarily may temporarily suspend such rule change if it appears to the Commission that such action is: (i) necessary or appropriate in the public interest; (ii) for the protection of investors; or (iii) otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. If the Commission takes such action, the Commission shall institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule should be approved or disapproved.

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

Not applicable.

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

Not applicable.

10. Advance Notices Filed Pursuant to Section 806(e) of the Payment, Clearing and Settlement Supervision Act

Not applicable.

11. Exhibits

1. Notice of Proposed Rule Change for publication in the Federal Register.

5. Text of the proposed rule change.

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<sup>13</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(ii).

**EXHIBIT 1**

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
(Release No. \_\_\_\_\_ ; File No. SR-Phlx-2022-01)

January \_\_, 2022

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Nasdaq PHLX LLC; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change to Amend Phlx’s Pricing Schedule at Options 7, 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 January 3, 2022, 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. Self-Regulatory Organization’s Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed Rule Change

The Exchange proposes to amend Phlx’s Pricing Schedule at Options 7, Section 3, “Rebates and Fees for Adding and Removing Liquidity in SPY.” The Exchange also proposes to remove obsolete rule text within Options 7, Section 9, “Other Member Fees.”

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

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

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

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

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

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

1. Purpose

Phlx proposes to amend its pricing at Options 7, Section 3, “Rebates and Fees for Adding and Removing Liquidity in SPY.” Specifically, Phlx proposes to amend its Simple Order Customer<sup>3</sup> Fee for Removing Liquidity in options overlying the SPDR<sup>®</sup> S&P 500 ETF Trust (“SPY”). The Exchange also proposes to remove obsolete rule text within Options 7, Section 9, “Other Member Fees.” Each change will be described below.

Options 7, Section 3

Today, the Exchange assesses a \$0.38 per contract Customer Simple Order Fee for Removing Liquidity in SPY. The Exchange assesses a Lead Market Maker,<sup>4</sup> Market

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<sup>3</sup> The term “Customer” applies to any transaction that is identified by a member or member organization for clearing in the Customer range at The Options Clearing Corporation (“OCC”) which is not for the account of a broker or dealer or for the account of a “Professional” (as that term is defined in Options 1, Section 1(b)(45)). See Options 7, Section 1(c).

<sup>4</sup> The term “Lead Market Maker” applies to transactions for the account of a Lead Market Maker (as defined in Options 2, Section 12(a)). A Lead Market Maker is an Exchange member who is registered as an options Lead Market Maker pursuant to Rule Options 2, Section 12(a). An options Lead Market Maker

Maker,<sup>5</sup> Firm,<sup>6</sup> Broker-Dealer<sup>7</sup> and Professional<sup>8</sup> Simple Order Fee for Removing Liquidity in SPY of \$0.48 per contract. The Exchange proposes to increase the Customer Simple Order Fee for Removing Liquidity in SPY from \$0.38 to \$0.41 per contract. Notwithstanding the increase, the Customer Simple Order Fee for Removing Liquidity in SPY remains the lowest fee for removing liquidity in SPY. The Exchange believes that the Customer Simple Order Fee for Removing Liquidity in SPY will continue to attract order flow to the Exchange despite the increase.

Options 7, Section 9

The Exchange proposes to remove obsolete rule text within Options 7, Section 9.B, Port Fees. Options 7, Section 9.B refers to a technology infrastructure migration that occurred in 2019. The rule text related to the migration is now obsolete. At this time, the

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includes a Remote Lead Market Maker which is defined as an options Lead Market Maker in one or more classes that does not have a physical presence on an Exchange floor and is approved by the Exchange pursuant to Options 2, Section 11.

<sup>5</sup> The term “Market Maker” is defined in Options 1, Section 1(b)(28) as a member of the Exchange who is registered as an options Market Maker pursuant to Options 2, Section 12(a). A Market Maker includes SQTs and RSQTs as well as on and Floor Market Makers.

<sup>6</sup> The term “Firm” applies to any transaction that is identified by a member or member organization for clearing in the Firm range at OCC.

<sup>7</sup> The term “Broker-Dealer” applies to any transaction which is not subject to any of the other transaction fees applicable within a particular category.

<sup>8</sup> The term “Professional” applies to transactions for the accounts of Professionals, as defined in Exchange Rule 1000(b)(43) means any person or entity that (i) is not a broker or dealer in securities, and (ii) places more than 390 orders in listed options per day on average during a calendar month for its own beneficial account(s).

Exchange proposes to remove the rule text which describes the migration within Options 7, Section 9.B because it is outdated.

2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that its proposal is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act,<sup>9</sup> in general, and furthers the objectives of Sections 6(b)(4) and 6(b)(5) of the Act,<sup>10</sup> in particular, in that it provides for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees, and other charges among members and issuers and other persons using any facility, and is not designed to permit unfair discrimination between customers, issuers, brokers, or dealers.

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

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<sup>9</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

<sup>10</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(4) and (5).

exchange possesses a monopoly, regulatory or otherwise, in the execution of order flow from broker dealers' ...."<sup>11</sup>

The Commission and the courts have repeatedly expressed their preference for competition over regulatory intervention in determining prices, products, and services in the securities markets. In Regulation NMS, while adopting a series of steps to improve the current market model, the Commission highlighted the importance of market forces in determining prices and SRO revenues and, also, recognized that current regulation of the market system "has been remarkably successful in promoting market competition in its broader forms that are most important to investors and listed companies."<sup>12</sup>

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

### Options 7, Section 3

The Exchange's proposal to increase the Customer Simple Order Fee for Removing Liquidity in SPY from \$0.38 to \$0.41 per contract is reasonable.

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<sup>11</sup> NetCoalition v. SEC, 615 F.3d 525, 539 (D.C. Cir. 2010) (quoting Securities Exchange Act Release No. 59039 (December 2, 2008), 73 FR 74770, 74782-83 (December 9, 2008) (SR-NYSEArca-2006-21)).

<sup>12</sup> Securities Exchange Act Release No. 51808 (June 9, 2005), 70 FR 37496, 37499 (June 29, 2005) ("Regulation NMS Adopting Release").

Notwithstanding the increase, the Customer Simple Order Fee for Removing Liquidity in SPY remains the lowest fee for removing liquidity in SPY. The Exchange believes that the Customer Simple Order Fee for Removing Liquidity in SPY will continue to attract order flow to the Exchange despite the increase.

The Exchange's proposal to increase the Customer Simple Order Fee for Removing Liquidity in SPY from \$0.38 to \$0.41 per contract is equitable and not unfairly discriminatory. Priority Customers continue to be assessed the lowest Simple Order Fee for Removing Liquidity in SPY. Priority Customer liquidity benefits all market participants by providing more trading opportunities, which attracts Market Makers. An increase in the activity of these market participants in turn facilitates tighter spreads, which may cause an additional corresponding increase in order flow from other market participants.

#### Options 7, Section 9

The Exchange's proposal to remove obsolete rule text within Options 7, Section 9.B, Port Fees is reasonable, equitable and not unfairly discriminatory. Options 7, Section 9.B refers to a technology infrastructure migration that occurred in 2019. The rule text related to the migration is outdated and would not apply to any Phlx market participant.

#### 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.



### Inter-market Competition

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

### Intra-market Competition

The proposed amendments do not impose an undue burden on intra-market competition.

### Options 7, Section 3

The Exchange's proposal to increase the Customer Simple Order Fee for Removing Liquidity in SPY from \$0.38 to \$0.41 per contract does not impose an undue burden on competition. Priority Customers continue to be assessed the lowest Simple Order Fee for Removing Liquidity in SPY. Priority Customer liquidity benefits all market participants by providing more trading opportunities, which attracts Market Makers. An increase in the activity of these market participants in turn facilitates tighter

spreads, which may cause an additional corresponding increase in order flow from other market participants.

Options 7, Section 9

The Exchange's proposal to remove obsolete rule text within Options 7, Section 9.B, Port Fees does not impose an undue burden on competition. The rule text related to the migration is outdated and would not apply to any Phlx market participant.

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

No written comments were either solicited or received.

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

The foregoing rule change has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(ii) of the Act.<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: (i) necessary or appropriate in the public interest; (ii) for the protection of investors; or (iii) otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. If the Commission takes such action, the Commission shall institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule should be approved or disapproved.

IV. Solicitation of Comments

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

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<sup>13</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(ii).

Electronic comments:

- Use the Commission's Internet comment form (<http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml>); or
- Send an e-mail to [rule-comments@sec.gov](mailto:rule-comments@sec.gov). Please include File Number SR-Phlx-2022-01 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-2022-01. 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-2022-01 and should be submitted on or before [insert date 21 days from publication in the Federal Register].

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.<sup>14</sup>

J. Matthew DeLesDernier  
Assistant Secretary

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

**EXHIBIT 5**

*New text is underlined; deleted text is in brackets.*

**Nasdaq PHLX LLC Rules**

\* \* \* \* \*

**Options Rules**

\* \* \* \* \*

**Options 7 Pricing Schedule**

\* \* \* \* \*

**Section 3. Rebates and Fees for Adding and Removing Liquidity in SPY**

With respect to Section 3 of this Options 7 Pricing Schedule, the order that is received by the trading system first in time shall be considered an order adding liquidity and an order that trades against that order shall be considered an order removing liquidity, except with respect to orders that trigger an order exposure alert. Customer volume attributable to this section will be included in the calculation of Customer volume in Multiply Listed Options that are electronically-delivered and executed for purposes of the Customer Rebate Program in Options 7, Section 2. However, the rebates defined in Options 7, Section 2 will not apply to electronic executions in SPY.

**Part A. Simple Order**

	<b>Customer</b>	<b>Lead Market Maker</b>	<b>Market Maker</b>	<b>Firm</b>	<b>Broker-Dealer</b>	<b>Professional</b>
Rebate for Adding Liquidity	\$0.00	*	*	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Fee for Removing Liquidity	\$0. <u>[38]41</u>	\$0.48	\$0.48	\$0.48	\$0.48	\$0.48

\* The Simple Order Rebate for Adding Liquidity will be paid as noted below to Lead Market Makers and Market Makers adding liquidity in SPY. Specifically, a SPY Rebate for Adding Liquidity will be paid based on a percentage of all cleared customer volume at The Options Clearing Corporation in Multiply Listed Equity Options and Exchange-Traded Products (“TCV”). Rebates will be paid on electronically executed Lead Market Maker and Market Maker Simple Order contracts per day in a month in SPY. Lead Market Makers and Market Makers will be paid per the highest tier achieved below.

\* \* \* \* \*

**Section 9. Other Member Fees**

\* \* \* \* \*

## **B. Port Fees**

A port is a logical connection or session that enables a market participant to send inbound messages and/or receive outbound messages from the Exchange using various communication protocols. Port Fees are assessed in full month increments and are not prorated.

(i) The following order and quote protocols are available on Phlx:

*[During the months of September and October 2019, Phlx members and member organizations will be required to transition from current FIX Ports to new FIX Ports in conjunction with a technology infrastructure migration. Phlx will not assess a FIX Port Fee for any new duplicative FIX Ports acquired as part of the transition during the months of September and October 2019. Phlx will assess the FIX Port Fee to legacy FIX Ports during September and October 2019. Phlx will sunset legacy FIX Ports by October 31, 2019. In November 2019, Phlx will assess members and member organizations the FIX Port Fee to new FIX Ports.]*

\* \* \* \* \*

(ii) The following order and execution information is available to members:

*[During the months of September and October 2019, Phlx members and member organizations will be required to transition from current CTI Ports to new CTI Ports in conjunction with a technology infrastructure migration. Phlx will not assess a CTI Port Fee for any new duplicative CTI Ports acquired as part of the transition during the months of September and October 2019. Phlx will assess the CTI Port Fee to legacy CTI Ports during September and October 2019. Phlx will sunset legacy CTI Ports by October 31, 2019. In November 2019, Phlx will assess members and member organizations the CTI Port Fees to new CTI Ports.]*

\* \* \* \* \*