

qualifications as the Board finds necessary or appropriate in the public interest or for the protection of investors and municipal entities or obligated persons. Section 15B(b)(2)(A) of the Act also provides that the Board may appropriately classify municipal securities brokers, municipal securities dealers, and municipal advisors and persons associated with municipal securities brokers, municipal securities dealers, and municipal advisors and require persons in any such class to pass tests prescribed by the Board.

The MSRB believes that the proposed revisions to the study outline for the Series 53 examination are consistent with the provisions of Section 15B(b)(2)(A) of the Act in that the revisions will ensure that certain key concepts or rules are tested on each administration of the examination in order to test the competency of individuals seeking to qualify as municipal securities principals with respect to their knowledge of MSRB rules and the municipal securities market.

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

The MSRB does not believe that the proposed rule change will result in any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act, as amended. The MSRB believes that the proposed rule change will provide benefits to persons seeking to become qualified as a municipal securities principal by promoting more efficient and effective preparation for such qualification without imposing any additional burdens.

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

Written comments were neither solicited nor received on the proposed rule change.

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

The proposed rule change has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act and paragraph (f) of Rule 19b-4 thereunder. 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 Exchange Act.

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 email to rule-comments@sec.gov. Please include File Number SR-MSRB-2012-09 on the subject line.

Paper Comments

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

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-MSRB-2012-09. This file number should be included on the subject line if email 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 Web site 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 such filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the MSRB. 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-MSRB-2012-09, and should be submitted on or before December 18, 2012.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.⁷

Kevin M. O'Neill,
Deputy Secretary.

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-68279; File No. SR-NASDAQ-2012-117]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC; Notice of Designation of Longer Period for Commission Action on Proposed Rule Change With Respect to INAV Pegged Orders for ETFs

November 21, 2012.

On October 2, 2012, The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC ("NASDAQ" or "Exchange") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission"), pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act")¹ and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,² a proposed rule change to amend NASDAQ Rule 4751(f)(4) to include a new Intraday Net Asset Value ("INAV") Pegged Order for Exchange-Traded Funds ("ETFs") where the component stocks underlying the ETFs are U.S. Component Stocks as defined by Rule 5705(a)(1)(C) and 5705(b)(1)(D) ("U.S. Component Stock ETFs"). The proposed rule change was published for comment in the **Federal Register** on October 18, 2012.³ The Commission received one comment letter on the proposal.⁴

Section 19(b)(2) of the Act⁵ provides that, within 45 days of the publication of notice of the filing of a proposed rule change, or within such longer period up to 90 days as the Commission may designate if it finds such longer period to be appropriate and publishes its reasons for so finding or as to which the self-regulatory organization consents, the Commission shall either approve the proposed rule change, disapprove the proposed rule change, or institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule change should be disapproved. The 45th day for this filing

⁷ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

³ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 68042 (October 12, 2012), 77 FR 64167.

⁴ See Letter from Dorothy Donohue, Deputy General Counsel, Investment Company Institute, to Elizabeth M. Murphy, Secretary, Commission, dated November 8, 2012.

⁵ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2).

is December 2, 2012. The Commission is extending this 45-day time period.

The Commission finds that it is appropriate to designate a longer period within which to take action on the proposed rule change so that it has sufficient time to consider the proposed rule change, the comments received, and any response to the comments submitted by the Exchange. The proposed rule change would, among other things, amend NASDAQ Rule 4751(f)(4) to create a new INAV Pegged Order type for U.S. Component Stock ETFs.

Accordingly, the Commission, pursuant to Section 19(b)(2) of the Act,⁶ designates January 16, 2012, as the date by which the Commission should either approve or disapprove or institute proceedings to determine whether to disapprove the proposed rule change (File Number SR–NASDAQ–2012–117).

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.⁷

Kevin M. O'Neill,
Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2012–28758 Filed 11–26–12; 8:45 am]

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34–68268; File No. SR–BX–2012–072]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; NASDAQ OMX BX, Inc.; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change, as Modified by Amendment No. 1, To Amend Rule 4618

November 20, 2012.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (“Act”)¹ and Rule 19b–4 thereunder,² notice is hereby given that on November 15, 2012, NASDAQ OMX BX, Inc. (“BX” or the “Exchange”) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“Commission”) the proposed rule change as described in Items I and II below, which Items have been prepared by BX. On November 15, 2012, BX filed Amendment No. 1 to the proposed rule change.³ BX filed the proposal pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)⁴ and Rule 19b–

4(f)(6)⁵ thereunder so that the proposal was effective upon filing with the Commission. 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

BX is filing this proposed rule change to amend Rule 4618. The text of the proposed rule change is below. Proposed new language is italicized; proposed deletions are in brackets.

4618. Clearance and Settlement

(a) All transactions through the facilities of the NASDAQ OMX BX Equities Market shall be cleared and settled through a registered clearing agency using a continuous net settlement system. This requirement may be satisfied by direct participation, use of direct clearing services, [or] by entry into a correspondent clearing arrangement with another member that clears trades through such a[n]clearing agency[.], or by use of the services of CDS Clearing and Depository Services, Inc. in its capacity as a member of such a clearing agency.

(b) No change.

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

BX proposes to modify Rule 4618 to clarify that the use of a long-standing arrangement between National Securities Clearing Corporation (“NSCC”) and CDS Clearing and Depository Services, Inc. (“CDS”)⁶ for clearing transactions in U.S. securities provides an acceptable method for clearing transactions executed on BX. Among other things, CDS operates Canada's national clearance and settlement operations for cash equities

trading, performing a role analogous to NSCC in the U.S. CDS is regulated by the Ontario and Quebec securities commissions and the Bank of Canada, with working and reporting relationships with the Canadian Securities Administrators (CSA), other Canadian provincial securities commissions, and the Canadian Office of the Superintendent of Financial Institutions. CDS is also a full service member of NSCC and a participant in the Depository Trust Company (“DTC”).

Currently, a Canadian broker-dealer seeking to buy or sell U.S. securities may do so through a U.S. registered broker-dealer with which it establishes a relationship for that purpose. In such a relationship, the U.S. broker-dealer manages the clearance and settlement of the resulting trades, either through direct membership at NSCC or indirectly through a clearing broker with which it has established a relationship. Under the proposed change, a Canadian broker-dealer that is a member of CDS may make use of CDS, and its direct membership in NSCC, to clear and settle the resulting trades. Specifically, the clearing report for the trade will “lock in” CDS, with reference to the CDS membership of the Canadian broker-dealer, as a party to the trade.⁷ NSCC then looks to CDS for satisfaction of clearance and settlement obligations of the Canadian broker-dealer. NSCC requires CDS to commit collateral to the NSCC clearing fund like any other NSCC member, the amount of which is based on a risk-based margining methodology. In a similar manner, CDS requires its participants to commit collateral to CDS. The sole risk incurred by BX and then by NSCC in the arrangement is the highly remote risk that CDS itself might default on its obligations to clear and settle on behalf of the Canadian broker-dealer. This risk is conceptually indistinguishable from the risk of a clearing broker default; moreover, because the value of Canadian trades cleared through the mechanism is likely to be small in comparison to the values cleared through many large U.S. clearing brokers, the magnitude of this risk is correspondingly smaller.

The relationship between NSCC and CDS was established more than two decades ago, and various aspects of the

⁷ As an NSCC member, CDS is responsible for the settling and clearing of its participants' trades conducted with U.S. broker-dealers. For purposes of “locking-in” parties, certain CDS participants have discrete NSCC participant codes that identify the Canadian broker-dealer and its participation in the NSCC/CDS clearing arrangement. On midnight of T+1, NSCC takes on the buyer's credit risk and the seller's delivery risk.

⁶ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2).

⁷ 17 CFR 200.30–3(a)(57).

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b–4.

³ In Amendment No. 1, BX deleted “October __, 2012” and inserted “November 1, 2012” on page 9 of 18 of the original filing, concerning when BX provided the Commission with written notice of the proposed rule change.

⁴ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

⁵ 17 CFR 240.19b–4(f)(6).

⁶ CDS was formerly known as The Canadian Depository for Securities Limited.