

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 under Section 19(b)(2)(B) <sup>13</sup> of the Act to determine whether the proposed rule change 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:

##### *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](mailto:rule-comments@sec.gov). Please include File Number SR-MRX-2017-28 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-MRX-2017-28. 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 website (<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. Persons submitting comments are

cautioned that we do not redact or edit personal identifying information from comment submissions. You should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-MRX-2017-28 and should be submitted on or before January 16, 2018.

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

**Eduardo A. Aleman,**  
*Assistant Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 2017-27701 Filed 12-22-17; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8011-01-P

## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-82354; File No. SR-MIAX-2017-48]

### Self-Regulatory Organizations; Miami International Securities Exchange LLC; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of a Proposed Rule Change To Amend MIAx Options Rule 510 To Extend the Penny Pilot Program

December 19, 2017.

Pursuant to the provisions of 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 December 11, 2017, Miami International Securities Exchange, LLC ("MIAX Options" or "Exchange") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") a proposed rule change as described in Items I and II 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 is filing a proposal to amend Exchange Rule 510, Interpretations and Policies .01 to extend the pilot program for the quoting and trading of certain options in pennies.

The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Exchange's website at <http://www.miaxoptions.com/rule-filings>, at MIAX's principal office, and at the Commission's Public Reference Room.

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

<sup>15</sup> 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

The Exchange is a participant in an industry-wide pilot program that provides for the quoting and trading of certain option classes in penny increments (the "Penny Pilot Program" or "Program"). The Penny Pilot Program allows the quoting and trading of certain option classes in minimum increments of \$0.01 for all series in such option classes with a price of less than \$3.00; and in minimum increments of \$0.05 for all series in such option classes with a price of \$3.00 or higher. Options overlying the PowerShares QQQ<sup>TM</sup> ("QQQ"), SPDR<sup>®</sup> S&P 500<sup>®</sup> ETF ("SPY"), and iShares<sup>®</sup> Russell 2000 ETF ("IWM"), however, are quoted and traded in minimum increments of \$0.01 for all series regardless of the price. The Penny Pilot Program was initiated at the then existing option exchanges in January 2007 <sup>3</sup> and currently includes more than 300 of the most active option classes. The Penny Pilot Program is currently scheduled to expire on December 31, 2017.<sup>4</sup> The purpose of the proposed rule change is to extend the Penny Pilot Program in its current format through June 30, 2018.

In addition to the extension of the Penny Pilot Program through June 30, 2018, the Exchange proposes to extend one other date in the Rule. Currently,

<sup>3</sup> See Securities Exchange Act Release Nos. 55154 (January 23, 2007), 72 FR 4743 (February 1, 2007) (SR-CBOE-2006-92); 55161 (January 24, 2007), 72 FR 4754 (February 1, 2007) (SR-ISE-2006-62); 54886 (December 6, 2006), 71 FR 74979 (December 13, 2006) (SR-Phlx-2006-74); 54590 (October 12, 2006), 71 FR 61525 (October 18, 2006) (SR-NYSEArca-2006-73); and 54741 (November 9, 2006), 71 FR 67176 (November 20, 2006) (SR-Amex-2006-106).

<sup>4</sup> See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 80757 (May 24, 2017), 82 FR 25032 (May 31, 2017) (SR-MIAX-2017-23) (extending the Penny Pilot Program from June 30, 2017, to December 31, 2017).

<sup>13</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2)(B).

Interpretations and Policies .01 states that the Exchange will replace any Penny Pilot issues that have been delisted with the next most actively traded multiply listed option classes that are not yet included in the Penny Pilot Program, and that the replacement issues will be selected based on trading activity in the previous six months. Such option classes will be added to the Penny Pilot Program on the second trading day following July 1, 2017.<sup>5</sup> Because this date has expired and the Exchange intends to continue this practice for the duration of the Penny Pilot Program, the Exchange is proposing to amend the Rule to reflect that such option classes will be added to the Penny Pilot Program on the second trading day following January 1, 2018.

The purpose of this provision is to reflect the new date on which replacement issues may be added to the Penny Pilot Program.

## 2. Statutory Basis

MIAX believes that its proposed rule change is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act<sup>6</sup> in general, and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(5) of the Act<sup>7</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 foster cooperation and coordination with persons engaged in facilitating transactions in securities, to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanisms 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 extends the Penny Pilot Program for six months, allows the Exchange to continue to participate in a program that has been viewed as beneficial to traders, investors and public customers and viewed as successful by the other options exchanges participating in it.

### *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 that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. Specifically,

the Exchange believes that, by extending the expiration of the Pilot Program, the proposed rule change will allow for further analysis of the Penny Pilot Program and a determination of how the Program should be structured in the future. In doing so, the proposed rule change will also serve to promote regulatory clarity and consistency, thereby reducing burdens on the marketplace, facilitating investor protection, and fostering a competitive environment. In addition, consistent with previous practices, the Exchange believes the other options exchanges will be filing similar extensions of the Penny Pilot Program.

### *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.

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

The Exchange has filed the proposed rule change pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(iii) of the Act<sup>8</sup> and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder.<sup>9</sup> Because the 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 prior to 30 days from the date on which it was filed, or such shorter time as the Commission may designate, if consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest, the proposed rule change has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act and Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii) thereunder.

A proposed rule change filed under Rule 19b-4(f)(6)<sup>10</sup> normally does not become operative prior to 30 days after the date of the filing.<sup>11</sup> However, pursuant to Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii),<sup>12</sup> the Commission may designate a shorter time if such action is consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest. The Exchange has asked the Commission to waive the 30-day operative delay so that the proposal may

become operative immediately upon filing. The Commission believes that waiving the 30-day operative delay is consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest because doing so will allow the Pilot Program to continue without interruption in a manner that is consistent with the Commission's prior approval of the extension and expansion of the Pilot Program and will allow the Exchange and the Commission additional time to analyze the impact of the Pilot Program.<sup>13</sup> Accordingly, the Commission designates the proposed rule change as operative upon filing with the Commission.<sup>14</sup>

At any time within 60 days of the filing of such 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 under Section 19(b)(2)(B)<sup>15</sup> of the Act to determine whether the proposed rule change 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:

### *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](mailto:rule-comments@sec.gov). Please include File Number SR-MIAX-2017-48 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-MIAX-2017-48. This file number should be included on the subject line if email is used. To help the Commission process and review your

<sup>5</sup> The month immediately preceding a replacement class's addition to the Pilot Program (*i.e.*, June) is not used for purposes of the six-month analysis. For example, a replacement added on the second trading day following January 1, 2018, will be identified based on trading activity from June 1, 2017, through November 30, 2017.

<sup>6</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

<sup>7</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

<sup>8</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(iii).

<sup>9</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

<sup>10</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

<sup>11</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6). In addition, Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii) requires the Exchange to give the Commission written notice of the Exchange's intent to file the proposed rule change along with a brief description and the text of 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 pre-filing requirement.

<sup>12</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6)(iii).

<sup>13</sup> See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 61061 (November 24, 2009), 74 FR 62857 (December 1, 2009) (SR-NYSEArca-2009-44).

<sup>14</sup> For purposes only of waiving the operative delay for this proposal, the Commission has considered the proposed rule's impact on efficiency, competition, and capital formation. See 15 U.S.C. 78c(f).

<sup>15</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2)(B).

comments more efficiently, please use only one method. The Commission will post all comments on the Commission's internet website (<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. Persons submitting comments are cautioned that we do not redact or edit personal identifying information from comment submissions. You should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-MIAX-2017-48 and should be submitted on or before January 16, 2018.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.<sup>16</sup>

**Eduardo A. Aleman,**

*Assistant Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 2017-27694 Filed 12-22-17; 8:45 am]

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## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-82355; File No. SR-OCC-2017-007]

### Self-Regulatory Organizations; The Options Clearing Corporation; Notice of Filing of Proposed Rule Change, as Modified by Amendment No. 1, Related to The Options Clearing Corporation's Margin Policy

December 19, 2017.

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 December 11, 2017, The Options Clearing Corporation ("OCC") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission

("Commission") the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II, and III below, which Items have been prepared by OCC. On December 18, 2017, OCC filed Amendment No. 1 to the proposed rule change.<sup>3</sup> The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

#### I. Clearing Agency's Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed Rule Change

The purpose of the proposed rule change is to formalize and update OCC's Margin Policy in connection with requirements applicable to OCC under Rule 17Ad-22(e)(6), which generally requires a covered clearing agency to have policies and procedures reasonably designed to, among other things, cover its credit exposures to its participants through the establishment of a risk-based margin system meeting certain standards.<sup>4</sup> The Margin Policy is included as confidential Exhibit 5 of the filing. The policy is being submitted without marking to improve readability as it is being submitted in its entirety as new rule text.

The proposed rule change does not require any changes to the text of OCC's By-Laws or Rules. All terms with initial capitalization that are not otherwise defined herein have the same meaning as set forth in the OCC By-Laws and Rules.<sup>5</sup>

#### II. Clearing Agency's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

In its filing with the Commission, OCC 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. OCC has prepared summaries, set forth in sections (A), (B), and (C) below, of the most significant aspects of these statements.

#### (A) Clearing Agency's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

##### (1) Purpose

##### Background

On September 28, 2016 the Commission adopted amendments to Rule 17Ad-22<sup>6</sup> and added new Rule 17Ab2-2<sup>7</sup> pursuant to Section 17A of the Act<sup>8</sup> and the Payment, Clearing, and Settlement Supervision Act of 2010 ("Clearing Supervision Act")<sup>9</sup> to establish enhanced standards for the operation and governance of those clearing agencies registered with the Commission that meet the definition of a "covered clearing agency," as defined by Rule 17Ad-22(a)(5)<sup>10</sup> (collectively, the new and amended rules are herein referred to as "CCA" rules). The CCA rules require that a covered clearing agency, among other things: "establish, implement, maintain and enforce written policies and procedures reasonably designed to . . . [c]over . . . its credit exposures to its participants by establishing a risk-based margin system" that satisfies certain criteria, including that it produces margin levels commensurate with the risks of particular products, collects margin at least daily, collects margin sufficient to cover exposure between the last margin collection and position closeout, uses reliable pricing sources, appropriately measures credit exposure and regularly reviews, tests and verifies its margin methodology.<sup>11</sup>

OCC is defined as a covered clearing agency under the CCA rules, and therefore is subject to the requirements of the CCA rules, including Rule 17Ad-22(e)(6).<sup>12</sup> Accordingly, OCC proposes to formalize its Margin Policy, as described below, to describe its approach for collecting margin and managing the credit exposures presented by its Clearing Members.

##### Margin Policy

The purpose of the Margin Policy is to describe OCC's approach for collecting margin and managing the credit exposure presented by its Clearing Members, so as to ensure that its margin methodologies are governed and implemented in a manner that is compliant with Rule 17Ad-22(e)(6).<sup>13</sup> The Margin Policy describes, in general:

<sup>3</sup> In Amendment No. 1, OCC modified a portion of its Margin Policy to: (i) State that OCC's Board of Directors ("Board") is ultimately responsible for annual review and approval of the Policy, and (ii) correctly cite provisions in OCC's Rules governing its stock loan program. OCC did not propose any other changes in Amendment No. 1.

<sup>4</sup> 17 CFR 240.17Ad-22(e)(6).

<sup>5</sup> OCC's By-Laws and Rules can be found on OCC's public website: <http://optionsclearing.com/about/publications/bylaws.jsp>.

<sup>6</sup> 17 CFR 240.17Ad-22.

<sup>7</sup> 17 CFR 240.17Ab2-2.

<sup>8</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78q-1.

<sup>9</sup> 12 U.S.C. 5461 *et seq.*

<sup>10</sup> 17 CFR 240.17Ad-22(a)(5).

<sup>11</sup> 17 CFR 240.17Ad-22(e)(6).

<sup>12</sup> *Id.*

<sup>13</sup> *Id.*

<sup>16</sup> 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

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

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