

or otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the 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 e-mail to [rule-comments@sec.gov](mailto:rule-comments@sec.gov). Please include File Number SR-FINRA-2010-010 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-FINRA-2010-010. 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,<sup>9</sup> 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, on official business days between the hours of 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. Copies of the filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of FINRA and on its Web site at [www.finra.org](http://www.finra.org). 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-FINRA-2010-010 and

should be submitted on or before April 19, 2010.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.<sup>10</sup>

**Florence E. Harmon,**

*Deputy Secretary.*

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## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-61753; File No. 4-595]

### Self-Regulatory Organizations; EDGA Exchange, Inc.; Notice of Filing of Proposed Minor Rule Violation Plan

March 22, 2010.

Pursuant to Section 19(d)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act"),<sup>1</sup> and Rule 19d-1(c)(2) thereunder,<sup>2</sup> notice is hereby given that on March 19, 2010, EDGA Exchange, Inc. ("EDGA Exchange" or the "Exchange") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") copies of proposed minor rule violations with sanctions not exceeding \$2,500 which would not be subject to the provisions of Rule 19d-1(c)(1) of the Act<sup>3</sup> requiring that a self-regulatory organization promptly file notice with the Commission of any final disciplinary action taken with respect to any person or organization.<sup>4</sup> In accordance with paragraph (c)(2) of Rule 19d-1 of the Act, the Exchange proposed to designate certain specified rule violations as minor rule violations, and requests that it be relieved of the reporting requirements regarding such violations, provided it gives notice of such violations to the Commission on a quarterly basis. EDGA Exchange proposes to include in its proposed MRVP the policies and procedures currently included in EDGA Exchange

<sup>10</sup> 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

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

<sup>2</sup> 17 CFR 240.19d-1(c)(2).

<sup>3</sup> 17 CFR 240.19d-1(c)(1).

<sup>4</sup> The Commission adopted amendments to paragraph (c) of Rule 19d-1 to allow self-regulatory organizations ("SROs") to submit for Commission approval plans for the abbreviated reporting of minor disciplinary infractions. See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 21013 (June 1, 1984), 49 FR 23828 (June 8, 1984). Any disciplinary action taken by an SRO against any person for violation of a rule of the SRO which has been designated as a minor rule violation pursuant to such a plan filed with the Commission shall not be considered "final" for purposes of Section 19(d)(1) of the Act if the sanction imposed consists of a fine not exceeding \$2,500 and the sanctioned person has not sought an adjudication, including a hearing, or otherwise exhausted his administrative remedies.

Rule 8.15 ("Imposition of Fines for Minor Violation(s) of Rules").<sup>5</sup>

According to the Exchange's proposed MRVP, under Rule 8.15, the Exchange may impose a fine (not to exceed \$2,500) on a member or an associated person with respect to any rule listed in Rule 8.15.01. The Exchange shall serve the person against whom a fine is imposed with a written statement setting forth the rule or rules violated, the act or omission constituting each such violation, the fine imposed, and the date by which such determination becomes final or by which such determination must be contested. If the person against whom the fine is imposed pays the fine, such payment shall be deemed to be a waiver of such person's right to a disciplinary proceeding and any review of the matter under EDGA Exchange rules. Any person against whom a fine is imposed may contest the Exchange's determination by filing with the Exchange a written response, at which point the matter shall become a disciplinary proceeding.

Under Rule 8.15.01, violations of the following rules would be appropriate for disposition under the minor rule violations plan: Rule 2.5. Interpretation .04, Firm Element Continuing Education Requirement; Rule 3.5 Advertising Practices; Rule 4.2 and Interpretations thereunder, requiring the submission of responses to Exchange requests for trading data within specified time period; Rule 4.2 and Interpretations thereunder, related to the requirement to furnish Exchange-related order, market and transaction data, as well as financial or regulatory records and information; Rule 11.15, requirement to identify short sale orders as such; Rule 11.16, requirement to comply with locked and crossed market rules; and Rule 12.11, Interpretation .01 and Exchange Act Rule 604—Failure to properly display limit orders.

EDGA Exchange proposed to include the rule violations listed in Rule 8.15.01 in its minor rule violation plan. Upon approval of the plan, the Exchange will provide the Commission a quarterly report of actions taken on minor rule violations under the plan. The quarterly

<sup>5</sup> On March 12, 2010, the Commission approved EDGA Exchange's application for registration as a national securities exchange, including the rules governing EDGA Exchange. See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 61698, 75 FR 13151 (March 22, 2010). In the approval order, the Commission noted that EDGA Exchange Rule 8.15 provides for the imposition of fines for minor rule violations pursuant to a minor rule violation plan. Accordingly, the Commission noted that as a condition to the operation of EDGA Exchange, the Exchange must file a minor rule violation plan with the Commission.

<sup>9</sup> The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Commission's Web site at <http://www.sec.gov/>.

report will include: the Exchange's internal file number for the case, the name of the individual and/or organization, the nature of the violation, the specific rule provision violated, the sanction imposed, the number of times the rule violation has occurred, and the date of disposition.<sup>6</sup>

### I. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views, and arguments concerning EDGA Exchange's proposed Minor Rule Violation Plan, including whether the proposed plan 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/other.shtml>); or
- Send an e-mail to [rule-comments@sec.gov](mailto:rule-comments@sec.gov). Please include File No. 4-595 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.

All submissions should refer to File No. 4-595. 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/other.shtml>). Copies of the submission, all subsequent amendments, all written statements with respect to the proposed Minor Rule Violation Plan change that are filed with the Commission, and all written communications relating to the proposed Minor Rule Violation Plan 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. 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 No. 4-595 and

should be submitted on or before April 28, 2010.

### II. Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Minor Rule Violation Plan and Timing for Commission Action

Pursuant to Section 19(d)(1) of the Act and Rule 19d-1(c)(2) thereunder,<sup>7</sup> after April 28, 2010, the Commission may, by order, declare EDGA Exchange's proposed Minor Rule Violation Plan effective if the plan is consistent with the public interest, the protection of investors, or otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. The Commission in its order may restrict the categories of violations to be designated as minor rule violations and may impose any other terms or conditions to the proposed Minor Rule Violation Plan, File No. 4-595, and to the period of its effectiveness which the Commission deems necessary or appropriate in the public interest, for the protection of investors or otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of this Act.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.<sup>8</sup>

**Florence E. Harmon,**

*Deputy Secretary.*

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## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-61755; File No. SR-NYSEAmex-2010-27]

### Self-Regulatory Organizations; NYSE Amex LLC; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change Amending NYSE Amex Equities Rule 127 To Remove the Restrictions on the Execution of Block Cross Transactions Outside the Prevailing NYSE Amex Quotation

March 22, 2010.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1)<sup>1</sup> of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Act")<sup>2</sup> and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,<sup>3</sup> notice is hereby given that on March 11, 2010, NYSE Amex LLC (the "Exchange" or "NYSE Amex") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") the proposed rule change as described in Items I and II below, which Items have been prepared by the self-regulatory organization. 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 the Substance of the Proposed Rule Change

The Exchange proposes to amend NYSE Amex Equities Rule 127 ("Block Crosses Outside the Prevailing Exchange Quotation") to remove the restrictions on the execution of block cross transactions outside the prevailing NYSE Amex quotation to make such execution more consistent with prevailing industry standard and to delete all references to "percentage orders" in the rule text. The text of the proposed rule change is available at the Exchange, the Commission's Public Reference Room, and <http://www.nyse.com>.

### 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 self-regulatory organization 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 those 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 parts of such statements.

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

##### 1. Purpose

NYSE Amex LLC ("NYSE Amex" or the "Exchange") proposes to amend NYSE Amex Equities Rule 127 ("Block Crosses Outside the Prevailing Exchange Quotation") to remove restrictions on the execution of block cross transactions outside the prevailing NYSE Amex quotation to make such execution more consistent with prevailing industry standard and to delete all references to "percentage orders" in the rule text.

The Exchange notes that parallel changes are proposed to be made to the rules of the New York Stock Exchange LLC.<sup>4</sup>

*Background:* NYSE Amex Equities Rule 127 governs the execution of block cross transactions outside the Exchange quotation. NYSE Amex Equities Rule 127 prescribes the method of block cross executions for member organizations when the member organization intends to represent both sides of the proposed

<sup>1</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(d)(1) and 17 CFR 240.19d-1(c)(2).

<sup>2</sup> 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(44).

<sup>3</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

<sup>4</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78a.

<sup>5</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

<sup>6</sup> See SR-NYSE-2010-24.

<sup>6</sup> EDGA Exchange attached a sample form of the quarterly report with its submission to the Commission.