No. 1, is consistent with Section 6(b)(5) of the Act and the rules and regulations thereunder applicable to a national securities exchange.

IV. Conclusion

It is therefore ordered, pursuant to Section 19(b)(2) of the Exchange Act, that the proposed rule change (SR–NYSEArca–2015–25), as modified by Amendment No. 1, is hereby approved.

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

Robert W. Errett,
Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2015–17894 Filed 7–21–15; 8:45 am]
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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION


Self-Regulatory Organizations; C2 Options Exchange, Incorporated; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of a Proposed Rule Change Relating to AIM

July 16, 2015.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the “Act”), and Rule 19b–4 thereunder, notice is hereby given that on July 14, 2015, C2 Options Exchange, Incorporated (the “Exchange”), 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 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 proposed rule change proposes to amend the Exchange’s rules related to its Automated Improvement Mechanism (“AIM”). The text of the proposed rule change is provided below.

(additions are italicized; deletions are [bracketed])

* * * * *

C2 Options Exchange, Incorporated Rules

* * * * *

Rule 6.51. Automated Improvement Mechanism (“AIM”)

Notwithstanding the provisions of Rule 6.50, a Participant that represents agency orders may electronically execute an order or represents as agent (“Agency Order”) against principal interest or against a solicited order provided it submits the Agency Order for execution into the AIM auction (“Auction”) pursuant to this Rule. (a)–(b) No change.

... Interpretations and Policies:

.01–.02 No change.

.03 Initially, and for at least a Pilot Period expiring on July 18, 20156, there will be no minimum size requirement for orders to be eligible for the Auction. During this Pilot Period, the Exchange will submit certain data, periodically as required by the Commission, to provide supporting evidence that, among other things, there is meaningful competition for all size orders and that there is an active and liquid market functioning on the Exchange outside of the Auction mechanism. Any raw data which is submitted to the Commission will be provided on a confidential basis.

.04–.09 No change.

* * * * *

The text of the proposed rule change is also available on the Exchange’s website (http://www.cboe.com/AboutCBOE/CBOELegalRegulatoryHome.aspx), at the Exchange’s Office of the Secretary, and at the Commission’s Public Reference Room.

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

In December 2009, the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “Commission”) approved adoption of C2’s rules, including the AIM auction process.3 AIM exposes certain orders electronically to an auction process to provide these orders with the opportunity to receive an execution at an improved price. The AIM auction is available only for orders that a Trading Permit Holder represents as agent (“Agency Order”) and for which a second order of the same size as the Agency Order (and on the opposite side of the market) is also submitted (effectively stopping the Agency Order at a given price).4

The Commission approved on a pilot basis the component of AIM that there is no minimum size requirement for orders to be eligible for the auction. In connection with the pilot programs, the Exchange has submitted to the Commission reports providing detailed AIM auction and order execution data. The Exchange will provide the Commission six months of additional AIM auction and order execution data for the period of January 1, 2015 to June 30, 2015 no later than January 18, 2016. The raw data provided will be submitted on a confidential basis. In addition, the Exchange will submit tables summarizing AIM price improvement statistics for each month of the January 1, 2015 to June 30, 2015 period. The summary tables will be made available to the public. Five-year extensions to the pilot programs have previously become effective.5 The proposed rule change merely extends the duration of the pilot program until July 18, 2016. Extending the pilot for an additional year will allow the Commission more time to consider the impact of the pilot program on AIM order executions.

2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the “Act”) and the rules and regulations thereunder applicable to the Exchange and, in particular, the requirements of Section 6(b) of the Act.6 Specifically,

the Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with the Section 6(b)(5) requirement that the rules of an exchange be 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 regulating, clearing, settling, processing information with respect to, and facilitating transactions in securities, 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. Additionally, the Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with the Section 6(b)(5) requirement that the rules of an exchange not be designed to permit unfair discrimination between customers, issuers, brokers, or dealers.

In particular, the proposed rule change protects investors and the public interest by allowing for an extension of the AIM pilot program, and thus allowing additional time for the Commission to evaluate the AIM pilot program. The AIM pilot program will continue to allow smaller orders to receive the opportunity for price improvement pursuant to the AIM auction. The additional data provided will help the Commission determine if there is evidence of meaningful competition for all size orders, significant price improvement for orders going through the AIM and an active and liquid market functioning on the Exchange outside of the AIM Auction.

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

C2 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. The Exchange does not believe the proposed rule change imposes any burden on intramarket competition because it applies to all Trading Permit Holders. All Trading Permit Holders that submit orders into an AIM auction are still subject to the same requirements. In addition, the Exchange does not believe the proposed rule change will impose any burden on intermarket competition, as it merely extends the duration of an existing pilot program, which is available to all market participants through Trading Permit Holders. AIM will continue to function in the same manner as it currently functions for an extended period of time.

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

The Exchange neither solicited nor received comments on the proposed rule change.

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

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) of the Act and subparagraph (f)(6) of Rule 19b-4 thereunder.

A proposed rule change filed under Rule 19b-4(f)(6) normally does not become operative for 30 days after the date of filing. However, pursuant to Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii), the Commission may designate a shorter time if such action is consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest. The Exchange requested that the Commission waive the 30-day operative delay. The Exchange noted that waiver of the 30-day operative delay will allow the Exchange to extend the pilot program prior to its expiration on July 18, 2015. In addition, the Exchange believes that waiver of the operative delay is consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest because it will allow for the least amount of market disruption, as the pilot program will continue as it currently does maintaining the status quo.

The Commission believes that waiving the 30-day operative delay is consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest, as it will allow the pilot program to continue uninterrupted, thereby avoiding any potential investor confusion that could result from a temporary interruption in the pilot program. Therefore, the Commission designates the proposed rule change to be operative on July 18, 2015.

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.

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);

• Send an email to rule-comments@ sec.gov. Please include File Number SR–C2–2015–020 on the subject line.

Paper Comments

• Send paper comments in triplicate to Brent J. Fields, Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549–1090. All submissions should refer to File Number SR–C2–2015–020. 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 __________

[5 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).]
[6 Id.]
[8 Id.]
[13 For purposes only of waiving the operative delay, the Commission has considered the proposed rule’s impact on efficiency, competition, and capital formation. See 15 U.S.C. 78c(f).]
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 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–C2–2015–020, and should be submitted on or before August 12, 2015.

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

Robert W. Errett,
Deputy Secretary.

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION


Self-Regulatory Organizations;
Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of a Proposed Rule Change Consisting of an Amendment to MSRB Rule G–45, on Reporting of Information on Municipal Fund Securities

July 15, 2015.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the “Act”)1 and Rule 19b–4 thereunder,2 notice is hereby given that on June 30, 2015, the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board (the “MSRB” or “Board”) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC” or “Commission”) the proposed rule change as described in Items I and II below, which Items have been prepared by the MSRB. 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 MSRB filed with the Commission a proposed rule change consisting of an amendment to MSRB Rule G–45, on reporting of information on municipal fund securities (“proposed rule change”). The proposed rule change would delay by 60 days, until October 28, 2015, the date on which the first submissions must be made pursuant to Rule G–45. The first submissions on Form G–45 currently are due August 29, 2015. The MSRB proposes an immediate effectiveness for the proposed rule change. The proposed rule change would extend by 60 days the due date under a previously approved rule for the first submissions on Form G–45.


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 MSRB 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 MSRB 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 MSRB proposes to extend by 60 days until October 28, 2015 the date that the first submissions are due under Rule G–45 on Form G–45. On February 21, 2014, the Commission approved the adoption of Rule G–45, on reporting of municipal fund securities, and electronic Form G–45, as well as associated amendments to Rules G–8, on books and records, and G–9, on preservation of records. The effective date for that rule change was February 24, 2015. The first submissions under Rule G–45 are due August 29, 2015, which is 60 days from the end of the first reporting period of January 1–June 30, 2015. The purpose of Rule G–45 is to enable the MSRB to collect reliable information about 529 college savings plans (“529 plans”) solely for regulatory purposes and to analyze that information to better understand the market and the manner in which assets are invested.

After the SEC’s approval of Rule G–45 and Form G–45, MSRB staff formed an industry User Group to develop the Form G–45 User’s Manual (the “manual”), which the rule specifies would include technical specifications for the Form, such as data entry. User Group members include representatives from twelve different industry organizations ranging from organizations that are involved in the distribution of multiple 529 plans to those that participate in the distribution of interests in only one plan. The range of expertise of User Group members includes data services provision and program management.

The User Group recommended that underwriters be afforded two methods of submitting data to the MSRB on Form G–45—manual submissions through the MSRB’s Electronic Municipal Market Access Web site ("EMMA")4 and dataport web user interface and automated submissions through a computer-to-computer ("B2B") interface. MSRB staff was responsive to those recommendations, and developed the two interfaces.

In February 2015, the MSRB released the manual and opened a beta test environment to assist underwriters with their submissions. Since that time, underwriters and industry trade groups have discussed with MSRB staff the challenges that underwriters are facing with programming the data for submission to the Board on Form G–45. Their concerns center on the ability to program automated B2B submissions, particularly information about investment options in 529 plans. 529 plans typically offer numerous investment options with multiple underlying mutual funds. To gather adequate information about 529 plans, Form G–45 requires detailed data about the various investment options available in 529 plans. The MSRB understands that the programming of such information for a Form G–45 submission is particularly challenging for underwriters because the required data must be collected from multiple computer systems. While the programmers for underwriters may be challenged by meeting the extended deadline for the first filings on Form G–45, after the first B2B filing, the process would be automated and is expected to become more routine.

To help ensure that the MSRB receives reliable, complete and accurate filings on Form G–45 and to mitigate the burdens imposed on underwriters that are making their first submission under Rule G–45, the MSRB submits this proposed rule change to extend the date that the first submissions on Form G–45 are due by 60 days, until October 28, 2015. The proposed rule change would double the time allowed for

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EMMA is a registered trademark of the MSRB.