$\label{lem:reduced} \textit{Required fields are shown with yellow backgrounds and asterisks}.$

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0045
Estimated average burden hours per response.......38

Page 1 of * 16		SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION File No.* SR - 2013 - * 023 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549 Form 19b-4 Amendment No. (req. for Amendments *)						
Filing by C2 Options Exchange, Incorporated Pursuant to Rule 19b-4 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934								
Initial * ✓		Amendment *	Withdrawal	Section 19(b)(2) *	Section	on 19(b)(3)(A) *	Section 19(b)(3)(B) *
Pilot		sion of Time Period mmission Action *	Date Expires *			19b-4(f) 19b-4(f) 19b-4(f))(1)	
	of propos	- '	so the Payment, Cleari Section 806(e)(2)	ng, and Settlem	nent Act of 2	2010	Security-Based Swa to the Securities Exch Section 3C(b)(2	-
Exhibit 2	2 Sent As F	Paper Document E	xhibit 3 Sent As Paper Do	ocument				
Provide a brief description of the action (limit 250 characters, required when Initial is checked *). Proposed rule change to extend AIM pilot program 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.								
F: (N				1	D:-1			
	First Name * Laura Title * Attorney II/Assista		Secretary	Last Name * Dickman				
E-mail								
Teleph	-		Fax (312) 786-7919					
Signature Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, has duly caused this filing to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.								
Date By	06/26/20 Laura D			Attorney II/Ass		retary		
(Name *) NOTE: Clicking the button at right will digitally sign and lock this form. A digital signature is as legally binding as a physical signature, and once signed, this form cannot be changed.								

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549 For complete Form 19b-4 instructions please refer to the EFFS website. The self-regulatory organization must provide all required information, presented in a Form 19b-4 Information * clear and comprehensible manner, to enable the public to provide meaningful comment on the proposal and for the Commission to determine whether the proposal Remove is consistent with the Act and applicable rules and regulations under the Act. The Notice section of this Form 19b-4 must comply with the guidelines for publication Exhibit 1 - Notice of Proposed Rule Change * 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 Add Remove View 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** The Notice section of this Form 19b-4 must comply with the guidelines for publication Change, Security-Based Swap Submission, in the Federal Register as well as any requirements for electronic filing as published or Advance Notice by Clearing Agencies 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, security-based swap submission, or advance notice being deemed not properly filed. See also Rule 0-3 under the Act (17 CFR 240.0-3) Exhibit 2 - Notices, Written Comments, Copies of notices, written comments, transcripts, other communications. If such Transcripts, Other Communications documents cannot be filed electronically in accordance with Instruction F, they shall be filed in accordance with Instruction G. Add Remove View Exhibit Sent As Paper Document Exhibit 3 - Form, Report, or Questionnaire 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 Add Remove View referred to by the proposed rule change. Exhibit Sent As Paper Document The full text shall be marked, in any convenient manner, to indicate additions to and **Exhibit 4 - Marked Copies** deletions from the immediately preceding filing. The purpose of Exhibit 4 is to permit Add Remove View 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** 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 Add Remove View of the proposed rule change. If the self-regulatory organization is amending only part of the text of a lengthy **Partial Amendment** 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.

Item 1. Text of the Proposed Rule Change

(a) C2 Options Exchange, Incorporated (the "Exchange" or "C2") proposes to amend its rules related to its Automated Improvement Mechanism ("AIM"). The text of the proposed rule change is provided below and in Exhibit 1.

(additions are underlined; 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 it 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, 2014[3], 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 data which is submitted to the Commission will be provided on a confidential basis.

.04 – **.09** No change.

* * * * *

- (b) Not applicable.
- (c) Not applicable.

Item 2. Procedures of the Self-Regulatory Organization

- (a) The Exchange's President pursuant to delegated authority approved the proposed rule change on June 25, 2013.
- (b) Please refer questions and comments on the proposed rule change to Joanne Moffic-Silver, (312) 786-7462, or Laura Dickman, (312) 786-7572, C2 Options Exchange, Incorporated, 400 South LaSalle, Chicago, Illinois 60605.

Item 3. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change</u>

(a) <u>Purpose</u>

In December 2009, the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") approved adoption of C2's rules, including the AIM auction process.¹ 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).²

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 program, the Exchange has submitted to the Commission reports providing AIM auction and order execution data, and the Exchange will continue to submit to the Commission these reports. Three one-year extensions to the pilot program have

The Exchange first activated AIM on October 17, 2011 for P.M.-settled options on the S&P 500 Index (SPXpm), which are no longer listed on the Exchange.

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¹ <u>See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 61152 (December 10, 2009), 74 FR 66699 (December 16, 2009) (SR-C2-2011-015).</u>

previously become effective.³ The proposed rule change merely extends the duration of the pilot program until July 18, 2014. 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.

(b) 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.⁴ Specifically, the Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with the Section 6(b)(5)⁵ requirements 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)⁶ 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

³ <u>See Securities Exchange Act Release Nos. 63238 (November 3, 2010), 75 FR 68844 (November 9, 2010) (SR-C2-2010-008); 64929 (July 20, 2011), 76 FR 44635 (July 26, 2011) (SR-C2-2011-015); and 67303 (June 28, 2012), 77 FR 39777 (July 5, 2012) (SR-C2-2012-021).</u>

⁴ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

⁵ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

Id.

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.

Item 4. 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.

Item 5. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed Rule Change Received from Members, Participants, or Others</u>

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

Item 6. Extension of Time Period for Commission Action

Not applicable.

Item 7. <u>Basis for Summary Effectiveness Pursuant to Section 19(b)(3) or for Accelerated Effectiveness Pursuant to Section 19(b)(2) or Section 19(b)(7)(D)</u>

- (a) The proposed rule change is filed for immediate effectiveness pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of Act⁷ and Rule 19b-4(f)(6)⁸ thereunder.
- (b) The Exchange designates that the proposed rule change effects a change that (i) does not significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest; (ii) does not impose any significant burden on competition; and (iii) by its terms, does not become operative for 30 days after the date of the filing, or such shorter time as the Commission may designate if consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest. Additionally, the Exchange has given the Commission written notice of its intent to file the proposed rule change, along with a brief description and 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 believes the proposed rule change does not present any new, unique or substantive issues; it merely allows for an extension of the duration of an existing pilot program for the benefit of market participants and allows for continued analysis of how the pilot program should be structured in the future. Ultimately, the result of the proposed rule change is that AIM will continue to function in the same manner as it currently functions for an extended period of time.

For the foregoing reasons, this rule filing qualifies as a "non-controversial" rule change under Rule 19b-4(f)(6), which renders the proposed rule change effective upon filing with the Commission. At any time within 60 days of the filing of this proposed rule change,

⁷ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

^{8 17} CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

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 will institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule change should be approved or disapproved. The Exchange respectfully requests that the Commission waive the 30-day operative delay period after which a proposed rule change under Rule 19b-4(f)(6) becomes effective. Waiver of the 30-day operative delay period will allow the AIM pilot program to continue uninterrupted. As discussed above, the Exchange believes the proposed rule change does not present any new, unique or substantive issues, but rather is extending the duration of an existing pilot program. Therefore, the Exchange believes that the waiver of the 30-day operative delay is consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest.

- (c) Not applicable.
- (d) Not applicable.

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

The proposed rule change is not based on a rule either of another self-regulatory organization or of the Commission.

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

Not applicable.

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

Not applicable.

Item 11. Exhibits

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

EXHIBIT 1

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-

; File No. SR-C2-2013-023]

[Insert date]

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

Program.

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 [insert date], C2 Options

Exchange, Incorporated (the "Exchange" or "C2") filed with the Securities and Exchange

Commission (the "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 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 underlined; deletions are [bracketed])

* * * * *

C2 Options Exchange, Incorporated

Rules

* * * * *

15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

17 CFR 240.19b-4.

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 it 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, 2014[3], 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 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 available on the Exchange's website (http://www.c2exchange.com/Legal/), at the Exchange's Office of the Secretary, and at the Commission's Public Reference Room.

II. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory</u> 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. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory</u> <u>Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change</u>

1. <u>Purpose</u>

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 program, the Exchange has submitted to the Commission reports providing AIM auction and order execution data, and the Exchange will continue to submit to the Commission these reports. Three one-year extensions to the pilot program have previously become effective. The proposed rule change merely extends the duration of the pilot program until July 18, 2014. 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.

³ <u>See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 61152 (December 10, 2009), 74 FR 66699 (December 16, 2009) (SR-C2-2011-015).</u>

The Exchange first activated AIM on October 17, 2011 for P.M.-settled options on the S&P 500 Index (SPXpm), which are no longer listed on the Exchange.

⁵ <u>See Securities Exchange Act Release Nos. 63238 (November 3, 2010), 75 FR 68844 (November 9, 2010) (SR-C2-2010-008); 64929 (July 20, 2011), 76 FR 44635 (July 26, 2011) (SR-C2-2011-015); and 67303 (June 28, 2012), 77 FR 39777 (July 5, 2012) (SR-C2-2012-021).</u>

2. <u>Statutory Basis</u>

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)⁷ requirements 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)⁸ 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.

B. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition</u>

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.

⁶ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

⁷ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

Id.

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.

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

Because the foregoing proposed rule change does not:

- A. significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest;
- B. impose any significant burden on competition; and
- C. 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 Act9 and Rule 19b-4(f)(6)¹⁰ 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

17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

¹⁵ U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A). 10

interest, for the protection of investors, or otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. If the Commission takes such action, the Commission will institute proceedings 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 e-mail to <u>rule-comments@sec.gov</u>. <u>Please include File Number</u>
 <u>SR-C2-2013-023 on the subject line.</u>

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-C2-2013-023. 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 the Commission's Internet website on (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, D.C. 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-C2-2013-023 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. ¹¹

Secretary

¹¹