Required fields are shown with yellow backgrounds and asterisks.

OMB APPROVAL

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Page 1 of * 42		SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION File No.* SR - 2019 - * 053 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549 Form 19b-4 Amendment No. (req. for Amendments *)				
Filing by Cboe EDGX Exchange, Inc.  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	Extension of Time Period for Commission Action *	Date Expires *		19b-4(f	19b-4(f)(5)	
	of proposed change pursuant	to the Payment, Clear  Section 806(e)(2) *	ing, and Settlemen	Act of 2010	Security-Based Swap to the Securities Exch Section 3C(b)(2	-
Exhibit 2 Sent As Paper Document  Exhibit 3 Sent As Paper Document  Exhibit 3 Sent As Paper Document						
Description  Provide a brief description of the action (limit 250 characters, required when Initial is checked *).  The Exchange proposes to amend Rules 21.20 and 21.22 in connection with stock-options orders.						
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.						
First Na	ame * Rebecca		Last Name * Ter	uta		
Title * Counsel						
E-mail *	E-mail * rtenuta@cboe.com					
Telepho		Fax				
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.  (Title *)						
Date	08/22/2019	[	Counsel	. ,		
	Rebecca Tenuta					
, [	(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) The Notice section of this Form 19b-4 must comply with the guidelines for publication **Exhibit 1A- Notice of Proposed Rule** in the Federal Register as well as any requirements for electronic filing as published Change, Security-Based Swap Submission, by the Commission (if applicable). The Office of the Federal Register (OFR) offers or Advance Notice by Clearing Agencies \* 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. Remove View Add Exhibit Sent As Paper Document П 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) Cboe EDGX Exchange, Inc. (the "Exchange" or "EDGX") proposes to amend Rules 21.20 and 21.22 in connection with stock-options orders. The text of the proposed rule change is provided in Exhibit 5.
  - (b) Not applicable.
  - (c) Not applicable.

### Item 2. Procedures of the Self-Regulatory Organization

- (a) The Exchange's President (or designee) pursuant to delegated authority approved the proposed rule change on July 30, 2019. The Exchange intends to implement the proposed rule change on August 22, 2019.
- (b) Please refer questions and comments on the proposed rule change to Pat Sexton, Executive Vice President, General Counsel, and Corporate Secretary, (312) 786-7467, or Rebecca Tenuta, (312) 786-7068, Cboe EDGX Exchange, Inc., 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) Purpose

On April 26, 2019, the Exchange filed a rule filing, SR-CboeEDGX-2019-028, which was approved by the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") on July 26, 2019, which permits use of it Automated Improvement Process ("AIM") for complex orders. <sup>1</sup> Specifically, the filing describes how complex orders may be submitted to

See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 85831 (May 10, 2019), 84 FR 22178 (May 16, 2019) (Notice of Filing of a Proposed Rule Change To Adopt Rule 21.22 (Complex Automated Improvement Mechanism)) (SR-CboeEDGX-2019-028); Securities Exchange Act Release No. 86493 (July 26, 2019) (Notice of Filing of Amendment No. 1 and Order Granting Accelerated Approval of a

and will be processed in an AIM Auction ("C-AIM" or "C-AIM Auction"). Also, on June 27, 2019, the Exchange filed SR-CboeEDGX-2019-039, which adopts stock-option order functionality on the Exchange. The Exchange notes that it implemented the proposed changes under SR-CboeEDGX-2019-039 on August 16, 2019 as part of Feature Pack 9<sup>3</sup> in with the migration of Cboe Exchange, Inc. ("Cboe Options") technology to the same trading platform used by the Exchange, Cboe C2 Exchange, Inc. ("C2"), and Cboe BZX Exchange, Inc. ("BZX Options") in the fourth quarter of 2019. The Exchange now proposes an additional amendment under the rules proposed by SR-CboeEDGX-2019-028 and under the rules proposed by SR-CboeEDGX-2019-039. Specifically, the Exchange proposes to add an additional event under Rule 21.22(d)(1) (as proposed under SR-CboeEDGX-2019-028) that would cause a C-AIM Auction to conclude early. The Exchange also proposes to amend Rule 21.20(f)(2) (as proposed under SR-CboeEDGX-2019-039) to provide for how the Exchange will handle a stock-option order with one or multiple options legs when different minimum trading increments are allowed for the stock and options legs of such trades. The Exchange intends to implement these amendments to the proposed rules under SR-CboeEDGX-2019-028 and SR-CboeEDGX-2019-039 to be effective on August 22, 2019,

Proposed Rule Change, as Modified by Amendment No. 1, to Adopt Rule 21.22 (Complex Automated Improvement Mechanism)).

See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 86353 (July 11, 2019), 84 FR 34230 (July 17, 2019) (Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of a Proposed Rule Change To Add Stock-Option Order Functionality and Complex Qualified Contingent Cross ("QCC") Order With Stock Functionality, and To Make Other Changes to its Rules) (SR-CboeEDGX-2019-039).

The Exchange notes that implementation of these changes as a part of Feature Pack 9 was recently postponed via Exchange notice from a roll-out of August 5, 2019 to August 16, 2019. See Exchange Notice No. C2019080200 (Updated August 02, 2019). The changes under SR-CboeEDGX-2019-028 have been postponed and are planned to be implemented soon after August 16, 2019.

or as close in time as possible to the Feature Pack 9 implementation date of August 16, 2019, so that the proposed changes may seamlessly coincide with the implementation of the rule changes under the two rule filings.

Currently, under Rule 21.22(d)(1) C-AIM Auction concludes at the earliest to occur of the following times:

- a) the end of the C-AIM Auction period;
- b) upon receipt by the System of an unrelated non-Priority Customer complex order on the same side as the Agency Order that would post to the COB at a price better than the stop price;
- upon receipt by the System of an unrelated Priority Customer complex order on the same side as the Agency Order that would post to the COB at a price equal to or better than the stop price;
- d) upon receipt by the System of an unrelated non-Priority Customer order or quote that would post to the Simple Book and cause the SBBO on the same side as the Agency Order to be better than the stop price;
- e) upon receipt by the System of an unrelated Priority Customer order in any
  component of the complex strategy that would post to the Simple Book and cause
  the SBBO on the same side as the Agency Order to be equal to or better than the
  stop price;
- f) upon receipt by the System of a simple non-Priority Customer order that would cause the SBBO on the opposite side of the Agency Order to be better than the stop price, or a Priority Customer order that would cause the SBBO on the opposite side of the Agency Order to be equal to or better than the stop price;

- g) the market close; and
- any time the Exchange halts trading in the complex strategy or any component of the complex strategy, provided, however, that in such instance, the C-AIM Auction concludes without execution.

The Exchange now proposes to add an event under Rule 21.22(g)<sup>4</sup> that would conclude a C-AIM Auction in response to an incoming order that would cause the SBBO to be at a price not permissible under the Limit Up-Limit Down Plan or Regulation SHO,<sup>5</sup> and would conclude the C-AIM Auction without execution. This will ensure that the stock leg of a stock-option order submitted into a C-AIM Auction does not execute at a price not permissible under that plan or regulation. This is consistent with current C-AIM functionality to ensure that stock legs do not trade at prices not permissible under the Limit Up-Limit Down Plan or Regulation SHO.<sup>6</sup>

The Exchange proposes to amend Rule 21.20(f)(2) to provide for how the Exchange will handle a stock-option order with one or multiple options legs when different minimum trading increments are allowed for the stock and options legs of such trades. Pursuant to SR-CboeEDGX-2019-039, Rule 21.20(f)(1)(B) provides that the option leg(s) of a stock-option order may be executed in \$0.01 increments, regardless of the minimum increments otherwise applicable to the option leg(s), and the stock leg of a stock-option order may be executed in any decimal price permitted in the equity market. In a small subset of cases, generally as a result of unusual leg ratios, in calculating the total notional value a

And subsequently re-letter the subparagraphs, changing current subparagraph (g) to (h), and current (h) to (i).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> <u>See</u> Rule 21.20(j)(3).

<sup>6 &</sup>lt;u>Id</u>.

stock leg may result in a price outside of the NBBO, thus cannot execute pursuant to Rule 21.20(f)(2)(B).<sup>7</sup> In order to allow for the strategy to execute, the proposed rule change would offer functionality that allows the legs of the stock option order to trade outside of their expected notional value by a specified amount determined by the Exchange.<sup>8</sup>

Therefore, the System could ensure that options legs and stock leg were priced in in line with Rule 21.20, which includes ensuring that: 1) the option leg of a stock-option order with one option leg does not trade at a price worse than the individual component price on the Simple Book or at the same price as a Priority Customer Order on the Simple Book; 2) that the option leg(s) of a stock-option order with more than one option leg trades does not execute at a net price i) that would cause a leg to execute at a price of zero, ii) worse than the SBBO or equal to the SBBO when there is a Priority Customer Order at the SBBO, except AON complex orders may only execute at prices better than the SBBO, ii) that would cause a leg to be executed at a price worse than the individual component prices on the Simple Book, iv) worse than the price that would be available if the complex order Legged into the

Pursuant to Rule 21.20(f)(2)(B), the System will only execute the stock leg of a stock-option order up to a buffer amount outside of the stock leg NBBO and that the execution price of the buy (sell) stock leg of a QCC with Stock Order may be any price (including outside the NBBO for the stock leg). While the QCT exemption permits a stock leg to execute outside of the NBBO, the Exchange still offers price protections to prevent execution too far away from the NBBO, which it understands is consistent with market participants' desire. Currently on EDGX, the buffer referenced in Rule 21.20(f)(2)(B) is set to zero, so the Exchange does not permit execution of the stock leg of a stock-option order outside of the NBBO (other than a QCC with stock order, which will execute immediately without exposure and thus is unlikely to trade too far outside of the NBBO). Current rules of other exchanges (such as Cboe Options) prevent execution of the stock component from being too far away from the NBBO, as do the rules of stock exchanges.

Pursuant to Rule 16.3, the Exchange announces to Options Members all determinations it makes pursuant to the Rules via specifications, Notices, or Regulatory Circulars with appropriate advanced notice, which will be posted on the Exchange's website, or electronic message.

Simple Book, or v) that would cause any component of the complex strategy to be executed at a price ahead of a Priority Customer Order on the Simple Book without improving the BBO of at least one component of the complex strategy; and 3) that a stock leg does not execute above (below) the buffer amount that is above (below) the NBBO. Although this would result in a negligible difference (i.e. residual amount) between the expected notional value of the trade and the actual trade value, Users generally prefer not to forgo an execution for their stock-option strategies when the residual amount is miniscule compared to the total value of the trade. The value allowance would work, for example, as follows:

- Assume the Exchange has determined a trade value allowance of \$0.50 from the expected trade value.
- Assume also that:

SNBBO: 
$$7.70 \times 8.32$$
 (i.e., bid =  $(47 \times 10.00 / 100) + (3 \times 1.00) = 7.70$ , and

offer = 
$$(47 \times 11.00/100) + (3 \times 1.05) = 8.32)$$

- A User enters a stock-option order to Buy 47 shares of XYZ stock and Buy 3 June
   10 XYZ calls with a net price of 8.30 and a quantity of 3.
- The order matches with corresponding contra order on the complex order book.
- The expected trade value based on the order's limit price, quantity and a contract multiplier of 100 is \$2,490.00 (i.e., 8.30 x 3 x 100).
- The calculated options match price is 1.00 based on market prices and the stock match price is 11.2766 (rounded four decimals), therefore, outside of the NBBO.

<sup>9 &</sup>lt;u>See supra</u> note 7.

 The trade value allowance then calculates the stock match price that results in a total notional trade value of \$2489.9934:

Options leg notional =  $$1.05 \times 100 \times 3 \times 3 = $945$ 

Stock Leg notional =  $$10.9574 \times 47 \times 3 = $1,544.9934$ 

Notional trade value = \$2,489.9934, which is within the \$0.50 trade value allowance.

The Exchange notes that a valid trade price within the NBBO for the stock leg with the smallest residual between the difference in actual trade value and expected notional trade value is \$10.9574. Therefore, in this example, the corresponding options leg match price would be \$1.05 because it is the options match price that could be paired with a valid stock trade price that would also allow for the smallest residual between the difference in actual trade value and expected notional trade value. If, for example, the next allowable options increment within the BBO (\$1.04) was used, the stock leg notional trade value matched to meet the notional value closest to the expected trade value would be \$11.0213, and therefore still outside of the NBBO. The Exchange also notes that \$1.05 is consistent with the BBO in this example.

Under the proposed rule, the System will not apply the trade value allowance to orders with a "C" capacity code (for the account of a Priority Customer). <sup>12</sup> This limitation is

See Rule 21.20(f)(1)(B), which states that the option leg(s) of a stock-option order may be executed in \$0.01 increments.

The notional trade value would be:  $(\$1.04 \times 100 \times 3 \times 3) + (\$11.0213 \times 47 \times 3) = \$2,490.0033$ .

See Rule 16.1, which states that a Priority Customer means any person or entity that is not a broker or dealer in securities or a Professional. See also Securities Exchange Act Release No. 86415 (July 19, 2019), 84 FR 35905 (July 25, 2019) (Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of a Proposed Rule Change

intended to function as an additional protection for customers who may not have the same levels of trading sophistication or technological and informational advantages as that of Professionals or broker-dealers. Therefore, customers may not have measures in place to assume any level of risk that may be associated with trading outside of the expected trade value (which risk the Exchange believes is de minimis given that the Exchange will impose a reasonable cap, as described below, on the amount by which the actual trade value may differ from the expected trade level). As a result, the Exchange believes that not applying the trade value allowance to customer orders will further protect customers from assuming this potential risk for which they may not have calculated.

Overall, this proposed functionality is a helpful feature which will allow Users to receive an expeditious execution, and trade the stock and options components of a stock-option strategy in a moving market without introducing legging risk. Without this functionality members would be forced to resubmit their orders and potentially receive a much worse price or miss an execution. The Exchange will announce to all market participants the determined trade value allowance amount pursuant to Rule 1.5. The Exchange would determine an allowance amount that would reasonably account for the average differences in notional trade values as well as the cost benefit to market participants between the differences in actual trade value versus expected notional trade value and the imposition of resubmitting their orders and potentially receiving a much worse price or missing an execution. The Exchange notes that, if, however, a User determines that the trade value allowance is more attractive or favorable on another venue, Users are free to

Relating To Update Rule 16.1 To Include the Definition of Capacity, as well as Amend Its Fee Schedule To Reflect This Update) (SR-CboeEDGX-2019-046).

The Exchange expects this value to be initially set at \$0.50 as represented in the example above.

execute on other such venues. The proposed Exchange determination of a value allowance outside of the expected notional value is currently in place on other exchanges. <sup>14</sup>

### (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. <sup>15</sup>

Specifically, the Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with the Section 6(b)(5)<sup>16</sup> 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)<sup>17</sup> requirement that the rules of an exchange not be designed to permit unfair discrimination between customers, issuers, brokers, or dealers.

In particular, the proposed additional event that will conclude a C-AIM Auction is reasonable and promotes a fair and orderly market and national market system, because it will ensure that executions at the conclusion of a C-AIM Auction occur at permissible prices, specifically, that the stock leg of a stock-option order submitted into a C-AIM

See Nasdaq ISE Rules, Supplementary Material .03 to Options 3, Section 14; and Nasdaq MRX Rules, Supplementary Material .03 to Options 3, Section 14.

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

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> Id.

Auction does not execute at a price not permissible under the Limit Up-Limit Down Plan or Regulation SHO. Moreover, the Exchanges notes that this is consistent with current C-AIM functionality to ensure that stock legs do not trade at prices not permissible under the Limit Up-Limit Down Plan or Regulation SHO, therefore, the Exchange believes it is appropriate to conclude a C-AIM Auction if the proposed circumstance occurs. <sup>18</sup> The proposed rule change will also benefit investors by providing additional clarity regarding what will cause C-AIM Auction to conclude.

The proposed Exchange determination to set an allowable value outside of the expected notional trade value for the legs of a stock-option order removes impediments to and perfects the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system because it provides Users with functionality that allows a User's stock-option strategies to trade outside of their specified net prices when the executable stock match price results in a small difference between the expected notional value of the trade and the actual trade value. Users generally prefer not to forgo an execution for their stock-option strategies when this occurs, as the residual amount is miniscule compared to the value of the trade. As a result of the proposed rule, Users will be able to receive an expeditious execution, and trade the stock and options components of a stock-option strategy in a moving market without introducing legging risk, instead of resubmitting their orders and potentially receiving a much worse price or missing an execution. In addition to this, the Exchange also believes that not permitting the trade value allowance to apply to customer orders will remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and national market system, and, in general protect investors, in that it prevents customers from assuming potential risk (which

See supra note 2.

the Exchange believes is de minimis given that the Exchange will impose a reasonable variance, as reiterated below). The Exchange believes the proposed rule will protect customers because customers may not have the same levels of trading sophistication or technological and informational advantages as that of Professionals or broker-dealers and, thus, may not have the measures in place to assume any level of risk that may be associated with trading outside of the expected trade value.

As stated above, the proposed Exchange determination of a value allowance outside of the expected notional value is currently in place on other exchanges. <sup>19</sup> The Exchange believes that the differences between the proposed rule and the rules of other exchanges will remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and national market system, and, in general, protect investors. The other exchanges' rules allow for a notional variance based on a percentage, while the proposed rule will allow for a specific dollar amount which the exchange believes is more straightforward and less confusing for investors than the calculation of a percentage. The other exchanges' rules allow for Member determination or a default to Exchange determination of the notional variance, while the proposed rule will allow only for Exchange determination, which the Exchange believes will also simplify the implementation of this functionality and mitigate any potential investor confusion by setting just one Exchange-determined notional variance. The other exchanges rules also do not differentiate between the trade value application to customer and non-customer orders, however, as described herein this filing, the Exchange believes this implements an additional protection for customer orders. Finally, unlike other exchanges' rules, the

See supra note 13.

proposed rule does not provide for a User opt-out function. Because the difference between the expected notional value of the trade and the actual trade value is inconsequential, especially as compared to the overall benefit to investors of an expeditious execution, this proposed difference will not have any significant impact on the Exchange's participants and, instead, will benefit participants overall. As stated, the Exchange would determine an allowance amount that would reasonably account for the average differences in notional trade values as well as the cost benefit to market participants between the differences in actual trade value versus expected notional trade value and the imposition of resubmitting their orders and potentially receiving a much worse price or missing an execution. The Exchange notes that, if, however, a User determines that the trade value allowance is more attractive or favorable on another venue, Users are free to execute on other such venues.

### Item 4. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition</u>

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. The Exchange does not believe the proposed rule change to add an additional event that would conclude a C-AIM Auction will impose any burden on intramarket competition, as this event, if it is the earliest to occur of the list of events that would conclude a C-AIM Auction, will conclude a C-AIM Auction in the manner which already occurs for the other events currently listed under the rule, and a manner which is consistent with current C-AIM functionality that ensures stock legs do not trade at prices not permissible under the Limit Up-Limit Down Plan or Regulation SHO. The subsequent conclusion of a C-AIM Auction applies in the same manner to all Users. The Exchange does not believe the proposed change to allow option legs of a stock-option

strategy to trade outside of their expected notional value by a specified amount determined by the Exchange and communicated to Members via specifications and/or Regulatory Circular will impose any burden on intramarket competition because the amount will apply to all User's non-customer stock-option strategies equally. As described above, the Exchange does not believe that excluding customer orders from the trade value allowance functionality would impose any significant burden on completion as customers generally do not have the same levels of trading sophistication or technological and informational advantages as that of Professionals or broker-dealers in order to take on any level of risk associated with trading outside the expected trade value. Rather, the proposed rule benefits customers by ensuring that customers will not assume potential risk for which they have not calculated.

The Exchange does not believe the proposed rule change to add an additional event that would conclude a C-AIM Auction will impose any burden on intermarket competition because the proposed change is designed as a protection intended to ensure that the stock leg of a stock-option order submitted into a C-AIM Auction does not execute at a price not permissible under the Limit Up-Limit Down Plan or Regulation SHO. As stated, current C-AIM functionality already exists which ensures stock legs do not trade at prices not permissible under this plan or regulation. The Exchange does not believe the proposed rule change to allow option legs of a stock-option strategy to trade outside of their expected notional value by a specifical amount determined by the Exchange and communicated to Members via specifications and/or Regulatory Circular

will impose any burden on intermarket competition because it is substantially similar to other options exchanges' rules, previously filed with the Commission.<sup>20</sup>

# Item 5. 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.

# Item 6. Extension of Time Period for Commission Action Not applicable.

- Item 7. 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)
- (a) The proposed rule change is filed for immediate effectiveness pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of Act<sup>21</sup> and Rule 19b-4(f)(6)<sup>22</sup> 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.

See supra note 13.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest, but rather will serve to protect investors because it ensures that executions at the conclusion of a C-AIM Auction will be permissible under the Limit Up-Limit Down Plan or Regulation SHO, which is consistent with the manner in which current C-AIM functionality ensures stock legs do not trade at prices not permissible under the Limit Up-Limit Down Plan or Regulation SHO. The proposed rule change will also benefit investors allowing their stock-option strategies to trade outside of their specified net prices when the executable stock match price results in a small difference between the expected notional value of the trade and the actual trade value, rather than forgoing an execution for their stock-option strategies when this occurs, as the residual amount is miniscule compared to the value of the trade. From this, investors will be able to receive the benefit of an expeditious execution, and may trade the stock and options components of a stock-option strategy in a moving market without introducing legging risk, instead of resubmitting their orders and potentially receiving a much worse price or missing an execution. In addition, the Exchange does not believe that barring the trade value allowance from applying to customer orders will significantly impact the protection of investors because it is intended to protect customers from assuming potential risk for which they may not have calculated as a result of not having the same levels of trading sophistication or technological and informational advantages as that of Professionals or broker-dealers.

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change significantly affects the protection of investors because similar rules are currently in place on other

exchanges.<sup>23</sup> The Exchange notes that the provisions under other exchanges' rules allow for a notional variance based on a percentage, while the Exchange proposes to allow for a specific dollar amount, which the Exchange believes will benefit investors because a specific set dollar amount is more straightforward and less confusing for investors than the calculation of a percentage. The other exchanges rules also do not differentiate between the trade value application to customer and non-customer orders, however, the Exchange believes this proposed difference provides additional protection for customer orders. The Exchange also notes that the provision under other exchanges' rules allow for Member determination or a default to Exchange determination of the notional variance. The proposed rule to allow only for Exchange determination will benefit investors because the Exchange believes this proposed difference will also simplify the implementation of this functionality and mitigate any potential investor confusion by setting just one Exchange-determined notional variance. Finally, unlike the other exchanges' rules, the Exchange does not propose a User opt-out function, which the Exchange believes will not significantly affect the protection of investors because the difference between the expected notional value of the trade and the actual trade value is inconsequential, particularly when compared to the overall benefit to investors of an expeditious execution. As stated, the Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change would significantly impact the protection of investors and the public interest because the Exchange would ensure that an allowance amount would reasonably account for the average differences in notional trade values as well as the cost benefit to market participants between the differences in actual trade value versus expected notional trade

value and the imposition of resubmitting their orders and potentially receiving a much worse price or missing an execution. The Exchange notes that, if, however, a User determines that the trade value allowance is more attractive or favorable on another venue, Users are free to execute on other such venues.

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any significant burden on competition. The Exchange does not believe the proposed rule change to add an additional event that would conclude a C-AIM Auction will impose any burden on intramarket competition, as this event would conclude a C-AIM Auction in the manner which already occurs for the other events currently listed under the rule, and a manner which is consistent with current C-AIM functionality that ensures stock legs do not trade at prices not permissible under the Limit Up-Limit Down Plan or Regulation SHO. As stated, the subsequent conclusion of a C-AIM Auction applies in the same manner to all Users. The Exchange does not believe the proposed change to allow option legs of a stock-option strategy to trade outside of their expected notional value by a specified amount determined by the Exchange will impose any burden on intramarket competition because the amount will apply to all User's stock-option strategies equally. In addition to this the Exchange does not believe the proposed rule change to the events triggering the conclusion of a C-AIM Auction will impose any burden on intermarket competition because the proposed change is designed as a protection intended to ensure that the stock leg of a stock-option order submitted into a C-AIM Auction does not execute at a price not permissible under the Limit Up-Limit Down Plan or Regulation SHO, which, as stated, is consistent with current C-AIM functionality. The Exchange does not believe the proposed rule change to allow option legs of a stock-option strategy

to trade outside of their expected notional value will impose any burden on intermarket competition because it is substantially similar to other options exchanges' rules, previously filed with the Commission.<sup>24</sup>

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, 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. As discussed above, the proposed rule change is consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest as it is not novel or unique because: 1) similar C-AIM functionality is already in place pursuant to SR-CboeEDGX-2019-028 that does not allow the stock leg of a stock-option order submitted into a C-AIM Auction to execute at a price not permissible under the Limit Up-Limit Down Plan or Regulation SHO and other events under Rule 21.22 are in place pursuant to SR-CboeEDGX-2019-028 that will trigger the conclusion of a C-AIM Auction; and 2) other exchanges' rules currently provide for similar notional variance for the legs in a stock-option strategy. As described above, the Exchange believes the minor differences between its proposed rule and other

<sup>24</sup> 

exchanges' rules will not significantly affect the protection of investors, but rather benefit investors overall. The proposed change to implement a notional variance also serves to benefit investors by allowing their stock-option strategies to trade outside of their specified net prices when the executable stock match price results in a small difference between the expected notional value of the trade and the actual trade value, instead of forgoing an execution for their stock-option strategies when this occurs. As a result, investors will be able to receive the benefit of an expeditious execution, and may trade the stock and options components of a stock-option strategy in a moving market without introducing legging risk, instead of resubmitting their orders and potentially receiving a much worse price or miss an execution. The Exchange also believes that the waiver of the operative delay is consistent with the protection of investors as it will allow the proposed amendments to the rules that will be adopted pursuant SR-CboeEDGX-2019-028 and SR-CboeEDGX-2019-039 to be effective on August 22, 2019, or as close in time as possible to the implementation date as SR-CboeEDGX-2019-028 and SR-CboeEDGX-2019-039, thereby ensuring that all of the Exchange's proposed rules regarding stock-option orders align at the same point in time, thereby mitigating any potential investor confusion. For these reasons, and the reasons described above, the Exchange respectfully requests that the Commission waiver the 30-day operative delay.

- (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 to Rule 21.20(f)(2)(B) is based Supplementary Material .03 to Options 3, Section 14 of Nasdaq ISE ("ISE") Rules and Supplementary Material .03 to Rule 722 of Nasdaq MRX ("MRX") Rules. The Exchange notes that the provisions under MRX and ISE rules allows for a notional variance based on a percentage, while the Exchange proposes to allow for a specific dollar amount. The Exchange believes that a specific set dollar amount is more straightforward and less confusing for investors than the calculation of a percentage. The Exchange also notes that the provision under the ISE and MRX rules allows for Member determination or a default to Exchange determination of the notional variance. The proposed rule allow only for Exchange determination which the Exchange believes will also simplify the implementation of this functionality and mitigate any potential investor confusion by setting just one Exchange-determined notional variance. Additionally, the ISE and MRX rules also do not differentiate between the trade value allowance application to customer and non-customer orders, however, as described in detail above, the Exchange believes this difference serves as an additional protection for customer orders. Finally, unlike the ISE and MRX rules, the Exchange does not propose a User opt-out function. The Exchange believes that because the difference between the expected notional value of the trade and the actual trade value is inconsequential, especially as compared to the overall benefit to investors of an expeditious execution, that this proposed difference will not have any significant impact on the Exchange's participants.

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 5. Proposed rule text.

### EXHIBIT 1

### SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34- ; File No. SR-CboeEDGX-2019-053]

[Insert date]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Cboe EDGX Exchange, Inc.; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of a Proposed Rule Change Relating to Amend Rules 21.20 and 21.22 in Connection with Stock-Options Orders

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Act"), <sup>1</sup> and Rule 19b-4 thereunder, <sup>2</sup> notice is hereby given that on [insert date], Cboe EDGX Exchange, Inc. (the "Exchange" or ""EDGX"") 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 Exchange filed the proposal as a "non-controversial" proposed rule change pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(iii) of the Act<sup>3</sup> and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder. <sup>4</sup> The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

# I. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed Rule Change</u>

Choe EDGX Exchange, Inc. (the "Exchange" or "EDGX") proposes to amend Rules 21.20 and 21.22 in connection with stock-options orders. The text of the proposed rule change is provided in Exhibit 5.

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

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

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

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

The text of the proposed rule change is also available on the Exchange's website (<a href="http://markets.cboe.com/us/options/regulation/rule\_filings/edgx/">http://markets.cboe.com/us/options/regulation/rule\_filings/edgx/</a>), 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>

On April 26, 2019, the Exchange filed a rule filing, SR-CboeEDGX-2019-028, which was approved by the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") on July 26, 2019, which permits use of it Automated Improvement Process ("AIM") for complex orders. <sup>5</sup> Specifically, the filing describes how complex orders may be submitted to and will be processed in an AIM Auction ("C-AIM" or "C-AIM Auction"). Also, on June 27, 2019, the Exchange filed SR-CboeEDGX-2019-039, which adopts stock-option order

(Complex Automated Improvement Mechanism)).

See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 85831 (May 10, 2019), 84 FR 22178 (May 16, 2019) (Notice of Filing of a Proposed Rule Change To Adopt Rule 21.22 (Complex Automated Improvement Mechanism)) (SR-CboeEDGX-2019-028); Securities Exchange Act Release No. 86493 (July 26, 2019) (Notice of Filing of Amendment No. 1 and Order Granting Accelerated Approval of a Proposed Rule Change, as Modified by Amendment No. 1, to Adopt Rule 21.22

functionality on the Exchange. <sup>6</sup> The Exchange notes that it implemented the proposed changes under SR-CboeEDGX-2019-039 on August 16, 2019 as part of Feature Pack 9<sup>7</sup> in with the migration of Cboe Exchange, Inc. ("Cboe Options") technology to the same trading platform used by the Exchange, Cboe C2 Exchange, Inc. ("C2"), and Cboe BZX Exchange, Inc. ("BZX Options") in the fourth quarter of 2019. The Exchange now proposes an additional amendment under the rules proposed by SR-CboeEDGX-2019-028 and under the rules proposed by SR-CboeEDGX-2019-039. Specifically, the Exchange proposes to add an additional event under Rule 21.22(d)(1) (as proposed under SR-CboeEDGX-2019-028) that would cause a C-AIM Auction to conclude early. The Exchange also proposes to amend Rule 21.20(f)(2) (as proposed under SR-CboeEDGX-2019-039) to provide for how the Exchange will handle a stock-option order with one or multiple options legs when different minimum trading increments are allowed for the stock and options legs of such trades. The Exchange intends to implement these amendments to the proposed rules under SR-CboeEDGX-2019-028 and SR-CboeEDGX-2019-039 to be effective on August 22, 2019, or as close in time as possible to the Feature Pack 9 implementation date of August 16, 2019, so that the proposed changes may seamlessly coincide with the implementation of the rule changes under the two rule filings.

See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 86353 (July 11, 2019), 84 FR 34230 (July 17, 2019) (Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of a Proposed Rule Change To Add Stock-Option Order Functionality and Complex Qualified Contingent Cross ("QCC") Order With Stock Functionality, and To Make Other Changes to its Rules) (SR-CboeEDGX-2019-039).

The Exchange notes that implementation of these changes as a part of Feature Pack 9 was recently postponed via Exchange notice from a roll-out of August 5, 2019 to August 16, 2019. See Exchange Notice No. C2019080200 (Updated August 02, 2019). The changes under SR-CboeEDGX-2019-028 have been postponed and are planned to be implemented soon after August 16, 2019.

Currently, under Rule 21.22(d)(1) C-AIM Auction concludes at the earliest to occur of the following times:

- a) the end of the C-AIM Auction period;
- b) upon receipt by the System of an unrelated non-Priority Customer complex order on the same side as the Agency Order that would post to the COB at a price better than the stop price;
- upon receipt by the System of an unrelated Priority Customer complex order on the same side as the Agency Order that would post to the COB at a price equal to or better than the stop price;
- d) upon receipt by the System of an unrelated non-Priority Customer order or quote that would post to the Simple Book and cause the SBBO on the same side as the Agency Order to be better than the stop price;
- e) upon receipt by the System of an unrelated Priority Customer order in any
  component of the complex strategy that would post to the Simple Book and cause
  the SBBO on the same side as the Agency Order to be equal to or better than the
  stop price;
- f) upon receipt by the System of a simple non-Priority Customer order that would cause the SBBO on the opposite side of the Agency Order to be better than the stop price, or a Priority Customer order that would cause the SBBO on the opposite side of the Agency Order to be equal to or better than the stop price;
- g) the market close; and

h) any time the Exchange halts trading in the complex strategy or any component of the complex strategy, provided, however, that in such instance, the C-AIM Auction concludes without execution.

The Exchange now proposes to add an event under Rule 21.22(g)<sup>8</sup> that would conclude a C-AIM Auction in response to an incoming order that would cause the SBBO to be at a price not permissible under the Limit Up-Limit Down Plan or Regulation SHO,<sup>9</sup> and would conclude the C-AIM Auction without execution. This will ensure that the stock leg of a stock-option order submitted into a C-AIM Auction does not execute at a price not permissible under that plan or regulation. This is consistent with current C-AIM functionality to ensure that stock legs do not trade at prices not permissible under the Limit Up-Limit Down Plan or Regulation SHO.<sup>10</sup>

The Exchange proposes to amend Rule 21.20(f)(2) to provide for how the Exchange will handle a stock-option order with one or multiple options legs when different minimum trading increments are allowed for the stock and options legs of such trades. Pursuant to SR-CboeEDGX-2019-039, Rule 21.20(f)(1)(B) provides that the option leg(s) of a stock-option order may be executed in \$0.01 increments, regardless of the minimum increments otherwise applicable to the option leg(s), and the stock leg of a stock-option order may be executed in any decimal price permitted in the equity market. In a small subset of cases, generally as a result of unusual leg ratios, in calculating the total notional value a stock leg may result in a price outside of the NBBO, thus cannot execute pursuant to Rule

And subsequently re-letter the subparagraphs, changing current subparagraph (g) to (h), and current (h) to (i).

<sup>9 &</sup>lt;u>See</u> Rule 21.20(j)(3).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Id.

21.20(f)(2)(B).<sup>11</sup> In order to allow for the strategy to execute, the proposed rule change would offer functionality that allows the legs of the stock option order to trade outside of their expected notional value by a specified amount determined by the Exchange.<sup>12</sup>

Therefore, the System could ensure that options legs and stock leg were priced in in line with Rule 21.20, which includes ensuring that: 1) the option leg of a stock-option order with one option leg does not trade at a price worse than the individual component price on the Simple Book or at the same price as a Priority Customer Order on the Simple Book; 2) that the option leg(s) of a stock-option order with more than one option leg trades does not execute at a net price i) that would cause a leg to execute at a price of zero, ii) worse than the SBBO or equal to the SBBO when there is a Priority Customer Order at the SBBO, except AON complex orders may only execute at prices better than the SBBO, ii) that would cause a leg to be executed at a price worse than the individual component prices on the Simple Book, iv) worse than the price that would be available if the complex order Legged into the Simple Book, or v) that would cause any component of the complex strategy to be executed

Pursuant to Rule 21.20(f)(2)(B), the System will only execute the stock leg of a stock-option order up to a buffer amount outside of the stock leg NBBO and that the execution price of the buy (sell) stock leg of a QCC with Stock Order may be any price (including outside the NBBO for the stock leg). While the QCT exemption permits a stock leg to execute outside of the NBBO, the Exchange still offers price protections to prevent execution too far away from the NBBO, which it understands is consistent with market participants' desire. Currently on EDGX, the buffer referenced in Rule 21.20(f)(2)(B) is set to zero, so the Exchange does not permit execution of the stock leg of a stock-option order outside of the NBBO (other than a QCC with stock order, which will execute immediately without exposure and thus is unlikely to trade too far outside of the NBBO). Current rules of other exchanges (such as Cboe Options) prevent execution of the stock component from being too far away from the NBBO, as do the rules of stock exchanges.

Pursuant to Rule 16.3, the Exchange announces to Options Members all determinations it makes pursuant to the Rules via specifications, Notices, or Regulatory Circulars with appropriate advanced notice, which will be posted on the Exchange's website, or electronic message.

at a price ahead of a Priority Customer Order on the Simple Book without improving the BBO of at least one component of the complex strategy; and 3) that a stock leg does not execute above (below) the buffer amount that is above (below) the NBBO. 13 Although this would result in a negligible difference (i.e. residual amount) between the expected notional value of the trade and the actual trade value, Users generally prefer not to forgo an execution for their stock-option strategies when the residual amount is miniscule compared to the total value of the trade. The value allowance would work, for example, as follows:

- Assume the Exchange has determined a trade value allowance of \$0.50 from the expected trade value.
- Assume also that:

SNBBO: 
$$7.70 \times 8.32$$
 (i.e., bid =  $(47 \times 10.00 / 100) + (3 \times 1.00) = 7.70$ , and

offer = 
$$(47 \times 11.00/100) + (3 \times 1.05) = 8.32)$$

- A User enters a stock-option order to Buy 47 shares of XYZ stock and Buy 3 June
   10 XYZ calls with a net price of 8.30 and a quantity of 3.
- The order matches with corresponding contra order on the complex order book.
- The expected trade value based on the order's limit price, quantity and a contract multiplier of 100 is \$2,490.00 (i.e., 8.30 x 3 x 100).
- The calculated options match price is 1.00 based on market prices and the stock match price is 11.2766 (rounded four decimals), therefore, outside of the NBBO.

See supra note 11.

 The trade value allowance then calculates the stock match price that results in a total notional trade value of \$2489.9934:

Options leg notional =  $$1.05 \times 100 \times 3 \times 3 = $945$ 

Stock Leg notional =  $$10.9574 \times 47 \times 3 = $1,544.9934$ 

Notional trade value = \$2,489.9934, which is within the \$0.50 trade value allowance.

The Exchange notes that a valid trade price within the NBBO for the stock leg with the smallest residual between the difference in actual trade value and expected notional trade value is \$10.9574. Therefore, in this example, the corresponding options leg match price would be \$1.05 because it is the options match price that could be paired with a valid stock trade price that would also allow for the smallest residual between the difference in actual trade value and expected notional trade value. If, for example, the next allowable options increment within the BBO (\$1.04) was used, the stock leg notional trade value matched to meet the notional value closest to the expected trade value would be \$11.0213, and therefore still outside of the NBBO. The Exchange also notes that \$1.05 is consistent with the BBO in this example.

Under the proposed rule, the System will not apply the trade value allowance to orders with a "C" capacity code (for the account of a Priority Customer). <sup>16</sup> This limitation is

See Rule 21.20(f)(1)(B), which states that the option leg(s) of a stock-option order may be executed in \$0.01 increments.

The notional trade value would be:  $(\$1.04 \times 100 \times 3 \times 3) + (\$11.0213 \times 47 \times 3) = \$2,490.0033$ .

See Rule 16.1, which states that a Priority Customer means any person or entity that is not a broker or dealer in securities or a Professional. See also Securities Exchange Act Release No. 86415 (July 19, 2019), 84 FR 35905 (July 25, 2019) (Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of a Proposed Rule Change Relating To Update Rule 16.1 To Include the Definition of Capacity, as well as

intended to function as an additional protection for customers who may not have the same levels of trading sophistication or technological and informational advantages as that of Professionals or broker-dealers. Therefore, customers may not have measures in place to assume any level of risk that may be associated with trading outside of the expected trade value (which risk the Exchange believes is de minimis given that the Exchange will impose a reasonable cap, as described below, on the amount by which the actual trade value may differ from the expected trade level). As a result, the Exchange believes that not applying the trade value allowance to customer orders will further protect customers from assuming this potential risk for which they may not have calculated.

Overall, this proposed functionality is a helpful feature which will allow Users to receive an expeditious execution, and trade the stock and options components of a stock-option strategy in a moving market without introducing legging risk. Without this functionality members would be forced to resubmit their orders and potentially receive a much worse price or miss an execution. The Exchange will announce to all market participants the determined trade value allowance amount pursuant to Rule 1.5. The Exchange would determine an allowance amount that would reasonably account for the average differences in notional trade values as well as the cost benefit to market participants between the differences in actual trade value versus expected notional trade value and the imposition of resubmitting their orders and potentially receiving a much worse price or missing an execution. The Exchange notes that, if, however, a User determines that the trade value allowance is more attractive or favorable on another

Amend Its Fee Schedule To Reflect This Update) (SR-CboeEDGX-2019-046).

The Exchange expects this value to be initially set at \$0.50 as represented in the example above.

venue, Users are free to execute on other such venues. The proposed Exchange determination of a value allowance outside of the expected notional value is currently in place on other exchanges. <sup>18</sup>

### 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. <sup>19</sup> Specifically, the Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with the Section 6(b)(5)<sup>20</sup> 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)<sup>21</sup> requirement that the rules of an exchange not be designed to permit unfair discrimination between customers, issuers, brokers, or dealers.

In particular, the proposed additional event that will conclude a C-AIM Auction is reasonable and promotes a fair and orderly market and national market system, because it will ensure that executions at the conclusion of a C-AIM Auction occur at permissible

See Nasdaq ISE Rules, Supplementary Material .03 to Options 3, Section 14; and Nasdaq MRX Rules, Supplementary Material .03 to Options 3, Section 14.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> Id.

prices, specifically, that the stock leg of a stock-option order submitted into a C-AIM Auction does not execute at a price not permissible under the Limit Up-Limit Down Plan or Regulation SHO. Moreover, the Exchanges notes that this is consistent with current C-AIM functionality to ensure that stock legs do not trade at prices not permissible under the Limit Up-Limit Down Plan or Regulation SHO, therefore, the Exchange believes it is appropriate to conclude a C-AIM Auction if the proposed circumstance occurs. <sup>22</sup> The proposed rule change will also benefit investors by providing additional clarity regarding what will cause C-AIM Auction to conclude.

The proposed Exchange determination to set an allowable value outside of the expected notional trade value for the legs of a stock-option order removes impediments to and perfects the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system because it provides Users with functionality that allows a User's stock-option strategies to trade outside of their specified net prices when the executable stock match price results in a small difference between the expected notional value of the trade and the actual trade value. Users generally prefer not to forgo an execution for their stock-option strategies when this occurs, as the residual amount is miniscule compared to the value of the trade. As a result of the proposed rule, Users will be able to receive an expeditious execution, and trade the stock and options components of a stock-option strategy in a moving market without introducing legging risk, instead of resubmitting their orders and potentially receiving a much worse price or missing an execution. In addition to this, the Exchange also believes that not permitting the trade value allowance to apply to customer orders will remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and national market system, and, in

See supra note 6.

general protect investors, in that it prevents customers from assuming potential risk (which the Exchange believes is de minimis given that the Exchange will impose a reasonable variance, as reiterated below). The Exchange believes the proposed rule will protect customers because customers may not have the same levels of trading sophistication or technological and informational advantages as that of Professionals or broker-dealers and, thus, may not have the measures in place to assume any level of risk that may be associated with trading outside of the expected trade value.

As stated above, the proposed Exchange determination of a value allowance outside of the expected notional value is currently in place on other exchanges. <sup>23</sup> The Exchange believes that the differences between the proposed rule and the rules of other exchanges will remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and national market system, and, in general, protect investors. The other exchanges' rules allow for a notional variance based on a percentage, while the proposed rule will allow for a specific dollar amount which the exchange believes is more straightforward and less confusing for investors than the calculation of a percentage. The other exchanges' rules allow for Member determination or a default to Exchange determination of the notional variance, while the proposed rule will allow only for Exchange determination, which the Exchange believes will also simplify the implementation of this functionality and mitigate any potential investor confusion by setting just one Exchange-determined notional variance. The other exchanges rules also do not differentiate between the trade value application to customer and non-customer orders, however, as described herein this filing, the Exchange believes this implements an

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> Se

additional protection for customer orders. Finally, unlike other exchanges' rules, the proposed rule does not provide for a User opt-out function. Because the difference between the expected notional value of the trade and the actual trade value is inconsequential, especially as compared to the overall benefit to investors of an expeditious execution, this proposed difference will not have any significant impact on the Exchange's participants and, instead, will benefit participants overall. As stated, the Exchange would determine an allowance amount that would reasonably account for the average differences in notional trade values as well as the cost benefit to market participants between the differences in actual trade value versus expected notional trade value and the imposition of resubmitting their orders and potentially receiving a much worse price or missing an execution. The Exchange notes that, if, however, a User determines that the trade value allowance is more attractive or favorable on another venue, Users are free to execute on other such venues.

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

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. The Exchange does not believe the proposed rule change to add an additional event that would conclude a C-AIM Auction will impose any burden on intramarket competition, as this event, if it is the earliest to occur of the list of events that would conclude a C-AIM Auction, will conclude a C-AIM Auction in the manner which already occurs for the other events currently listed under the rule, and a manner which is consistent with current C-AIM functionality that ensures stock legs do not trade at prices not permissible under the Limit Up-Limit Down Plan or Regulation SHO. The subsequent conclusion of a C-AIM Auction applies in the same manner to all Users. The

Exchange does not believe the proposed change to allow option legs of a stock-option strategy to trade outside of their expected notional value by a specified amount determined by the Exchange and communicated to Members via specifications and/or Regulatory Circular will impose any burden on intramarket competition because the amount will apply to all User's non-customer stock-option strategies equally. As described above, the Exchange does not believe that excluding customer orders from the trade value allowance functionality would impose any significant burden on completion as customers generally do not have the same levels of trading sophistication or technological and informational advantages as that of Professionals or broker-dealers in order to take on any level of risk associated with trading outside the expected trade value. Rather, the proposed rule benefits customers by ensuring that customers will not assume potential risk for which they have not calculated.

The Exchange does not believe the proposed rule change to add an additional event that would conclude a C-AIM Auction will impose any burden on intermarket competition because the proposed change is designed as a protection intended to ensure that the stock leg of a stock-option order submitted into a C-AIM Auction does not execute at a price not permissible under the Limit Up-Limit Down Plan or Regulation SHO. As stated, current C-AIM functionality already exists which ensures stock legs do not trade at prices not permissible under this plan or regulation. The Exchange does not believe the proposed rule change to allow option legs of a stock-option strategy to trade outside of their expected notional value by a specifications and/or Regulatory Circular

will impose any burden on intermarket competition because it is substantially similar to other options exchanges' rules, previously filed with the Commission.<sup>24</sup>

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

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

### III. <u>Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for</u> 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 Act<sup>25</sup> and Rule 19b-4(f)(6)<sup>26</sup> 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 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

See supra note 17.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

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 <a href="mailto:rule-comments@sec.gov">rule-comments@sec.gov</a>. <a href="mailto:Please include File Number">Please include File Number</a> <a href="mailto:SR-CboeEDGX-2019-053">SR-CboeEDGX-2019-053</a> 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-CboeEDGX-2019-053. 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 website (<a href="http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml">http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml</a>). 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-CboeEDGX-2019-053 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.  $^{27}$ 

Secretary

<sup>27</sup> 

#### **EXHIBIT 5**

(additions are <u>underlined</u>; deletions are [bracketed])

\* \* \* \* \*

Rules of Cboe EDGX Exchange, Inc.

\* \* \* \* \*

### Rule 21.20. Complex Orders

- (a)-(e) No change.
- (f) Minimum Increments and Execution Prices.
  - (1) No change.
  - (2) Execution Prices and Complex Order Priority.
    - (A) No change.
    - (B) Stock-Option Orders. For a stock-option order with one option leg, the option leg may not trade at a price worse than the individual component price on the Simple Book or at the same price as a Priority Customer Order on the Simple Book. For a stock-option order with more than one option leg, the option legs must trade at prices pursuant subparagraph (A) above. To facilitate the execution of the stock leg and options leg(s) of an executable stock-option order at valid increments pursuant to subparagraph (f)(1)(B) above, the legs may trade outside of their expected notional trade value by a specified amount determined by the Exchange, unless the order has a capacity of "C". A stock-option order may only execute if the stock leg is executable at the price(s) necessary to achieve the desired net price. The System executes the buy (sell) stock leg of a stock-option order pursuant to Rule 21.20 up to a buffer amount above (below) the NBO (NBB) for the stock leg. The execution price of the buy (sell) stock leg of a QCC with Stock Order may be any price (including outside the NBBO for the stock leg), except the price must be permitted by Regulation SHO and the Limit Up-Limit Down Plan.

\* \* \* \* \*

Rule 21.22. Complex Automated Improvement Mechanism ("C-AIM" or "C-AIM Auction")

(a)-(c) No change.

- (d) Conclusion of C-AIM Auction.
  - (1) A C-AIM Auction concludes at the earliest to occur of the following times:
    - (a)-(f) No change.
    - (g) upon receipt by the System of an order that would cause the SBBO to be a price not permissible under the Limit Up-Limit Down Plan or Regulation SHO, provided, however, that in such instance, the C-AIM Auction concludes without execution;
    - $([g]\underline{h})$  the market close; and
    - ( $[h]\underline{i}$ ) any time the Exchange halts trading in the complex strategy or any component of the complex strategy, provided, however, that in such instance, the C-AIM Auction concludes without execution.

\* \* \* \* \*