

Required fields are shown with yellow backgrounds and asterisks.

Page 1 of * 24	SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549 Form 19b-4	File No.* SR - 2021 - * 004	Amendment No. (req. for Amendments *)
----------------	--	-----------------------------	---------------------------------------

Filing by Cboe Exchange, Inc.  
Pursuant to Rule 19b-4 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Initial * <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Amendment * <input type="checkbox"/>	Withdrawal <input type="checkbox"/>	Section 19(b)(2) * <input type="checkbox"/>	Section 19(b)(3)(A) * <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Section 19(b)(3)(B) * <input type="checkbox"/>
			Rule		
Pilot <input type="checkbox"/>	Extension of Time Period for Commission Action * <input type="checkbox"/>	Date Expires * <input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 19b-4(f)(1)	<input type="checkbox"/> 19b-4(f)(4)	
			<input type="checkbox"/> 19b-4(f)(2)	<input type="checkbox"/> 19b-4(f)(5)	
			<input type="checkbox"/> 19b-4(f)(3)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19b-4(f)(6)	

Notice of proposed change pursuant to the Payment, Clearing, and Settlement Act of 2010	Security-Based Swap Submission pursuant to the Securities Exchange Act of 1934
Section 806(e)(1) * <input type="checkbox"/>	Section 806(e)(2) * <input type="checkbox"/>
Section 3C(b)(2) * <input type="checkbox"/>	

Exhibit 2 Sent As Paper Document <input type="checkbox"/>	Exhibit 3 Sent As Paper Document <input type="checkbox"/>
--	--

**Description**

Provide a brief description of the action (limit 250 characters, required when Initial is checked \*).

The Exchange proposes to amend Rule 5.24.

**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 Name \* Laura Last Name \* Dickman  
 Title \* VP, Associate General Counsel  
 E-mail \* ldickman@cboe.com  
 Telephone \* (312) 786-7572 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 01/14/2021  
 By Laura G. Dickman  
 (Name \*)

VP, Associate General Counsel

Idickman@cboe.com

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 EFFF website.

**Form 19b-4 Information \***

Add Remove View

The self-regulatory organization must provide all required information, presented in a clear and comprehensible manner, to enable the public to provide meaningful comment on the proposal and for the Commission to determine whether the proposal is consistent with the Act and applicable rules and regulations under the Act.

**Exhibit 1 - Notice of Proposed Rule Change \***

Add Remove View

The Notice section of this Form 19b-4 must comply with the guidelines for publication 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 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 Change, Security-Based Swap Submission, or Advance Notice by Clearing Agencies \***

Add Remove View

The Notice section of this Form 19b-4 must comply with the guidelines for publication 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 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, Transcripts, Other Communications**

Add Remove View

Exhibit Sent As Paper Document

Copies of notices, written comments, transcripts, other communications. If such documents cannot be filed electronically in accordance with Instruction F, they shall be filed in accordance with Instruction G.

**Exhibit 3 - Form, Report, or Questionnaire**

Add Remove View

Exhibit Sent As Paper Document

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 referred to by the proposed rule change.

**Exhibit 4 - Marked Copies**

Add Remove View

The full text shall be marked, in any convenient manner, to indicate additions to and deletions from the immediately preceding filing. The purpose of Exhibit 4 is to permit 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**

Add Remove View

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 of the proposed rule change.

**Partial Amendment**

Add Remove View

If the self-regulatory organization is amending only part of the text of a lengthy 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 Exchange, Inc. (the “Exchange” or “Cboe Options”) proposes to amend Rule 5.24. The text of the proposed rule change is provided below and in Exhibit 1.

(additions are underlined; deletions are [bracketed])

\* \* \* \* \*

Rules of Cboe Exchange, Inc.

\* \* \* \* \*

**Rule 5.24. Disaster Recovery**

(a) – (d) No change.

(e) *Loss of Trading Floor.* If the Exchange trading floor becomes inoperable and the Exchange does not make a virtual trading floor available in a class pursuant to subparagraph (3) below, the Exchange will continue to operate in a screen-based only environment using a floorless configuration of the System that is operational while the trading floor facility is inoperable. The Exchange will operate using this configuration only until the Exchange’s trading floor facility is operational. Open outcry trading will not be available in the event the trading floor becomes inoperable, except as otherwise set forth in this paragraph (e) below and pursuant to Rule 5.26, as applicable.

(1) *Applicable Rules.* In the event that the trading floor becomes inoperable, trading will be conducted pursuant to all applicable System Rules, except that open outcry Rules will not be in force, including but not limited to the Rules (or applicable portions of the Rules) in Chapter 5, Section G, and as follows (subparagraphs (A) through ([D]C) will be effective until [December 31, 2020]June 30, 2021):

\* \* \* \* \*

(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 December 23, 2020.

(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 Laura G. Dickman, (312) 786-7572, Cboe Exchange, Inc., 400 South LaSalle, Chicago, Illinois 60605.

**Item 3. Self-Regulatory Organization’s Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change**

(a) Purpose

The Exchange proposes to amend Rule 5.24 regarding the Exchange’s business continuity and disaster recovery plans. Rule 5.24 describes which Trading Permit Holders (“TPHs”) are required to connect to the Exchange’s backup systems as well as certain actions the Exchange may take as part of its business continuity plans so that it may maintain fair and orderly markets if unusual circumstances occurred that could impact the Exchange’s ability to conduct business. This includes what actions the Exchange would take if its trading floor became inoperable. Specifically, Rule 5.24(e) states if the Exchange trading floor becomes inoperable and the Exchange does not make a virtual trading floor available in a class pursuant to Rule 5.24(e)(3), the Exchange will continue to operate in a screen-based only environment using a floorless configuration of the System that is operational while the trading floor facility is inoperable. The Exchange would operate using that configuration only until the Exchange’s trading floor facility became operational. Open outcry trading would not be available in the event the trading floor becomes inoperable.<sup>1</sup>

---

<sup>1</sup> Pursuant to Rule 5.26, the Exchange may enter into a back-up trading arrangement with another exchange, which could allow the Exchange to use the facilities of a back-up exchange to conduct trading of certain of its products. The Exchange currently has no back-up trading arrangement in place with another exchange.

Rule 5.24(e)(1) currently states in the event that the trading floor becomes inoperable, trading will be conducted pursuant to all applicable System Rules, except that open outcry Rules would not be in force, including but not limited to the Rules (or applicable portions) in Chapter 5, Section G,<sup>2</sup> and that all non-trading rules of the Exchange would continue to apply. The Exchange recently adopted several rule changes that would apply during a time in which the trading floor is inoperable, which are currently effective until December 31, 2020.<sup>3</sup> The Exchange believes these rules were necessary to implement to maintain a fair and orderly market while the trading floor was not operable in order to create an all-electronic trading environment similar to the otherwise unavailable open outcry trading environment.

---

<sup>2</sup> Chapter 5, Section G of the Exchange's rulebook sets forth the rules and procedures for manual order handling and open outcry trading on the Exchange.

<sup>3</sup> See Securities Exchange Act Release Nos. 88386 (March 13, 2020), 85 FR 15823 (March 19, 2020) (SR-CBOE-2020-019); 88447 (March 20, 2020), 85 FR 17129 (March 26, 2020) (SR-CBOE-2020-023); 88490 (March 26, 2020), 85 FR 18318 (April 1, 2020) (SR-CBOE-2020-026); 88530 (March 31, 2020), 85 FR 19182 (April 6, 2020) (SR-CBOE-2020-031); 88886 (May 15, 2020), 85 FR 31008 (May 21, 2020) (SR-CBOE-2020-047); 89307 (July 14, 2020), 85 FR 43938 (July 20, 2020) (SR-CBOE-2020-066); 89789 (September 8, 2020), 85 FR 56658 (September 14, 2020) (SR-CBOE-2020-081); and 90174 (October 14, 2020), 85 FR 66617 (October 20, 2020) (SR-CBOE-2020-092). The Exchange recently adopted permanent Position Compression Cross ("PCC")/Compression orders and deleted subparagraph (D), pursuant to which the Exchange could offer PCC/Compression orders in the event the trading floor was inoperable. See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 90179 (October 14, 2020), 85 FR 66590 (October 20, 2020) (SR-CBOE-2020-074). In the rule filing to permanently adopt PCC/Compression orders, the Exchange deleted the temporary version of compression orders in subparagraph (E) in its entirety (which was later relettered to subparagraph (D) pursuant to a separate rule filing that deleted the prior subparagraph (D)), but inadvertently did not change the applicability of subparagraph (e)(1) to subparagraphs (A) through (C) rather than (A) through (D). Therefore, the proposed rule change makes this update.

As of March 16, 2020, the Exchange suspended open outcry trading to help prevent the spread of COVID-19.<sup>4</sup> The trading floor remained closed until June 15, 2020. During the time when the trading floor was closed, the Exchange operated in an all-electronic trading environment and the temporary rules in Rule 5.24(e)(1) applied to that electronic trading environment. The Exchange believes that, while those temporary rules did not fully replicate open outcry trading, they allowed all-electronic trading to occur more similarly to open outcry trading. The Exchange has continued to consider other enhancements to the all-electronic trading configuration to further replicate the open outcry trading environment. As part of those enhancements, the Exchange recently adopted Rule 5.24(e)(3), which would permit the Exchange to make available a virtual trading floor in one or more classes if the trading floor became inoperable. That rule provides that if the Exchange makes a virtual trading floor available in a class, the temporary rules in subparagraph (e)(1) above will not apply to that class.

The trading floor is currently open for open outcry trading, and the Exchange is operating pursuant to its normal hybrid trading rules. The Exchange implemented numerous health and safety measures in connection with the reopening of the trading floor on June 15, 2020 to help protect the safety and welfare of the trading floor community and help prevent the continued spread of COVID-19.<sup>5</sup> However, the Exchange recognizes the

---

<sup>4</sup> On March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization characterized COVID-19 as a pandemic and to slow the spread of the disease, federal and state officials implemented social-distancing measures, placed significant limitations on large gatherings, limited travel, and closed non-essential businesses.

<sup>5</sup> See Exchange Notice C2020052601, Standards of Conduct related to the Reopening of the Cboe Options Trading Floor and COVID-19 (May 26, 2020), available at [https://cdn.cboe.com/resources/release\\_notes/2020/Standards-of-](https://cdn.cboe.com/resources/release_notes/2020/Standards-of-)

ongoing nature of the COVID-19 pandemic in the United States, which may cause the Exchange to once again close its trading floor. In the event the Exchange did close its trading floor again, the Exchange believes it would be necessary to operate in an all-electronic trading environment. The Exchange may determine to make a virtual trading floor available in some or all classes. However, to the extent the virtual trading is unavailable in any class, the Exchange believes it would be necessary again to apply the adopted temporary rules in Rule 5.24(e)(1) in that class to maintain a fair and orderly market while the trading floor was not operable in order to create an all-electronic trading environment for that class similar to the otherwise unavailable open outcry trading environment. As noted above, Rule 5.24(e)(1) is currently effective only until December 31, 2020 (and the rules became inapplicable upon the reopening of the trading floor on June 15, 2020). Given the Exchange may believe it is appropriate to close the trading floor with little advanced notice and in a short timeframe to help protect the safety and welfare of the trading floor community, the Exchange proposes to extend the effectiveness of the temporary rules in Rule 5.24(e)(1) to June 30, 2021 (unless further extended). The Exchange believes this will permit the Exchange to as seamlessly as possible transition back to an all-electronic trading environment in any class in which the Exchange did not make a virtual trading floor available. The Exchange notes Rule 5.24(e)(1) will not apply to trading during times when the trading floor remains operable or to any class in which the Exchange makes a virtual trading floor available when the trading floor is inoperable.

Previously when the temporary provisions of Rule 5.24(e)(1) were in place, the Exchange's Regulatory Division has continued its standard routine surveillance reviews for electronic trading and implemented a regulatory plan to surveil the rules in place in Rule 5.24(e)(1) when operating in a screen-based only environment. In the event the Exchange closes its trading floor again and the temporary provisions in Rule 5.24(e)(1) become applicable to any class in an all-electronic trading environment, the Exchange's Regulatory Division would reimplement that regulatory plan to surveil those rules.

(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>6</sup> Specifically, the Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with the Section 6(b)(5)<sup>7</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>8</sup>

---

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

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

<sup>8</sup> Id.

requirement that the rules of an exchange not be designed to permit unfair discrimination between customers, issuers, brokers, or dealers.

In particular, the Exchange believes the proposed rule change will remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system, and, in general, protect investors and the public interest by permitting the Exchange to as seamlessly as possible transition back to an all-electronic trading environment in the event the Exchange determines it is appropriate to again close its trading floor. The Exchange expects it would take this action if it believes necessary and appropriate to help protect the safety and welfare of the trading community. Such a determination may occur with little advance notice, and closure of the trading floor may need to occur in a short time frame. The Exchange continues to believe the recent amendments to Rule 5.24(e)(1) allowed all-electronic trading to occur more similarly to open outcry trading while the trading floor was closed. The Exchange believes the proposed rule change is necessary and appropriate to provide TPHs with execution opportunities in an all-electronic trading environment in which a virtual trading floor is unavailable for orders that generally execute in open outcry trading. Rule 5.24(e)(3), which would permit the Exchange to make available a virtual trading floor in one or more classes if the trading floor became inoperable, provides that if the Exchange makes a virtual trading floor available in a class, the temporary rules in subparagraph (e)(1) will not apply to that class. The proposed rule change will provide investors with definitive knowledge of what rules will apply when the trading floor is closed (and a virtual trading floor is not available).

**Item 4. Self-Regulatory Organization’s Statement on Burden on Competition**

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. The proposed rule change is not intended as a competitive filing, but rather extends the effectiveness of temporary rules as part of the Exchange’s business continuity plans, which are intended to allow the Exchange to continue to maintain fair and orderly markets while the Exchange’s trading floor continues to be inoperable.

**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>9</sup> and Rule 19b-4(f)(6)<sup>10</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

---

<sup>9</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

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

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 significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest, because it will permit the Exchange to as seamlessly as possible transition back to an all-electronic trading environment in the event the Exchange determines it is appropriate to again close its trading floor. The Exchange expects it would take this action if it believes necessary and appropriate to help protect the safety and welfare of the trading community. The Exchange continues to believe the recent amendments to Rule 5.24(e)(1) allowed all-electronic trading to occur more similarly to open outcry trading while the trading floor was closed. The Exchange believes the proposed rule change is necessary and appropriate to provide TPHs with execution opportunities in an all-electronic trading environment for orders that generally execute in open outcry trading if the physical trading floor is inoperable and a virtual trading floor is not available. Rule 5.24(e)(3), which would permit the Exchange to make available a virtual trading floor in one or more classes if the trading floor became inoperable, provides that if the Exchange makes a virtual trading floor available in a class, the temporary rules in subparagraph (e)(1) will not apply to that class.

The Exchange believes the proposed rule change does not impose any significant burden on competition, as the proposed rule change is not intended as a competitive filing, but rather extends the effectiveness of temporary rules as part of the Exchange's business continuity plans, which are intended to allow the Exchange to continue to maintain fair and orderly markets when the Exchange's trading floor is closed.

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. The Exchange believes waiver of the operative delay will protect investors by permitting temporary rules that were in place when the Exchange previously closed its trading to be in effect if the Exchange determined it was appropriate to again close the trading floor due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and did not make a virtual trading floor available. Such a determination may occur at any time with little advance notice, and closure of the trading floor may need to occur in a short time frame. Waiver of the operative delay will permit the Exchange to transition to an all-electronic trading environment as seamlessly as possible while providing investors with a definitive understanding of what rules will apply when the trading floor is closed (and a virtual trading floor is unavailable). The Exchange believes this will benefit investors by providing them with consistent rules that apply when the Exchange operates in an all-electronic environment.

(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-CBOE-2021-004]

[Insert date]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Cboe Exchange, Inc.; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of a Proposed Rule Change Relating to Amend Rule 5.24

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 Exchange, Inc. (the “Exchange” or “Cboe Options”) 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. Self-Regulatory Organization’s Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed Rule Change**

**Text of the Proposed Rule Change**

(a) Cboe Exchange, Inc. (the “Exchange” or “Cboe Options”) proposes to amend Rule 5.24. The text of the proposed rule change is provided below.

(additions are underlined; deletions are [bracketed])

\* \* \* \* \*

Rules of Cboe Exchange, Inc.

---

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

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

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

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

\* \* \* \* \*

**Rule 5.24. Disaster Recovery**

(a) – (d) No change.

(e) *Loss of Trading Floor.* If the Exchange trading floor becomes inoperable and the Exchange does not make a virtual trading floor available in a class pursuant to subparagraph (3) below, the Exchange will continue to operate in a screen-based only environment using a floorless configuration of the System that is operational while the trading floor facility is inoperable. The Exchange will operate using this configuration only until the Exchange's trading floor facility is operational. Open outcry trading will not be available in the event the trading floor becomes inoperable, except as otherwise set forth in this paragraph (e) below and pursuant to Rule 5.26, as applicable.

(1) *Applicable Rules.* In the event that the trading floor becomes inoperable, trading will be conducted pursuant to all applicable System Rules, except that open outcry Rules will not be in force, including but not limited to the Rules (or applicable portions of the Rules) in Chapter 5, Section G, and as follows (subparagraphs (A) through ([D]C) will be effective until [December 31, 2020]June 30, 2021):

\* \* \* \* \*

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

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

In its filing with the Commission, the Exchange included statements concerning the purpose of and basis for the proposed rule change and discussed any comments it received on the proposed rule change. The text of these statements may be examined at the places specified in Item IV below. The Exchange has prepared summaries, set forth in sections A, B, and C below, of the most significant aspects of such statements.

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

1. Purpose

The Exchange proposes to amend Rule 5.24 regarding the Exchange’s business continuity and disaster recovery plans. Rule 5.24 describes which Trading Permit Holders (“TPHs”) are required to connect to the Exchange’s backup systems as well as certain actions the Exchange may take as part of its business continuity plans so that it may maintain fair and orderly markets if unusual circumstances occurred that could impact the Exchange’s ability to conduct business. This includes what actions the Exchange would take if its trading floor became inoperable. Specifically, Rule 5.24(e) states if the Exchange trading floor becomes inoperable and the Exchange does not make a virtual trading floor available in a class pursuant to Rule 5.24(e)(3), the Exchange will continue to operate in a screen-based only environment using a floorless configuration of the System that is operational while the trading floor facility is inoperable. The Exchange would operate using that configuration only until the Exchange’s trading floor facility became operational. Open outcry trading would not be available in the event the trading floor becomes inoperable.<sup>5</sup>

Rule 5.24(e)(1) currently states in the event that the trading floor becomes inoperable, trading will be conducted pursuant to all applicable System Rules, except that open outcry Rules would not be in force, including but not limited to the Rules (or

---

<sup>5</sup> Pursuant to Rule 5.26, the Exchange may enter into a back-up trading arrangement with another exchange, which could allow the Exchange to use the facilities of a back-up exchange to conduct trading of certain of its products. The Exchange currently has no back-up trading arrangement in place with another exchange.

applicable portions) in Chapter 5, Section G,<sup>6</sup> and that all non-trading rules of the Exchange would continue to apply. The Exchange recently adopted several rule changes that would apply during a time in which the trading floor is inoperable, which are currently effective until December 31, 2020.<sup>7</sup> The Exchange believes these rules were necessary to implement to maintain a fair and orderly market while the trading floor was not operable in order to create an all-electronic trading environment similar to the otherwise unavailable open outcry trading environment.

As of March 16, 2020, the Exchange suspended open outcry trading to help prevent the spread of COVID-19.<sup>8</sup> The trading floor remained closed until June 15,

---

<sup>6</sup> Chapter 5, Section G of the Exchange's rulebook sets forth the rules and procedures for manual order handling and open outcry trading on the Exchange.

<sup>7</sup> See Securities Exchange Act Release Nos. 88386 (March 13, 2020), 85 FR 15823 (March 19, 2020) (SR-CBOE-2020-019); 88447 (March 20, 2020), 85 FR 17129 (March 26, 2020) (SR-CBOE-2020-023); 88490 (March 26, 2020), 85 FR 18318 (April 1, 2020) (SR-CBOE-2020-026); 88530 (March 31, 2020), 85 FR 19182 (April 6, 2020) (SR-CBOE-2020-031); 88886 (May 15, 2020), 85 FR 31008 (May 21, 2020) (SR-CBOE-2020-047); 89307 (July 14, 2020), 85 FR 43938 (July 20, 2020) (SR-CBOE-2020-066); 89789 (September 8, 2020), 85 FR 56658 (September 14, 2020) (SR-CBOE-2020-081); and 90174 (October 14, 2020), 85 FR 66617 (October 20, 2020) (SR-CBOE-2020-092). The Exchange recently adopted permanent Position Compression Cross ("PCC")/Compression orders and deleted subparagraph (D), pursuant to which the Exchange could offer PCC/Compression orders in the event the trading floor was inoperable. See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 90179 (October 14, 2020), 85 FR 66590 (October 20, 2020) (SR-CBOE-2020-074). In the rule filing to permanently adopt PCC/Compression orders, the Exchange deleted the temporary version of compression orders in subparagraph (E) in its entirety (which was later relettered to subparagraph (D) pursuant to a separate rule filing that deleted the prior subparagraph (D)), but inadvertently did not change the applicability of subparagraph (e)(1) to subparagraphs (A) through (C) rather than (A) through (D). Therefore, the proposed rule change makes this update.

<sup>8</sup> On March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization characterized COVID-19 as a pandemic and to slow the spread of the disease, federal and state officials implemented social-distancing measures, placed significant limitations on large gatherings, limited travel, and closed non-essential businesses.

2020. During the time when the trading floor was closed, the Exchange operated in an all-electronic trading environment and the temporary rules in Rule 5.24(e)(1) applied to that electronic trading environment. The Exchange believes that, while those temporary rules did not fully replicate open outcry trading, they allowed all-electronic trading to occur more similarly to open outcry trading. The Exchange has continued to consider other enhancements to the all-electronic trading configuration to further replicate the open outcry trading environment. As part of those enhancements, the Exchange recently adopted Rule 5.24(e)(3), which would permit the Exchange to make available a virtual trading floor in one or more classes if the trading floor became inoperable. That rule provides that if the Exchange makes a virtual trading floor available in a class, the temporary rules in subparagraph (e)(1) above will not apply to that class.

The trading floor is currently open for open outcry trading, and the Exchange is operating pursuant to its normal hybrid trading rules. The Exchange implemented numerous health and safety measures in connection with the reopening of the trading floor on June 15, 2020 to help protect the safety and welfare of the trading floor community and help prevent the continued spread of COVID-19.<sup>9</sup> However, the Exchange recognizes the ongoing nature of the COVID-19 pandemic in the United States, which may cause the Exchange to once again close its trading floor. In the event the Exchange did close its trading floor again, the Exchange believes it would be necessary to operate in an all-electronic trading environment. The Exchange may

---

<sup>9</sup> See Exchange Notice C2020052601, Standards of Conduct related to the Reopening of the Cboe Options Trading Floor and COVID-19 (May 26, 2020), available at [https://cdn.cboe.com/resources/release\\_notes/2020/Standards-of-Conduct-related-to-the-Reopening-of-the-Cboe-Options-Trading-Floor-Notice-Final.pdf](https://cdn.cboe.com/resources/release_notes/2020/Standards-of-Conduct-related-to-the-Reopening-of-the-Cboe-Options-Trading-Floor-Notice-Final.pdf).

determine to make a virtual trading floor available in some or all classes. However, to the extent the virtual trading is unavailable in any class, the Exchange believes it would be necessary again to apply the adopted temporary rules in Rule 5.24(e)(1) in that class to maintain a fair and orderly market while the trading floor was not operable in order to create an all-electronic trading environment for that class similar to the otherwise unavailable open outcry trading environment. As noted above, Rule 5.24(e)(1) is currently effective only until December 31, 2020 (and the rules became inapplicable upon the reopening of the trading floor on June 15, 2020). Given the Exchange may believe it is appropriate to close the trading floor with little advanced notice and in a short timeframe to help protect the safety and welfare of the trading floor community, the Exchange proposes to extend the effectiveness of the temporary rules in Rule 5.24(e)(1) to June 30, 2021 (unless further extended). The Exchange believes this will permit the Exchange to as seamlessly as possible transition back to an all-electronic trading environment in any class in which the Exchange did not make a virtual trading floor available. The Exchange notes Rule 5.24(e)(1) will not apply to trading during times when the trading floor remains operable or to any class in which the Exchange makes a virtual trading floor available when the trading floor is inoperable.

Previously when the temporary provisions of Rule 5.24(e)(1) were in place, the Exchange's Regulatory Division has continued its standard routine surveillance reviews for electronic trading and implemented a regulatory plan to surveil the rules in place in Rule 5.24(e)(1) when operating in a screen-based only environment. In the event the Exchange closes its trading floor again and the temporary provisions in Rule 5.24(e)(1)

become applicable to any class in an all-electronic trading environment, the Exchange's Regulatory Division would reimplement that regulatory plan to surveil those rules.

## 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>10</sup> Specifically, the Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with the Section 6(b)(5)<sup>11</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>12</sup> requirement that the rules of an exchange not be designed to permit unfair discrimination between customers, issuers, brokers, or dealers.

In particular, the Exchange believes the proposed rule change will remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system, and, in general, protect investors and the public interest by permitting the Exchange to as seamlessly as possible transition back to an all-electronic trading environment in the event the Exchange determines it is appropriate to again close its

---

<sup>10</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

<sup>11</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

<sup>12</sup> Id.

trading floor. The Exchange expects it would take this action if it believes necessary and appropriate to help protect the safety and welfare of the trading community. Such a determination may occur with little advance notice, and closure of the trading floor may need to occur in a short time frame. The Exchange continues to believe the recent amendments to Rule 5.24(e)(1) allowed all-electronic trading to occur more similarly to open outcry trading while the trading floor was closed. The Exchange believes the proposed rule change is necessary and appropriate to provide TPHs with execution opportunities in an all-electronic trading environment in which a virtual trading floor is unavailable for orders that generally execute in open outcry trading. Rule 5.24(e)(3), which would permit the Exchange to make available a virtual trading floor in one or more classes if the trading floor became inoperable, provides that if the Exchange makes a virtual trading floor available in a class, the temporary rules in subparagraph (e)(1) will not apply to that class. The proposed rule change will provide investors with definitive knowledge of what rules will apply when the trading floor is closed (and a virtual trading floor is not available).

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

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. The proposed rule change is not intended as a competitive filing, but rather extends the effectiveness of temporary rules as part of the Exchange's business continuity plans, which are intended to allow the Exchange to continue to maintain fair and orderly markets while the Exchange's trading floor continues to be inoperable.

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

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

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

Because the foregoing proposed rule change does not:

- 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>13</sup> and Rule 19b-4(f)(6)<sup>14</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 concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act. Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

---

<sup>13</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

<sup>14</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

Electronic comments:

- Use the Commission's Internet comment form (<http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml>); or
- Send an e-mail to [rule-comments@sec.gov](mailto:rule-comments@sec.gov). Please include File Number SR-CBOE-2021-004 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-CBOE-2021-004. 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 (<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-CBOE-2021-004 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.<sup>15</sup>

Secretary

---

<sup>15</sup> 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).