

closed on Friday, March 21, 2008 in observance of Good Friday; therefore, the SPX options will expire on the immediately preceding business day, which is Thursday, March 20, 2008. Accordingly, to ensure that a thirty-day volatility measurement period is used for February 2008 VIX options, the exercise settlement value of those options would be calculated on Tuesday, February 19, 2008 and the expiration date of February 2008 VIX options would also be Tuesday, February 19, 2008. Further, the last trading day for February 2008 VIX options would be Monday, February 18, 2008.

Because February 2008 VIX options are currently traded, the Exchange proposes that this rule change apply to those contracts, as well as to any Volatility Index options that are subsequently traded by the Exchange. The Exchange represents that it will provide public disclosure and notifications to its members and the investing public of this change.

## 2. Statutory Basis

Because this rule proposal will codify the Exchange's pre-existing practices and improve the settlement procedures for Volatility Index options, the Exchange believes the rule proposal is consistent with the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Act") and the rules and regulations thereunder applicable to a national securities exchange. Specifically, the Exchange believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the Section 6(b)(5) Act<sup>8</sup> requirements that the rules of an exchange be designed to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest.

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

CBOE does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on competition not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

### 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 proposal.

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

Within 35 days of the date of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register** or within such longer period (i) as the Commission may designate up to 90 days of such date if it finds such longer period to be appropriate and publishes its reasons for so finding or (ii) as to which the self-regulatory organization consents, the Commission will:

- A. By order approve the proposed rule change, or
- B. Institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule change should be 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, as amended, is consistent with the Act. Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

#### Electronic Comments

- Use the Commission's Internet comment form (<http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml>); or
- Send an e-mail to [rule-comments@sec.gov](mailto:rule-comments@sec.gov). Please include File Number SR-CBOE-2007-41 on the subject line.

#### Paper Comments

- Send paper comments in triplicate to Nancy M. Morris, Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street, NE., Washington, DC 20549-1090.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-CBOE-2007-41. This file number should be included on the subject line if e-mail is used. To help the Commission process and review your comments more efficiently, please use only one method. The Commission will post all comments on the Commission's Internet Web site (<http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml>). Copies of the submission, 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 inspection and copying in the Commission's Public Reference Room, 100 F Street, NE., Washington, DC 20549, on official business days

between the hours of 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. Copies of such filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal offices 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-2007-41 and should be submitted on or before August 6, 2007.

For the Commission, by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.<sup>9</sup>

**Florence E. Harmon,**

*Deputy Secretary.*

[FR Doc. E7-13694 Filed 7-13-07; 8:45 am]

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## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-56035; File No. SR-CBOE-2007-70]

### Self-Regulatory Organizations; Chicago Board Options Exchange, Incorporated; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change and Amendment No. 1 Thereto To Extend the Quarterly Options Series Pilot Program

July 10, 2007.

Pursuant to section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act")<sup>1</sup> and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,<sup>2</sup> notice is hereby given that on June 26, 2007, the Chicago Board Options Exchange, Incorporated ("Exchange" or "CBOE") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") the proposed rule change as described in Items I and II below, which Items have been substantially prepared by the Exchange. On July 9, 2007, the Exchange filed Amendment No. 1 to the proposed rule change. The Exchange has designated this proposal as non-controversial under section 19(b)(3)(A)(iii) of the Act<sup>3</sup> and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder,<sup>4</sup> which renders the proposed rule change effective upon filing with the Commission. The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

<sup>9</sup> 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

<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).

<sup>8</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

### **I. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed Rule Change**

The Exchange proposes to extend for one year a pilot program ("Pilot Program") in which the Exchange lists Quarterly Options Series, which are options series that expire at the close of business on the last business day of a calendar quarter. The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Exchange's Web site (<http://www.cboe.com>), at the Exchange's principal office, 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**

On July 10, 2006, the Exchange filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") SR-CBOE-2006-65, which was effective on filing.<sup>5</sup> That proposed rule change allowed the Exchange to establish a pilot program in which the Exchange lists Quarterly Options Series. The Exchange hereby proposes to extend the Pilot Program for one year, so that it will expire on July 10, 2008. This proposal does not request any other changes to the Pilot Program.

In SR-CBOE-2006-65, the Exchange stated that it would submit, in connection with any proposed extension of the Pilot Program, a Pilot Program Report ("Report") that would provide an analysis of the Pilot Program covering the entire period during which the Pilot Program was in effect. The Exchange further stated that the Report would include, at a minimum: (1) Data and written analysis on the open interest and trading volume in the classes for which Quarterly Options

Series were opened; (2) an assessment of the appropriateness of the option classes selected for the Pilot Program; (3) an assessment of the impact of the Pilot Program on the capacity of CBOE, the Options Price Reporting Authority ("OPRA"), and on market data vendors (to the extent data from market data vendors is available); (4) any capacity problems or other problems that arose during the operation of the Pilot Program and how CBOE addressed such problems; and (5) any complaints that CBOE received during the operation of the Pilot Program and how CBOE addressed them; and (6) any additional information that would assist in assessing the operation of the Pilot Program. The Exchange has submitted a Report in connection with the present proposed rule change under separate cover, along with a request for confidential treatment under the Freedom of Information Act.

The Exchange represents that the Report clearly supports its belief that extension of the Pilot Program is proper. Among other things, the Report shows the strength and efficacy of the Pilot Program on the Exchange as reflected by the strong volume of Quarterly Options traded on the Exchange since the Pilot's inception in July 2006. The Report establishes that the Pilot Program has not created, and in the future should not create, capacity problems for the Exchange's or OPRA's systems. Moreover, the Exchange believes that the proposed extension of the Pilot Program will not have an adverse impact on capacity.

##### **2. Statutory Basis**

The Exchange believes that Quarterly Options Series attract order-flow to the Exchange, increase the variety of listed options to investors, and provide a valuable hedging tool to investors. For these reasons, the Exchange believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with section 6(b) of the Act<sup>6</sup> in general, and furthers the objectives of section 6(b)(5) of the Act<sup>7</sup> in particular, in that it is designed to promote just and equitable principles of trade and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest.

#### *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. Indeed, the Exchange believes that Quarterly

Options Series enhance competition by offering a new variety of listed options to investors.

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

The Exchange has not solicited, and does not intend to solicit, comments on this proposed rule change. The Exchange has not received any unsolicited written comments from members or other interested parties.

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

The Exchange has designated the proposed rule change as one that: (1) Does not significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest; (2) does not impose any significant burden on competition; and (3) does not become operative for 30 days from the date of filing, or such shorter time as the Commission may designate if consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest. Therefore, the foregoing rule change has become effective pursuant to section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act<sup>8</sup> and subparagraph (f)(6) of Rule 19b-4 thereunder.<sup>9</sup> The Exchange has asked the Commission to waive the operative delay to permit the Pilot Program extension to become operative prior to the 30th day after filing.<sup>10</sup>

The Commission believes that waiving the 30-day operative delay is consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest because it will allow the benefits of the Pilot Program to continue without interruption.<sup>11</sup> Therefore, the Commission designates the proposal operative upon filing.<sup>12</sup>

<sup>8</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

<sup>9</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

<sup>10</sup> As required under Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii), the Exchange provided the Commission with written notice of its intent to file the proposed rule change at least five business days before doing so.

<sup>11</sup> For purposes only of waiving the 30-day operative delay, the Commission has considered the proposed rule's impact on efficiency, competition, and capital formation. See 15 U.S.C. 78c(f).

<sup>12</sup> As set forth in the Pilot Program Release, if the Exchange were to propose an extension, an expansion, or permanent approval of the Pilot Program, the Exchange would submit, along with any filing proposing such amendments to the program, a report that would provide an analysis of the Pilot Program covering the entire period during which the Pilot Program was in effect. The report would include, at a minimum: (1) Data and written analysis on the open interest and trading volume in the classes for which Quarterly Options Series were opened; (2) an assessment of the appropriateness of the option classes selected for the Pilot Program; (3) an assessment of the impact of the Pilot Program on the capacity of the Exchange, OPRA, and market

<sup>5</sup> See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 54123 (July 11, 2006), 71 FR 40558 (July 17, 2006) ("Pilot Program Release").

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

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

At any time within 60 days of the filing of the proposed rule change, the Commission may summarily abrogate the 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.

#### IV. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views, and arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act. Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

##### *Electronic Comments*

- Use the Commission's Internet comment form (<http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml>); or
- Send an e-mail to: [rule-comments@sec.gov](mailto:rule-comments@sec.gov). Please include File No. SR-CBOE-2007-70 on the subject line.

##### *Paper Comments*

- Send paper comments in triplicate to Nancy M. Morris, Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street, NE., Washington, DC 20549-1090.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-CBOE-2007-70. This file number should be included on the subject line if e-mail is used. To help the Commission process and review your comments more efficiently, please use only one method. The Commission will post all comments on the Commission's Internet Web site (<http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml>). Copies of the submission, 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 inspection and copying in the Commission's Public Reference

data vendors (to the extent data from market data vendors is available); (4) any capacity problems or other problems that arose during the operation of the Pilot Program and how the Exchange addressed such problems; (5) any complaints that the Exchange received during the operation of the Pilot Program and how the Exchange addressed them; and (6) any additional information that would assist in assessing the operation of the Pilot Program. The report must be submitted to the Commission at least sixty (60) days prior to the expiration date of the Pilot Program. See Pilot Program Release, *supra* note 5.

Room, 100 F Street, NE., Washington, DC 20549, on official business days between the hours of 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. Copies of such filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the Exchange. All comments received will be posted without change; the Commission does not edit personal identifying information from submissions. You should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly. All submissions should refer to File Number SR-CBOE-2007-70 and should be submitted on or before August 6, 2007.

For the Commission, by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.<sup>13</sup>

**Florence E. Harmon,**

*Deputy Secretary.*

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#### SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-56034; International Series Release No. 1304; File No. SR-Phlx-2007-34]

#### **Self-Regulatory Organizations; Philadelphia Stock Exchange, Inc.; Notice of Filing and Order Granting Accelerated Approval of a Proposed Rule Change, as Modified by Amendment No. 1 Thereto, Relating to U.S. Dollar-Settled Foreign Currency Options**

July 10, 2007.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act"),<sup>1</sup> and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,<sup>2</sup> notice is hereby given that on April 13, 2007, the Philadelphia Stock Exchange, Inc. ("Phlx" or "Exchange") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") the proposed rule change as described in Items I and II below. On June 13, 2007, the Exchange filed Amendment No. 1 to the proposed rule change.<sup>3</sup> The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change, as amended, from interested persons and is approving the proposal, as modified by Amendment No. 1, on an accelerated basis.

<sup>13</sup> 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

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

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

<sup>3</sup> Amendment No. 1 replaced the original filing in its entirety.

#### **I. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed Rule Change**

Phlx proposes to: (1) List and trade U.S. dollar-settled foreign currency options ("FCOs") on the Australian dollar, the Canadian dollar, the Swiss franc and the Japanese yen (together, the "New Currencies"); (2) amend certain rules relating to the quoting convention for U.S. dollar-settled FCOs for purposes of clarity; (3) delete from Rule 1012 a requirement that the Exchange delist any series of U.S. dollar-settled FCOs outside of a ten percent band around the spot price that have no open interest; (4) amend the closing settlement value rule by moving from 2 p.m. (Eastern time ("ET")) to 5 p.m. ET the time after which the Exchange will use the previously announced Noon Buying Rate as the basis for the closing settlement value; (5) extend the applicability of Rule 1064, "Crossing, Facilitation and Solicited Orders," to U.S. dollar-settled FCOs; and (6) clarify the applicability of Rule 1092, "Obvious Errors," to U.S. dollar-settled FCOs.

The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Exchange's Web site at [http://www.Phlx.com/exchange/phlx\\_rule\\_fil.html](http://www.Phlx.com/exchange/phlx_rule_fil.html), at the Exchange, 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 III 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

On January 8, 2007, the Exchange began trading U.S. dollar-settled options on the British pound and the Euro on the Exchange's electronic trading platform for options, Phlx XL.<sup>4</sup> These

<sup>4</sup> See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 54989 (December 21, 2006), 71 FR 78506 (December 29, 2006) (SR-Phlx-2006-34) ("Pound/Euro FCO Approval Order"). In approving the listing and trading of U.S. dollar-settled FCOs on the British