SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. 34-66943; File No. SR-NASDAQ-2012-054)

May 8, 2012

Self-Regulatory Organizations; The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change to Modify the NASDAQ Co-Location Super High Density Cabinet Monthly Fee

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act"),¹ and Rule

19b-4 thereunder,² notice is hereby given that on April 27, 2012, The NASDAQ Stock Market

LLC ("NASDAQ" or "Exchange") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission

("Commission") the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II, and III below, which Items

have been prepared by the Exchange. The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit

comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

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

The Exchange proposes to modify the NASDAQ co-location super high-density cabinet

monthly fee. The Exchange will implement the proposed change on May 1, 2012.

The text of the proposed rule change is available at <u>http://nasdaq.cchwallstreet.com/</u>, at

the Exchange's principal office, and at the Commission's Public Reference Room.

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

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

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

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 the Statutory Basis</u> for, the Proposed Rule Change

1. <u>Purpose</u>

The Exchange is modifying Rule 7034(a) by reducing its co-location super high-density cabinet on-going monthly fee from \$15,000 per month to \$13,000 per month. The installation fee for the super high-density cabinet will remain the same.

Co-location customers have the option of obtaining several cabinet sizes and power densities. The co-located customer may obtain a half cabinet, a low density cabinet, a medium density cabinet, a medium-high density cabinet and a high density cabinet.³ Each cabinet may vary in size and maximum power capacity. The fees related to the cabinet and power usage are incremental, with additional charges being imposed based on higher levels of cabinet and/or power usage, the use of non-standard cabinet sizes or special cabinet cooling equipment. The co-location customer may obtain more power by choosing a combination of lower power density cabinets.

The Exchange previously filed an immediately effective filing with the Commission to offer another choice of cabinet, specifically a larger cabinet (30"W x 48" D x 96" H) with higher power ("Super High Density Cabinet") as an alternative to combining several units for more power (>10kW<=17.3kW).⁴ Currently, the installation fee for the Super High Density Cabinet is \$7,000; and the on-going monthly fee is \$15,000. At this time, the Exchange proposes to reduce

³ See Exchange Rule 7034(a).

⁴ *See* Securities Exchange Act Release No. 66010 (December 20, 2011), 76 FR 80993 (December 27, 2011)(SR-NASDAQ-2011-160).

the current on-going monthly fee to \$13,000 to bring the fee in line with Exchange fees for similar power levels using multiple cabinets.

2. <u>Statutory Basis</u>

The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the provisions of Section 6 of the Act,⁵ in general, and with Section 6(b)(4) of the Act,⁶ in particular, in that it provides for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees and other charges among members and issuers and other persons using any facility or system which the Exchange operates or controls.

The Exchange believes the proposed reduction of the on-going monthly fee is reasonable because it is in line with Exchange fees for similar power levels using multiple cabinets. The Exchange also believes the reduction to the on-going monthly fee is equitable and not unfairly discriminatory because the super high-density power option is entirely voluntary and available to all members; therefore, the reduction is available to all members that select this power option. Also, the Exchange believes the reduction in fees is equitable and not unfairly discriminatory because the reduction diminishes the disparity in the Exchange's fees for various co-location power options. This results in a more competitive cost structure for the Exchange.

The Exchange notes that it operates in a highly competitive market in which market participants can readily favor competing venues if they deem fee levels at a particular venue to be excessive, or opportunities available at other venues to be more favorable. In such an environment, the Exchange must continually adjust its fees to remain competitive with other trading venues. These competitive forces help to ensure that NASDAQ's fees are reasonable,

⁵ 15 U.S.C. 78f.

⁶ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(4).

equitably allocated, and not unfairly discriminatory since market participants can largely avoid fees to which they object by changing their operating venue.

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

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will result in any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act, as amended. NASDAQ is reducing fees through this proposed rule change, thereby enhancing the competitiveness of its co-location offering.

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

Written comments were neither solicited nor received.

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

The foregoing rule change has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(ii) of the Act.⁷ At any time within 60 days of the filing of the proposed rule change, the Commission summarily may temporarily suspend such rule change if it appears to the Commission that such action is necessary or appropriate in the public interest, for the protection of investors, or otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. If the Commission takes such action, the Commission shall institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule should be approved or disapproved.

IV. Solicitation of Comments

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

7

¹⁵ U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(a)(ii)[sic].

Electronic comments:

- Use the Commission's Internet comment form (<u>http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml</u>); or
- Send an e-mail to <u>rule-comments@sec.gov</u>. Please include File Number SR-NASDAQ-2012-054 on the subject line.

Paper comments:

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

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-NASDAQ-2012-054. 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 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, DC 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-NASDAQ-2012-054 and should be submitted on or before [insert date 21 days from publication in the <u>Federal Register</u>].

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority. 8

Kevin M. O'Neill Deputy Secretary

⁸ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).