

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0045
Expires: June 30, 2007
Estimated average burden
hours per response.....38

Page 1 of 21

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549
Form 19b-4

File No. SR - 2006 - 064
Amendment No. 1

Proposed Rule Change by National Association of Securities Dealers
Pursuant to Rule 19b-4 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Initial ☐	Amendment ☒	Withdrawal ☐	Section 19(b)(2) ☒	Section 19(b)(3)(A) ☐	Section 19(b)(3)(B) ☐
			Rule		
Pilot ☐	Extension of Time Period for Commission Action ☐	Date Expires 	☐ 19b-4(f)(1) ☐ 19b-4(f)(2) ☐ 19b-4(f)(3)	☐ 19b-4(f)(4) ☐ 19b-4(f)(5) ☐ 19b-4(f)(6)	

Exhibit 2 Sent As Paper Document
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Exhibit 3 Sent As Paper Document
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Description

Provide a brief description of the proposed rule change (limit 250 characters).

Add new NASD Rule 3160 relating to extension of time requests

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 proposed rule change.

First Name Kathryn Last Name Moore
Title Assistant General Counsel
E-mail kathryn.moore@nasd.com
Telephone (202) 974-2974 Fax (202) 728-8264

Signature

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934,

has duly caused this filing to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.

Date 05/25/2006

By Stephanie M. Dumont
(Name)

Vice President and Associate General Counsel

(Title)

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.

STEPHANIE DUMONT,

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

For complete Form 19b-4 instructions please refer to the EDFS website.

Form 19b-4 Information

Add

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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

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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 2 - Notices, Written Comments, Transcripts, Other Communications

Add

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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 Sent As Paper Document

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Exhibit 3 - Form, Report, or Questionnaire

Add

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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 Sent As Paper Document

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Exhibit 4 - Marked Copies

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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

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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

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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.

1. Text of Proposed Rule Change

(a) Pursuant to the provisions of Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (“Act”),¹ the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc. (“NASD”) is filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC” or “Commission”) a proposed rule change to adopt new Rule 3160 to require (1) all clearing firm members for which NASD is the designated examining authority (“DEA”) pursuant to Rule 17d-1 under the Act² to submit to NASD requests for extensions of time for payment, under Regulation T promulgated by the Federal Reserve Board (“FRB”),³ or delivery of securities, pursuant to Rule 15c3-3(n) under the Act;⁴ and (2) each clearing firm member for which NASD is the DEA to file a monthly report with NASD indicating all broker-dealers for which it clears that have overall ratios of requested extensions of time to total transactions for the month that exceed a percentage specified by NASD. Amendment No. 1 to SR-NASD-2006-064 replaces and supersedes in its entirety the original rule filing filed on May 15, 2006. Below is the text of the proposed rule change. Proposed new language is underlined; proposed deletions are in brackets.

* * * * *

3160. Extensions of Time Under Regulation T and SEC Rule 15c3-3

(a) When NASD is the designated examining authority pursuant to SEC Rule 17d-1 for a member that is a clearing firm, such member must submit requests for

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.17d-1.

³ 12 CFR 220.4(c) and 220.8(d).

⁴ 17 CFR 240.15c3-3.

extensions of time as contemplated by Sections 220.4(c) and 220.8(d) of Regulation T of the Federal Reserve Board and SEC Rule 15c3-3(n) to NASD for approval, in such format as NASD may require.

(b) Each member that is a clearing firm for which NASD is the designated examining authority is required to file a monthly report with NASD in such format as NASD may require, indicating all broker-dealers for which it clears that have overall ratios of requests for extensions of time as contemplated by Sections 220.4(c) and 220.8(d) of Regulation T of the Federal Reserve Board and SEC Rule 15c3-3(n) to total transactions for the month that exceed a percentage specified by NASD. The report is due to NASD within five (5) business days following the end of each reporting month.

* * * * *

(b) Not applicable.

(c) Not applicable.

2. Procedures of the Self-Regulatory Organization

The proposed rule change was approved by the Board of Directors of NASD Regulation, Inc. at its meeting on February 1, 2006, which authorized the filing of the rule change with the SEC. Counsel for The Nasdaq Stock Market and NASD Dispute Resolution were provided an opportunity to consult with respect to the proposed rule change, pursuant to the Plan of Allocation and Delegation of Functions by NASD to its Subsidiaries. The NASD Board of Governors had an opportunity to review the proposed rule change at its meeting on February 2, 2006. No other action by NASD is necessary for the filing of this proposed rule change. Section 1(a)(ii) of Article VII of the NASD

By-Laws permits the NASD Board of Governors to adopt amendments to NASD Rules without recourse to the membership for approval.

NASD will announce the effective date of the proposed rule change in a Notice to Members to be published no later than 60 days following Commission approval. To give members sufficient time to make necessary changes to their systems that may be required to comply with proposed Rule 3160, the effective date will be at least 60 days following publication of the Notice to Members announcing Commission approval.

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

(a) Purpose

Background

Regulation T, issued by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System ("FRB") pursuant to the Act, among other things, governs the extension of credit to customers by broker-dealers for purchasing securities.⁵ Rule 15c3-3 under the Act governs, among other things, the time period in which customer sell orders must be completed.⁶ Under SEC Rule 15c3-3(n), a self-regulatory organization (SRO) may grant a broker-dealer an extension of time for delivery on sales of securities if: (1) it is satisfied that the broker-dealer is acting in good faith in making the request; and (2) exceptional circumstances warrant such action. Regulation T has a similar standard to allow an

⁵ 12 CFR 220.4(c) and 220.8(d). Regulation T generally requires that customers with a cash account pay for securities within five business days of purchase; for customers with a margin account, there must be sufficient minimum margin (typically 50%) to support the purchase.

⁶ 17 CFR 240.15c3-3. In particular, Rule 15c3-3(m) requires a broker-dealer that executes a customer sell order to obtain possession of the securities within ten

extension of time for payment for purchases of securities.⁷ The SROs that process extension requests, including NASD, have developed standards and procedures for evaluating, granting, denying, and controlling extension requests. The standards include acceptable reasons for requesting an extension, number of extensions permitted per reason, and special limitations and restrictions on customers.⁸

Required Submissions of Requests for Extensions of Time

Proposed NASD Rule 3160(a) would require all clearing firm members for which NASD is the designated examining authority (“DEA”) to submit to NASD requests for extensions of time for payment or delivery of securities. While Regulation T currently requires that extension of time for payment requests be directed to a broker-dealer’s DEA, Rule 15c3-3(n) provides that a broker-dealer may request an extension of time for delivery of securities from any registered national securities exchange or a registered national securities association.

The SEC previously approved NYSE Rule 434 requiring each firm for which the NYSE is the DEA to submit extensions requests to the NYSE.⁹ The SRO designated as a member’s DEA has responsibility for examining its members that are also members of

business days of the settlement date or to close the transaction by purchasing the securities.

⁷ Under Regulation T, a firm’s examining authority may grant an extension unless the examining authority believes that the broker-dealer is not acting in good faith or that the broker-dealer has not sufficiently determined that exceptional circumstances warrant such action.

⁸ See NASD Notice to Members 00-45.

⁹ See Exchange Act Release No. 34073 (May 17, 1994), 59 FR 26826 (May 24, 1994) (SR-NYSE-88-35) (SEC Order Approving Proposed Rule Change by the NYSE Relating to Extensions of Time for Payment of Delivery of Securities). See also NYSE Information Memo 94-22 (June 10, 1994).

another SRO for compliance with applicable financial responsibility rules such as Regulation T and Rule 15c3-3. Requiring a member to submit extension requests to its DEA helps to ensure that the DEA receives complete extension information to assist it in performing this function. Such information, among other things, can serve as an early indicator of operational or other difficulties. Approval of the proposed rule change also would ensure uniform application of standards to all customers of firms for which NASD is the DEA. For these reasons, NASD believes that this proposed rule change would create a more effective review of credit extension requests.

Monthly Reporting Requirement

Proposed NASD Rule 3160(b) would require each clearing firm member for which NASD is the DEA to file a monthly report with NASD identifying all introducing broker-dealers that have overall ratios of extensions of time for payment/delivery of securities requested pursuant to Regulation T and Rule 15c3-3(n) to total transactions for the month that exceed a percentage specified by NASD. The monthly report will require clearing firms subject to proposed Rule 3160(b) to identify, among other things: (1) the broker-dealer's name; (2) the number of transactions by the broker-dealer for the month; (3) the number of extension requests for the month; and (4) the ratio of the number of extensions requested to total transactions. Under the proposal, NASD would require that the reports be submitted no later than five business days following the end of each reporting month. For months when no broker-dealer exceeds the criteria, the clearing firm would submit a report indicating such.

Consistent with the NYSE's program,¹⁰ NASD anticipates restricting the number of Regulation T and Rule 15c3-3 extension requests to 1% of total transactions for the month for clearing firms and 3% of total transactions for the month for introducing firms.¹¹ NASD currently is able to compute the ratio of extensions requested to transactions for clearing firms based on information provided in the extension requests and FOCUS report data; however, NASD would use the information submitted by the clearing firms in the new monthly report to monitor introducing firms' compliance with the anticipated 3% threshold. NASD is creating a new template within its existing electronic filing platform to permit clearing firms to submit the required electronic reports regarding their introducing firms' extension requests.

To the extent that firms exceed the proposed threshold limits, NASD will inform them that their ability to receive extensions for their customers will be stopped for a 90-day period if such firm does not reduce the number of subsequent requests below the

¹⁰ See Exchange Act Release No. 28726 (December 28, 1990), 56 FR 540 (January 7, 1991) (SR-NYSE-89-24) (SEC Order Approving NYSE Proposed Rule Change Relating to Reporting of Extensions of Time for Payment/Delivery of Securities by Correspondent Broker-Dealers); NYSE Information Memoranda 98-09 (March 5, 1998) and 94-22 (June 10, 1994). See also NYSE Information Memorandum 05-78 (October 12, 2005) (establishing pilot for reporting additional fields for extension requests).

¹¹ NASD anticipates requiring clearing firms to identify in the monthly reports those introducing firms that have overall ratios exceeding 2%, consistent with NYSE requirements, notwithstanding that the proposed limitations for introducing firms would not be triggered until the ratio exceeds 3%. The 2% threshold would provide NASD with an "early warning" notice as to the concentrations of extensions for these introducing firms. In the event NASD adjusts the 1% or 3% thresholds for imposing limitations, or the 2% filing threshold, in the future, it would advise members of the new parameters in a Notice to Members.

applicable limit by the next reporting period.¹² NASD also intends to direct clearing firm members to impose limits on introducing firms only where the introducing firm engages in 25 or more transactions per month. NASD believes that these limits are appropriate in light of the standard set forth in Regulation T and Rule 15c3-3 that extensions of time may only be granted under “exceptional circumstances.”¹³

As noted in Item 2 of this filing, NASD will announce the effective date of the proposed rule change in a Notice to Members to be published no later than 60 days following Commission approval. To give members sufficient time to make necessary changes to their systems that may be required to comply with proposed Rule 3160, the effective date will be at least 60 days following publication of the Notice to Members announcing Commission approval.¹⁴

¹² For example, if an introducing firm exceeds the applicable threshold for the month of January, its clearing firm would report that fact to NASD by February 5. NASD would advise the introducing firm that had it exceeded its threshold and that it must reduce the number of subsequent requests below the limit by the end of February. If the introducing firm exceeds the applicable threshold for the month of February, its clearing firm would report that fact to NASD by March 5 and the 90-day suspension would start at that time.

¹³ In the event NASD adjusts these parameters in the future, it will advise its members by means of a Notice to Members.

¹⁴ NASD also is filing for immediate effectiveness a proposed rule change to amend Section 8 of Schedule A to NASD’s By-Laws to increase the service charge for processing extension requests to \$4.00 per request. The effective date of the service charge increase is July 1, 2006. See SR-NASD-2006-063.

(b) Statutory Basis

NASD believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the provisions of Section 15A(b)(6) of the Act,¹⁵ which requires, among other things, that NASD's rules must be designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable principles of trade, and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest. NASD believes that the proposed rule change will further ensure that firms are complying with financial responsibility rules and preventing the excessive use of credit for the purchase or carrying of securities.

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

NASD 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.

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

Written comments were neither solicited nor received.

6. Extension of Time Period for Commission Action

NASD does not consent at this time to an extension of the time period for Commission action specified in Section 19(b)(2) of the Act.¹⁶

7. Basis for Summary Effectiveness Pursuant to Section 19(b)(3) or for Accelerated Effectiveness Pursuant to Section 19(b)(2)

Not applicable.

¹⁵ 15 U.S.C. 78o-3(b)(6).

¹⁶ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2).

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

The proposed rule change is substantially similar to NYSE Rule 434 (Required Submission of Requests for Extensions of Time for Customers) and the related NYSE procedures set forth in NYSE Information Memoranda 94-22 and 98-09.

9. 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-NASD-2006-064)

Self-Regulatory Organizations: National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc.; Notice of Filing Proposed Rule Change Relating to Extension of Time Requests

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 , the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc. (“NASD”) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC” or “Commission”) the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II, and III below, which Items have been prepared by NASD. 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

NASD is proposing to adopt new Rule 3160 to require (1) all clearing firm members for which NASD is the designated examining authority (“DEA”) pursuant to Rule 17d-1 under the Act³ to submit to NASD requests for extensions of time for payment, under Regulation T promulgated by the Federal Reserve Board (“FRB”),⁴ or

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

³ 17 CFR 240.17d-1.

⁴ 12 CFR 220.4(c) and 220.8(d).

delivery of securities, pursuant to Rule 15c3-3(n) under the Act;⁵ and (2) each clearing firm member for which NASD is the DEA to file a monthly report with NASD indicating all broker-dealers for which it clears that have overall ratios of requested extensions of time to total transactions for the month that exceed a percentage specified by NASD. Below is the text of the proposed rule change. Proposed new language is in italics; proposed deletions are in brackets.

* * * * *

3160. Extensions of Time Under Regulation T and SEC Rule 15c3-3

(a) When NASD is the designated examining authority pursuant to SEC Rule 17d-1 for a member that is a clearing firm, such member must submit requests for extensions of time as contemplated by Sections 220.4(c) and 220.8(d) of Regulation T of the Federal Reserve Board and SEC Rule 15c3-3(n) to NASD for approval, in such format as NASD may require.

(b) Each member that is a clearing firm for which NASD is the designated examining authority is required to file a monthly report with NASD in such format as NASD may require, indicating all broker-dealers for which it clears that have overall ratios of requests for extensions of time as contemplated by Sections 220.4(c) and 220.8(d) of Regulation T of the Federal Reserve Board and SEC Rule 15c3-3(n) to total transactions for the month that exceed a percentage specified by NASD. The report is due to NASD within five (5) business days following the end of each reporting month.

* * * * *

⁵ 17 CFR 240.15c3-3.

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

In its filing with the Commission, NASD 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. NASD 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

Background

Regulation T, issued by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System ("FRB") pursuant to the Act, among other things, governs the extension of credit to customers by broker-dealers for purchasing securities.⁶ Rule 15c3-3 under the Act governs, among other things, the time period in which customer sell orders must be completed.⁷ Under SEC Rule 15c3-3(n), a self-regulatory organization (SRO) may grant a broker-dealer an extension of time for delivery on sales of securities if: (1) it is satisfied that the broker-dealer is acting in good faith in making the request; and (2) exceptional circumstances warrant such action. Regulation T has a similar standard to allow an

⁶ 12 CFR 220.4(c) and 220.8(d). Regulation T generally requires that customers with a cash account pay for securities within five business days of purchase; for customers with a margin account, there must be sufficient minimum margin (typically 50%) to support the purchase.

⁷ 17 CFR 240.15c3-3. In particular, Rule 15c3-3(m) requires a broker-dealer that executes a customer sell order to obtain possession of the securities within ten business days of the settlement date or to close the transaction by purchasing the securities.

extension of time for payment for purchases of securities.⁸ The SROs that process extension requests, including NASD, have developed standards and procedures for evaluating, granting, denying, and controlling extension requests. The standards include acceptable reasons for requesting an extension, number of extensions permitted per reason, and special limitations and restrictions on customers.⁹

Required Submissions of Requests for Extensions of Time

Proposed NASD Rule 3160(a) would require all clearing firm members for which NASD is the designated examining authority (“DEA”) to submit to NASD requests for extensions of time for payment or delivery of securities. While Regulation T currently requires that extension of time for payment requests be directed to a broker-dealer’s DEA, Rule 15c3-3(n) provides that a broker-dealer may request an extension of time for delivery of securities from any registered national securities exchange or a registered national securities association.

The SEC previously approved NYSE Rule 434 requiring each firm for which the NYSE is the DEA to submit extensions requests to the NYSE.¹⁰ The SRO designated as a member’s DEA has responsibility for examining its members that are also members of another SRO for compliance with applicable financial responsibility rules such as

⁸ Under Regulation T, a firm’s examining authority may grant an extension unless the examining authority believes that the broker-dealer is not acting in good faith or that the broker-dealer has not sufficiently determined that exceptional circumstances warrant such action.

⁹ See NASD Notice to Members 00-45.

¹⁰ See Exchange Act Release No. 34073 (May 17, 1994), 59 FR 26826 (May 24, 1994) (SR-NYSE-88-35) (SEC Order Approving Proposed Rule Change by the NYSE Relating to Extensions of Time for Payment of Delivery of Securities). See also NYSE Information Memo 94-22 (June 10, 1994).

Regulation T and Rule 15c3-3. Requiring a member to submit extension requests to its DEA helps to ensure that the DEA receives complete extension information to assist it in performing this function. Such information, among other things, can serve as an early indicator of operational or other difficulties. Approval of the proposed rule change also would ensure uniform application of standards to all customers of firms for which NASD is the DEA. For these reasons, NASD believes that this proposed rule change would create a more effective review of credit extension requests.

Monthly Reporting Requirement

Proposed NASD Rule 3160(b) would require each clearing firm member for which NASD is the DEA to file a monthly report with NASD identifying all introducing broker-dealers that have overall ratios of extensions of time for payment/delivery of securities requested pursuant to Regulation T and Rule 15c3-3(n) to total transactions for the month that exceed a percentage specified by NASD. The monthly report will require clearing firms subject to proposed Rule 3160(b) to identify, among other things: (1) the broker-dealer's name; (2) the number of transactions by the broker-dealer for the month; (3) the number of extension requests for the month; and (4) the ratio of the number of extensions requested to total transactions. Under the proposal, NASD would require that the reports be submitted no later than five business days following the end of each reporting month. For months when no broker-dealer exceeds the criteria, the clearing firm would submit a report indicating such.

Consistent with the NYSE's program,¹¹ NASD anticipates restricting the number of Regulation T and Rule 15c3-3 extension requests to 1% of total transactions for the month for clearing firms and 3% of total transactions for the month for introducing firms.¹² NASD currently is able to compute the ratio of extensions requested to transactions for clearing firms based on information provided in the extension requests and FOCUS report data; however, NASD would use the information submitted by the clearing firms in the new monthly report to monitor introducing firms' compliance with the anticipated 3% threshold. NASD is creating a new template within its existing electronic filing platform to permit clearing firms to submit the required electronic reports regarding their introducing firms' extension requests.

To the extent that firms exceed the proposed threshold limits, NASD will inform them that their ability to receive extensions for their customers will be stopped for a 90-day period if such firm does not reduce the number of subsequent requests below the

¹¹ See Exchange Act Release No. 28726 (December 28, 1990), 56 FR 540 (January 7, 1991) (SR-NYSE-89-24) (SEC Order Approving NYSE Proposed Rule Change Relating to Reporting of Extensions of Time for Payment/Delivery of Securities by Correspondent Broker-Dealers); NYSE Information Memoranda 98-09 (March 5, 1998) and 94-22 (June 10, 1994). See also NYSE Information Memorandum 05-78 (October 12, 2005) (establishing pilot for reporting additional fields for extension requests).

¹² NASD anticipates requiring clearing firms to identify in the monthly reports those introducing firms that have overall ratios exceeding 2%, consistent with NYSE requirements, notwithstanding that the proposed limitations for introducing firms would not be triggered until the ratio exceeds 3%. The 2% threshold would provide NASD with an "early warning" notice as to the concentrations of extensions for these introducing firms. In the event NASD adjusts the 1% or 3% thresholds for imposing limitations, or the 2% filing threshold, in the future, it would advise members of the new parameters in a Notice to Members.

applicable limit by the next reporting period.¹³ NASD also intends to direct clearing firm members to impose limits on introducing firms only where the introducing firm engages in 25 or more transactions per month. NASD believes that these limits are appropriate in light of the standard set forth in Regulation T and Rule 15c3-3 that extensions of time may only be granted under “exceptional circumstances.”¹⁴

NASD will announce the effective date of the proposed rule change in a Notice to Members to be published no later than 60 days following Commission approval. To give members sufficient time to make necessary changes to their systems that may be required to comply with proposed Rule 3160, the effective date will be at least 60 days following publication of the Notice to Members announcing Commission approval.¹⁵

2. Statutory Basis

NASD believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the provisions of Section 15A(b)(6) of the Act,¹⁶ which requires, among other things, that NASD’s rules must be designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote

¹³ For example, if an introducing firm exceeds the applicable threshold for the month of January, its clearing firm would report that fact to NASD by February 5. NASD would advise the introducing firm that had it exceeded its threshold and that it must reduce the number of subsequent requests below the limit by the end of February. If the introducing firm exceeds the applicable threshold for the month of February, its clearing firm would report that fact to NASD by March 5 and the 90-day suspension would start at that time.

¹⁴ In the event NASD adjusts these parameters in the future, it will advise its members by means of a Notice to Members.

¹⁵ NASD also is filing for immediate effectiveness a proposed rule change to amend Section 8 of Schedule A to NASD’s By-Laws to increase the service charge for processing extension requests to \$4.00 per request. The effective date of the service charge increase is July 1, 2006. See SR-NASD-2006-063.

¹⁶ 15 U.S.C. 78o–3(b)(6).

just and equitable principles of trade, and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest. NASD believes that the proposed rule change will further ensure that firms are complying with financial responsibility rules and preventing the excessive use of credit for the purchase or carrying of securities.

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

NASD 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.

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

Written comments were neither solicited nor received.

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 such 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 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. Please include File Number SR-NASD-2006-064 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-NASD-2006-064. 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. Copies of such filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of NASD.

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-NASD-2006-064 and should be submitted on or before [insert date 21 days from publication in the Federal Register].

For the Commission, by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.¹⁷

Nancy M. Morris

Secretary

¹⁷ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).