OMB APPROVAL

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Page 1 of 38		SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549 Form 19b-4		File No. SR - 2009 - 036 Amendment No.		
Proposed Rule Change by Financial Industry Regulatory Authority						
Pursuant to Rule 19b-4 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934						
Initial ✓	Amendment	Withdrawal	Section 19(b)(Section 19(b) Rule)(3)(A) So	ection 19(b)(3)(B)
Pilot	Extension of Time Period for Commission Action	Date Expires		19b-4(f)(1)19b-4(f)(2)19b-4(f)(3)		
Exhibit 2 Sent As Paper Document Exhibit 3 Sent As Paper Document Exhibit 3 Sent As Paper Document						
Description Provide a brief description of the proposed rule change (limit 250 characters). Proposed Rule Change Relating to the Adoption of FINRA Rule 2220, FINRA Rule 2124, FINRA Rule 5250, and FINRA Rule 4370 in the Consolidated FINRA Rule Book						
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.						
Title	Assistant General Co	unsel	Last Name Albrecht			
E-mail	patricia.albrecht@finra.org					
Telepho		Fax (202) 728-826	4			
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 officer.						
Date 05/21/2009						
By Patrice Gliniecki			Senior Vice President and Deputy General Counsel			
(Name) (Title)						
NOTE: Clicking the button at right will digitally sign and lock			Patrice Gliniecki,			
this form. A digital signature is as legally binding as a physical signature, and once signed, this form cannot be changed.						

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549 For complete Form 19b-4 instructions please refer to the EFFS website. The self-regulatory organization must provide all required information, presented in a Form 19b-4 Information clear and comprehensible manner, to enable the public to provide meaningful comment on the proposal and for the Commission to determine whether the Remove proposal is consistent with the Act and applicable rules and regulations under the Act. The Notice section of this Form 19b-4 must comply with the guidelines for **Exhibit 1 - Notice of Proposed Rule Change** 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 Add Remove (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) Copies of notices, written comments, transcripts, other communications. If such Exhibit 2 - Notices, Written Comments. documents cannot be filed electronically in accordance with Instruction F, they shall **Transcripts, Other Communications** be filed in accordance with Instruction G. Add Remove View Exhibit Sent As Paper Document Exhibit 3 - Form, Report, or Questionnaire Copies of any form, report, or questionnaire that the self-regulatory organization proposes to use to help implement or operate the proposed rule change, or that is Add Remove View referred to by the proposed rule change. Exhibit Sent As Paper Document The full text shall be marked, in any convenient manner, to indicate additions to and **Exhibit 4 - Marked Copies** deletions from the immediately preceding filing. The purpose of Exhibit 4 is to permit the staff to identify immediately the changes made from the text of the rule with which Add Remove View it has been working. The self-regulatory organization may choose to attach as Exhibit 5 proposed **Exhibit 5 - Proposed Rule Text** 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 Add Remove View considered part of the proposed rule change. If the self-regulatory organization is amending only part of the text of a lengthy **Partial Amendment** proposed rule change, it may, with the Commission's permission, file only those portions of the text of the proposed rule change in which changes are being made if View 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. <u>Text of Proposed Rule Change</u>

(a) Pursuant to the provisions of Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act"), ¹ Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc. ("FINRA") (f/k/a National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc. ("NASD")) is filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC" or "Commission") a proposed rule change to adopt NASD Rules 2220 (Options Communications), 2441 (Net Transactions with Customers), 2460 (Payments for Market Making), 3510 (Business Continuity Plans) and 3520 (Emergency Contact Information) as FINRA rules in the consolidated FINRA rulebook without substantive change. The proposed rule change would renumber NASD Rule 2220 as FINRA Rule 2220, NASD Rule 2441 as FINRA Rule 2124, NASD Rule 2460 as FINRA Rule 5250, and NASD Rules 3510 and 3520 would be combined into FINRA Rule 4370 in the consolidated FINRA rulebook.

The text of the proposed rule change is attached as Exhibit 5 to this rule filing.

- (b) Upon Commission approval and implementation of the proposed rule change, the corresponding NASD rules will be eliminated from the current FINRA rulebook.
 - (c) Not applicable.

2. <u>Procedures of the Self-Regulatory Organization</u>

At its meetings on September 16, 2008 and April 16, 2009, the FINRA Board of Governors authorized the filing of the proposed rule change with the SEC. No other action by FINRA is necessary for the filing of the proposed rule change.

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

FINRA will announce the implementation date of the proposed rule change in a Regulatory Notice to be published no later than 90 days following Commission approval.

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

(a) Purpose

As part of the process of developing a new consolidated rulebook ("Consolidated FINRA Rulebook"), FINRA is proposing to adopt NASD Rules 2220 (Options Communications), 2441 (Net Transactions with Customers), 2460 (Payments for Market Making), 3510 (Business Continuity Plans) and 3520 (Emergency Contact Information) as FINRA rules in the consolidated FINRA rulebook without substantive change.

Proposed FINRA Rule 2220

FINRA is proposing to adopt NASD Rule 2220 (Options Communications) without substantive change into the Consolidated FINRA Rulebook as FINRA Rule 2220. NASD Rule 2220 sets forth a member's obligations with respect to its options communications with the public. In 2008, FINRA revised NASD Rule 2220 to make it more consistent with FINRA's general rules on communications with the public and the options communications rules of other self-regulatory organizations (SROs).³ As

The current FINRA rulebook consists of (1) FINRA Rules; (2) NASD Rules; and (3) rules incorporated from NYSE ("Incorporated NYSE Rules") (together, the NASD Rules and Incorporated NYSE Rules are referred to as the "Transitional Rulebook"). While the NASD Rules generally apply to all FINRA members, the Incorporated NYSE Rules apply only to those members of FINRA that are also members of the NYSE ("Dual Members"). The FINRA Rules apply to all FINRA members, unless such rules have a more limited application by their terms. For more information about the rulebook consolidation process, see FINRA Information Notice, March 12, 2008 (Rulebook Consolidation Process).

See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 58738 (October 6, 2008), 73 FR 60371 (October 10, 2008) (Order Approving File No. SR-FINRA-2008-013).

amended, NASD Rule 2220, among other things: (1) uses, to the extent appropriate, the same terminology and definitions as in FINRA's general rules on communications with the public; (2) makes the requirements for principal review of correspondence concerning options the same as for correspondence generally; and (3) updates the standards on the content of communications that precede the delivery of the options disclosure document (ODD). The amended rule became effective on March 4, 2009.⁴

FINRA recommends that NASD Rule 2220 be transferred as FINRA Rule 2220 into the Consolidated FINRA Rulebook without substantive change in light of the recent amendments.

Proposed FINRA Rule 2124

FINRA is proposing to adopt NASD Rule 2441 (Net Transactions with Customers) without substantive change into the Consolidated FINRA Rulebook as FINRA Rule 2124. NASD Rule 2441 requires members to provide disclosure and obtain consent when trading on a "net" basis with customers.⁵ With respect to non-institutional customers, the member must obtain the customer's written consent on an order-by-order

See Regulatory Notice 08-73 (December 2008) (SEC Approves Amendments to NASD Rule 2220 to Update the Standards for Options Communications). There is no longer a comparable Incorporated NYSE Rule. FINRA previously deleted substantially similar Incorporated NYSE Rule 791 (Communications to Customers) as part of a rule change that, among other things, reduced regulatory duplication for Dual Members during the interim period before the completion of the Consolidated FINRA Rulebook. See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 58533 (September 12, 2008), 73 FR 54652 (September 22, 2008) (Order Approving File No. SR-FINRA-2008-036).

A "net" transaction is a principal transaction in which a market maker, after having received an order to buy (sell) an equity security, purchases (sells) the equity security at one price (from (to) another broker-dealer or another customer) and then sells to (buys from) the customer at a different price.

basis prior to executing the transaction and such consent must evidence the customer's understanding of the terms and conditions of the order. With respect to institutional customers, a member must obtain the customer's consent prior to executing the transaction and such consent may be obtained by either: (1) use of a negative consent letter; (2) oral disclosure and consent on an order-by-order basis; or (3) written consent on an order-by-order basis.

Rule 2441 was approved by the SEC in 2006, and was the product of notice and comment rulemaking.⁶ There have not been subsequent amendments to the rule, and FINRA does not believe any substantive changes to this rule are necessary. Therefore, FINRA recommends that NASD Rule 2441 be transferred without substantive change into the Consolidated FINRA Rulebook as FINRA Rule 2124.

Proposed FINRA Rule 5250

FINRA is proposing to adopt NASD Rule 2460 (Payment for Market Making) without substantive change into the Consolidated FINRA Rulebook as FINRA Rule 5250. NASD Rule 2460 prohibits any payments by an issuer or an issuer's affiliates and promoters, directly or indirectly, to a member or person associated with a member for publishing a quotation, acting as a market maker, or submitting an application in connection therewith. The rule contains two exceptions that permit a member to accept (1) payment for bona fide services, including, but not limited to, investment banking

See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 54088 (June 30, 2006), 71 FR 38950 (July 10, 2006) (Order Approving File No. SR-NASD-2004-135).

services and (2) reimbursement for registration or listing fees. The SEC approved NASD Rule 2460 after notice and comment in July 1997 with no subsequent amendments.⁷

FINRA believes no changes to this rule are appropriate or necessary. FINRA continues to believe, as stated in FINRA's 1997 rule filing, that a market maker should have considerable latitude and freedom to make or terminate market making activities in an issuer's securities. The decision by a firm to make a market in a given security and the question of price generally are dependent on a number of factors, including, among others, supply and demand, the firm's expectations toward the market, its current inventory, and exposure to risk and competition. This decision should not be influenced by payments to the member from issuers or promoters. Therefore, FINRA proposes to transfer NASD Rule 2460 without substantive change into the Consolidated FINRA Rulebook as FINRA Rule 5250.

Proposed FINRA Rule 4370

FINRA is proposing to adopt NASD Rule 3510 (Business Continuity Plans) and NASD Rule 3520 (Emergency Contact Information) without substantive change into the Consolidated FINRA Rulebook and combine the rules as FINRA Rule 4370 (Business Continuity Plans and Emergency Contact Information). NASD Rule 3510 requires members to create and maintain a written business continuity plan identifying procedures relating to an emergency or significant business disruption and enumerates the minimum elements that a member's business continuity plan must address, to the extent those elements are applicable and necessary to the member's business. NASD Rule 3510

See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 38812 (July 3, 1997), 62 FR 37105 (July 10, 1997) (Order Approving File No. SR-NASD-97-29).

further requires members to update their business continuity plans upon any material change and, at a minimum, conduct an annual review of their plans. Each member also must disclose to its customers how its business continuity plan addresses the possibility of a future significant business disruption and how the member plans to respond to events of varying scope. Each member must make this disclosure, at a minimum, in writing to customers at account opening, by posting it on the member's Web site (if the member maintains a Web site), and by mailing it to customers upon request.

NASD Rules 3510 is one part of the NASD Rule 3500 Series (Emergency Preparedness), which requires members to establish emergency preparedness plans and procedures. NASD Rule 3520, which comprises the remainder of the NASD Rule 3500 Series, requires members to designate two emergency contact persons and provide this information to FINRA via electronic process.⁸

FINRA recommends that NASD Rules 3510 and 3520 be adopted as one rule, FINRA Rule 4370, in the Consolidated FINRA Rulebook without any substantive changes to the respective rules' provisions.

As noted above, FINRA will announce the implementation date of the proposed rule change in a <u>Regulatory Notice</u> to be published no later than 90 days following Commission approval.

There is no longer a comparable Incorporated NYSE Rule to NASD Rules 3510 and 3520. FINRA previously deleted from the Transitional Rulebook NYSE Rule 446 (Business Continuity and Contingency Plans), which contained substantially similar requirements as the two NASD rules, as part of the rule change to reduce regulatory duplication for Dual Members during the period before completion of the Consolidated FINRA Rulebook. See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 58533 (September 12, 2008), 73 FR 54652 (September 22, 2008) (Order Approving File No. SR-FINRA-2008-036).

(b) Statutory Basis

FINRA believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the provisions of Section 15A(b)(6) of the Act, 9 which requires, among other things, that FINRA 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. FINRA believes that transferring NASD Rule 2220 into the Consolidated Rulebook protects investors and the public interest by providing the investing public with options communications rules that are designed to provide appropriate safeguards and greater clarity by promoting harmonization between FINRA's and other SROs' options communications rules. FINRA believes that transferring NASD Rule 2441 into the Consolidated FINRA Rulebook promotes investor protection by requiring members to provide disclosure and obtain customer consent when trading on a net basis. In addition, FINRA believes that the benefits to investors of requiring certain disclosures and obtaining customer consent when trading on a net basis outweighs the additional responsibilities placed on broker-dealers. FINRA believes that transferring NASD Rule 2460 into the Consolidated FINRA Rulebook will protect investors and the public interest and avert a potential conflict of interest by prohibiting members from receiving compensation or other payments from an issuer or others for listing, quoting or making a market in an issuer's securities. Finally, FINRA believes that transferring and combining NASD Rules 3510 and 3520 in the Consolidated FINRA Rulebook will help ensure that members are prepared in the event of a significant business disruption. The proposed

⁹ 15 U.S.C. 78<u>o</u>–3(b)(6).

rule change makes non-substantive changes to rules that have proven effective in meeting the statutory mandates.

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

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

Written comments were neither solicited nor received.

6. Extension of Time Period for Commission Action

FINRA 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. 10

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

Not applicable.

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

Not applicable.

9. Exhibits

Exhibit 1. Completed notice of proposed rule change for publication in the <u>Federal Register</u>.

Exhibit 5. Text of the proposed rule change.

¹⁵ U.S.C. 78s(b)(2).

EXHIBIT 1

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

(Release No. 34- ; File No. SR-FINRA-2009-036)

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc.; Notice of Filing of Proposed Rule Change to Adopt FINRA Rules 2124 (Net Transactions with Customers), 2220 (Options Communications), 4370 (Business Continuity Plans and Emergency Contact Information) and 5250 (Payments for Market Making) in the Consolidated FINRA Rulebook

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 , Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc. ("FINRA") (f/k/a 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 FINRA. The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

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

FINRA is proposing to adopt NASD Rules 2220 (Options Communications), 2441 (Net Transactions with Customers), 2460 (Payments for Market Making), 3510 (Business Continuity Plans) and 3520 (Emergency Contact Information) as FINRA rules in the consolidated FINRA rulebook without substantive change. The proposed rule change would renumber NASD Rule 2220 as FINRA Rule 2220, NASD Rule 2441 as FINRA Rule 2124, NASD Rule 2460 as FINRA Rule 5250, and NASD Rules 3510 and 3520 would be combined into FINRA Rule 4370 in the consolidated FINRA rulebook.

¹⁵ U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

The text of the proposed rule change is available on FINRA's Web site at http://www.finra.org, at the principal office of FINRA and at the Commission's Public Reference Room.

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

In its filing with the Commission, FINRA 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. FINRA has prepared summaries, set forth in sections A, B, and C below, of the most significant aspects of such statements.

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

As part of the process of developing a new consolidated rulebook ("Consolidated FINRA Rulebook"), FINRA is proposing to adopt NASD Rules 2220 (Options Communications), 2441 (Net Transactions with Customers), 2460 (Payments for Market Making), 3510 (Business Continuity Plans) and 3520 (Emergency Contact Information) as FINRA rules in the consolidated FINRA rulebook without substantive change.

The current FINRA rulebook consists of (1) FINRA Rules; (2) NASD Rules; and (3) rules incorporated from NYSE ("Incorporated NYSE Rules") (together, the NASD Rules and Incorporated NYSE Rules are referred to as the "Transitional Rulebook"). While the NASD Rules generally apply to all FINRA members, the Incorporated NYSE Rules apply only to those members of FINRA that are also members of the NYSE ("Dual Members"). The FINRA Rules apply to all FINRA members, unless such rules have a more limited application by their terms. For more information about the rulebook consolidation process, <u>see</u> FINRA <u>Information Notice</u>, March 12, 2008 (Rulebook Consolidation Process).

FINRA is proposing to adopt NASD Rule 2220 (Options Communications) without substantive change into the Consolidated FINRA Rulebook as FINRA Rule 2220. NASD Rule 2220 sets forth a member's obligations with respect to its options communications with the public. In 2008, FINRA revised NASD Rule 2220 to make it more consistent with FINRA's general rules on communications with the public and the options communications rules of other self-regulatory organizations (SROs).⁴ As amended, NASD Rule 2220, among other things: (1) uses, to the extent appropriate, the same terminology and definitions as in FINRA's general rules on communications with the public; (2) makes the requirements for principal review of correspondence concerning options the same as for correspondence generally; and (3) updates the standards on the content of communications that precede the delivery of the options disclosure document (ODD). The amended rule became effective on March 4, 2009.⁵

FINRA recommends that NASD Rule 2220 be transferred as FINRA Rule 2220 into the Consolidated FINRA Rulebook without substantive change in light of the recent amendments.

See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 58738 (October 6, 2008), 73 FR 60371 (October 10, 2008) (Order Approving File No. SR-FINRA-2008-013).

See Regulatory Notice 08-73 (December 2008) (SEC Approves Amendments to NASD Rule 2220 to Update the Standards for Options Communications). There is no longer a comparable Incorporated NYSE Rule. FINRA previously deleted substantially similar Incorporated NYSE Rule 791 (Communications to Customers) as part of a rule change that, among other things, reduced regulatory duplication for Dual Members during the interim period before the completion of the Consolidated FINRA Rulebook. See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 58533 (September 12, 2008), 73 FR 54652 (September 22, 2008) (Order Approving File No. SR-FINRA-2008-036).

FINRA is proposing to adopt NASD Rule 2441 (Net Transactions with Customers) without substantive change into the Consolidated FINRA Rulebook as FINRA Rule 2124. NASD Rule 2441 requires members to provide disclosure and obtain consent when trading on a "net" basis with customers. With respect to non-institutional customers, the member must obtain the customer's written consent on an order-by-order basis prior to executing the transaction and such consent must evidence the customer's understanding of the terms and conditions of the order. With respect to institutional customers, a member must obtain the customer's consent prior to executing the transaction and such consent may be obtained by either: (1) use of a negative consent letter; (2) oral disclosure and consent on an order-by-order basis; or (3) written consent on an order-by-order basis.

Rule 2441 was approved by the SEC in 2006, and was the product of notice and comment rulemaking.⁷ There have not been subsequent amendments to the rule, and FINRA does not believe any substantive changes to this rule are necessary. Therefore, FINRA recommends that NASD Rule 2441 be transferred without substantive change into the Consolidated FINRA Rulebook as FINRA Rule 2124.

A "net" transaction is a principal transaction in which a market maker, after having received an order to buy (sell) an equity security, purchases (sells) the equity security at one price (from (to) another broker-dealer or another customer) and then sells to (buys from) the customer at a different price.

See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 54088 (June 30, 2006), 71 FR 38950 (July 10, 2006) (Order Approving File No. SR-NASD-2004-135).

FINRA is proposing to adopt NASD Rule 2460 (Payment for Market Making) without substantive change into the Consolidated FINRA Rulebook as FINRA Rule 5250. NASD Rule 2460 prohibits any payments by an issuer or an issuer's affiliates and promoters, directly or indirectly, to a member or person associated with a member for publishing a quotation, acting as a market maker, or submitting an application in connection therewith. The rule contains two exceptions that permit a member to accept (1) payment for bona fide services, including, but not limited to, investment banking services and (2) reimbursement for registration or listing fees. The SEC approved NASD Rule 2460 after notice and comment in July 1997 with no subsequent amendments.⁸

FINRA believes no changes to this rule are appropriate or necessary. FINRA continues to believe, as stated in FINRA's 1997 rule filing, that a market maker should have considerable latitude and freedom to make or terminate market making activities in an issuer's securities. The decision by a firm to make a market in a given security and the question of price generally are dependent on a number of factors, including, among others, supply and demand, the firm's expectations toward the market, its current inventory, and exposure to risk and competition. This decision should not be influenced by payments to the member from issuers or promoters. Therefore, FINRA proposes to transfer NASD Rule 2460 without substantive change into the Consolidated FINRA Rulebook as FINRA Rule 5250.

See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 38812 (July 3, 1997), 62 FR 37105 (July 10, 1997) (Order Approving File No. SR-NASD-97-29).

FINRA is proposing to adopt NASD Rule 3510 (Business Continuity Plans) and NASD Rule 3520 (Emergency Contact Information) without substantive change into the Consolidated FINRA Rulebook and combine the rules as FINRA Rule 4370 (Business Continuity Plans and Emergency Contact Information). NASD Rule 3510 requires members to create and maintain a written business continuity plan identifying procedures relating to an emergency or significant business disruption and enumerates the minimum elements that a member's business continuity plan must address, to the extent those elements are applicable and necessary to the member's business. NASD Rule 3510 further requires members to update their business continuity plans upon any material change and, at a minimum, conduct an annual review of their plans. Each member also must disclose to its customers how its business continuity plan addresses the possibility of a future significant business disruption and how the member plans to respond to events of varying scope. Each member must make this disclosure, at a minimum, in writing to customers at account opening, by posting it on the member's Web site (if the member maintains a Web site), and by mailing it to customers upon request.

NASD Rules 3510 is one part of the NASD Rule 3500 Series (Emergency Preparedness), which requires members to establish emergency preparedness plans and procedures. NASD Rule 3520, which comprises the remainder of the NASD Rule 3500 Series, requires members to designate two emergency contact persons and provide this information to FINRA via electronic process.⁹

There is no longer a comparable Incorporated NYSE Rule to NASD Rules 3510 and 3520. FINRA previously deleted from the Transitional Rulebook NYSE Rule 446 (Business Continuity and Contingency Plans), which contained substantially

FINRA recommends that NASD Rules 3510 and 3520 be adopted as one rule, FINRA Rule 4370, in the Consolidated FINRA Rulebook without any substantive changes to the respective rules' provisions.

FINRA will announce the implementation date of the proposed rule change in a Regulatory Notice to be published no later than 90 days following Commission approval.

2. **Statutory Basis**

FINRA believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the provisions of Section 15A(b)(6) of the Act, ¹⁰ which requires, among other things, that FINRA 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. FINRA believes that transferring NASD Rule 2220 into the Consolidated Rulebook protects investors and the public interest by providing the investing public with options communications rules that are designed to provide appropriate safeguards and greater clarity by promoting harmonization between FINRA's and other SROs' options communications rules. FINRA believes that transferring NASD Rule 2441 into the Consolidated FINRA Rulebook promotes investor protection by requiring members to provide disclosure and obtain customer consent when trading on a net basis. In addition, FINRA believes that the benefits to investors of requiring certain disclosures and obtaining customer consent when trading on a net basis outweighs the additional

similar requirements as the two NASD rules, as part of the rule change to reduce regulatory duplication for Dual Members during the period before completion of the Consolidated FINRA Rulebook. See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 58533 (September 12, 2008), 73 FR 54652 (September 22, 2008) (Order Approving File No. SR-FINRA-2008-036).

¹⁵ U.S.C. 780–3(b)(6).

responsibilities placed on broker-dealers. FINRA believes that transferring NASD Rule 2460 into the Consolidated FINRA Rulebook will protect investors and the public interest and avert a potential conflict of interest by prohibiting members from receiving compensation or other payments from an issuer or others for listing, quoting or making a market in an issuer's securities. Finally, FINRA believes that transferring and combining NASD Rules 3510 and 3520 in the Consolidated FINRA Rulebook will help ensure that members are prepared in the event of a significant business disruption. The proposed rule change makes non-substantive changes to rules that have proven effective in meeting the statutory mandates.

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

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

Written comments were neither solicited nor received.

III. <u>Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission</u>
Action

Within 35 days of the date of publication of this notice in the <u>Federal Register</u> 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 (<u>http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml</u>); or
- Send an e-mail to rule-comments@sec.gov. Please include File Number SR-FINRA-2009-036 on the subject line.

Paper Comments:

Send paper comments in triplicate to Florence E. Harmon, Deputy
 Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street, NE,
 Washington, DC 20549-1090.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-FINRA-2009-036. 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 office of FINRA. 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-FINRA-2009-036 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. ¹¹

Florence E. Harmon

Deputy Secretary

¹¹ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

EXHIBIT 5

Exhibit 5 shows the text of the proposed rule change. Proposed new language is underlined; proposed deletions are in brackets.

* * * * *

Text of Proposed New FINRA Rules (Marked to Show Changes from NASD Rules 2441, 2220, 2460, 3510 and 3520; NASD Rules 2441, 2220, 2460, 3510 and 3520 to be Deleted in Their Entirety from the Transitional Rulebook)

* * * * *

2000. DUTIES AND CONFLICTS

* * * * *

2100. TRANSACTIONS WITH CUSTOMERS

* * * * *

2120. Commissions, Mark Ups and Charges

* * * * *

[2441] 2124. Net Transactions with Customers

- (a) Prior to executing a transaction for or with a customer on a "net" basis as defined in paragraph (e) below, a member must provide disclosure to and obtain consent from the customer as provided in this Rule.
- (b) With respect to non-institutional customers, the member must obtain the customer's written consent on an order-by-order basis prior to executing a transaction for or with the customer on a "net" basis and such consent must evidence the customer's understanding of the terms and conditions of the order.

- (c) With respect to institutional customers, a member must obtain <u>the</u> customer's consent prior to executing a transaction for or with the customer on a "net" basis in accordance with one of the following methods:
 - (1) a negative consent letter that clearly discloses to the institutional customer in writing the terms and conditions for handling the customer order(s) and provides the institutional customer with a meaningful opportunity to object to the execution of transactions on a net basis. If the customer does not object, then the member may reasonably conclude that the institutional customer has consented to the member trading on a "net" basis with the customer and the member may rely on such letter for all or a portion of the customer's orders (as instructed by the customer) pursuant to this Rule;
 - (2) oral disclosure to and consent from the customer on an order-by-order basis. Such oral disclosure and consent must clearly explain the terms and conditions for handling the customer order and provide the institutional customer with a meaningful opportunity to object to the execution of the transaction on a net basis. The member also must document, on an order-by-order basis, the customer's understanding of the terms and conditions of the order and the customer's consent; or
 - (3) written consent on an order-by-order basis prior to executing a transaction for or with the customer on a "net" basis and such consent must evidence the customer's understanding of the terms and conditions of the order.
- (d) For those customers that have granted trading discretion to a fiduciary (e.g. an investment adviser), a member is permitted to obtain the consent required under this Rule

from the fiduciary. If the fiduciary meets the definition of "institutional customer" in paragraph (e), the member may meet the disclosure and consent requirements under this Rule in the same manner permitted for institutional customers.

- (e) For purposes of this Rule[,]:
- (1) "institutional customer" shall mean a customer whose account qualifies as an "institutional account" under <u>NASD</u> Rule 3110(c)(4); and
- (2) "net" transaction shall mean a principal transaction in which a market maker, after having received an order to buy (sell) an equity security, purchases (sells) the equity security at one price (from (to) another broker-dealer or another customer) and then sells to (buys from) the customer at a different price.
- (f) Members must retain and preserve all documentation relating to consent obtained pursuant to this Rule in accordance with NASD Rule 3110(a).

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2200. COMMUNICATIONS AND DISCLOSURES

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2220. Options Communications

(a) Definitions

For purposes of this Rule and any interpretation thereof:

- (1) "Options communications" consist of:
- (A) "Advertisement." Any "Advertisement" as defined in <u>NASD</u>
 Rule 2210(a)(1) concerning options.
- (B) "Sales literature." Any "Sales Literature" as defined in <u>NASD</u>
 Rule 2210(a)(2) concerning options including worksheet templates.

- (C) "Correspondence." Any "Correspondence" as defined in NASD Rule 2211(a)(1) concerning options.
- (D) "Institutional sales material." Any "Institutional Sales Material" as defined in NASD Rule 2211(a)(2) concerning options.
- (E) "Public appearance." Any participation in a seminar, forum (including an interactive electronic forum), radio, television or print media interview, or other public speaking activity, or the writing of a print media article, concerning options.
- (F) "Independently prepared reprint." Any "Independently Prepared Reprint" as defined in NASD Rule 2210(a)(6)(A) concerning options.
- (2) "Existing retail customer" as [is] defined in NASD Rule 2211(a)(4).
- (3) "Standardized option[.]" means any option contract issued, or subject to issuance, by The Options Clearing Corporation, that has standardized terms for the strike price, expiration date, and amount of the underlying security, and is traded on a national securities exchange registered pursuant to [s]Section 6(a) of the Exchange Act.
 - (4) "Option[s]" as [is]defined in Rule [2860] 2360(a).
- (5) "Options disclosure document" has the same meaning as the term "disclosure document" as defined in Rule [2860(b)(2)(T)] 2360(a).

(b) Approval by a Registered Options Principal and Recordkeeping

Advertisements, Sales Literature, and Independently Prepared
 Reprints. All advertisements, sales literature (except completed worksheets), and

independently prepared reprints issued by a member concerning options shall be approved in advance by a Registered Options Principal designated by the member's written supervisory procedures.

- (2) Correspondence. Correspondence need not be approved by a Registered Options Principal prior to use, unless such correspondence is distributed to 25 or more existing retail customers within any 30 calendar-day period and makes any financial or investment recommendation or otherwise promotes a product or service of the member. All correspondence is subject to the supervision and review requirements of NASD Rule 3010(d).
- (3) Institutional Sales Material. Each member shall establish written procedures that are appropriate to its business, size, structure, and customers for the review by a Registered Options Principal of institutional sales material used by the member and its registered representatives as described in NASD Rule 2211(b)(1)(B).
- (4) Copies of the options communications shall be retained by the member in accordance with SEA[C] Rule 17a-4 [of the Act]. The names of the persons who prepared the options communications, the names of the persons who approved the options communications, and[,] the source of any recommendations contained therein, shall be retained by the member and be kept in the form and for the time period required for options communications by SEA[C] Rule 17a-4 [of the Act].
- (c) [Association] **FINRA** Approval Requirements and Review Procedures

- (1) In addition to the approval required by paragraph (b) of this Rule, all advertisements, sales literature, and independently prepared reprints issued by a member concerning standardized options used prior to delivery of the applicable current options disclosure document or prospectus shall be submitted to the Advertising Regulation Department of [the Association] FINRA (the "Department") at least ten calendar days prior to use (or such shorter period as the Department may allow in particular instances) for approval and, if changed or expressly disapproved by the Department, shall be withheld from circulation until any changes specified by the Department have been made or, in the event of disapproval, until such options communication has been resubmitted for, and has received, Department approval.
 - (2)(A) Notwithstanding the foregoing provision, the Department, upon review of a member's options communications, and after determining that the member has departed from the standards of this Rule, may require that such member file some or all options communications or the portions of such member's communications that are related to options with the Department, at least ten calendar days prior to use.
 - (B) The Department shall notify the member in writing of the types of options communications to be filed and the length of time such requirement is to be in effect. The requirement shall not exceed one year, however, and shall not take effect until 21 calendar days after service of the written notice, during which time the member may request a hearing under Rules 9551 and 9559.

- (3) In addition to the foregoing requirements, every member's options communications shall be subject to a routine spot-check procedure. Upon written request from the Department, each member shall promptly submit the communications requested. Members will not be required to submit communications under this procedure that have been previously submitted pursuant to one of the foregoing requirements.
 - (4) The requirements of this paragraph (c) shall not be applicable to:
 - (A) options communications submitted to another self-regulatory organization having comparable standards pertaining to such communications;
 - (B) communications in which the only reference to options is contained in a listing of the services of the member;
 - (C) the options disclosure document; and
 - (D) the prospectus.

(d) Standards Applicable to Communications

- (1) Communications Regarding Standardized Options used Prior to Delivery of Options Disclosure Document
 - (A) Options communications regarding standardized options exempted under [SEC] <u>Securities Act</u> Rule 238 [under the Securities Act of 1933] used prior to options disclosure document delivery:
 - (i) must be limited to general descriptions of the options being discussed. The text may also contain a brief description of options, including a statement that identifies registered clearing

agencies for options and a brief description of the general attributes and method of operation of the exchanges on which such options are traded, including a discussion of how an option is priced;

- (ii) must contain contact information for obtaining a copy of the options disclosure document;
- (iii) must not contain recommendations or past or projected performance figures, including annualized rates of return, or names of specific securities;
- (iv) may include any statement required by any state law or administrative authority; and
- (v) may include advertising designs and devices, including borders, scrolls, arrows, pointers, multiple and combined logos and unusual type faces and lettering as well as attention-getting headlines and photographs and other graphics, provided such material is not misleading[; and].
- (B) Options communications regarding options not exempted under [SEC] Securities Act Rule 238 [under the Securities Act of 1933] used prior to delivery of a prospectus that meets the requirements of Section 10(a) of the Securities Act [of said Act] must conform to [SEC] Securities Act Rule 134 or 134a [under said Act], as applicable.

(2) General Standards

(A) No member or associated person of the member shall use any options communications which:

- (i) contains any untrue statement or omission of a material fact or is otherwise false or misleading;
- (ii) contains promises of specific results, exaggerated or unwarranted claims, opinions for which there is no reasonable basis or forecasts of future events which are unwarranted or which are not clearly labeled as forecasts;
- (iii) contains cautionary statements or caveats that are not legible, are misleading, or are inconsistent with the content of the material;
- (iv) would constitute a prospectus as that term is defined in the Securities Act [of 1933], unless it meets the requirements of Section 10 of [said] the Securities Act;
- (v) contains statements suggesting the certain availabilityof a secondary market for options;
- (vi) fails to reflect the risks attendant to optionstransactions and the complexities of certain options investmentstrategies;
- (vii) fails to include a warning to the effect that options are not suitable for all investors or contains suggestions to the contrary; or
- (viii) fails to include a statement that supporting documentation for any claims (including any claims made on behalf of options programs or the options expertise of sales

persons), comparison, recommendations, statistics, or other technical data, will be supplied upon request.

- (B) Subparagraphs (vii) and (viii) above shall not apply to institutional sales material as defined in paragraph (a) of this Rule.
- (C) Any statement in any options communications referring to the potential opportunities or advantages presented by options shall be balanced by a statement of the corresponding risks. The risk statement shall reflect the same degree of specificity as the statement of opportunities, and broad generalities must be avoided.

(3) Projections

Options communications may contain projected performance figures (including projected annualized rates of return) provided that:

- (A) all such communications regarding standardized options are accompanied or preceded by the options disclosure document;
 - (B) no suggestion of certainty of future performance is made;
- (C) parameters relating to such performance figures are clearly established (e.g., to indicate exercise price of option, purchase price of the underlying stock and its market price, option premium, anticipated dividends, etc.);
- (D) all relevant costs, including commissions, fees, and interest charges (as applicable) are disclosed and reflected in the projections;

- (E) such projections are plausible and are intended as a source of reference or a comparative device to be used in the development of a recommendation;
- (F) all material assumptions made in such calculations are clearly identified (e.g., "assume option expires," "assume option unexercised," "assume option exercised," etc.);
- (G) the risks involved in the proposed transactions are also disclosed; and
- (H) in communications relating to annualized rates of return, that such returns are not based upon any less than a [sixty] <u>60</u>-day experience; any formulas used in making calculations are clearly displayed; and a statement is included to the effect that the annualized returns cited might be achieved only if the parameters described can be duplicated and that there is no certainty of doing so.

(4) Historical Performance

Options communications may feature records and statistics that portray the performance of past recommendations or of actual transactions, provided that:

- (A) all such communications regarding standardized options are accompanied or preceded by the options disclosure document;
- (B) any such portrayal is done in a balanced manner, and consists of records or statistics that are confined to a specific "universe" that can be fully isolated and circumscribed and that covers at least the most recent 12-month period;

- (C) such communications include the date of each initial recommendation or transaction, the price of each such recommendation or transaction as of such date, and the date and price of each recommendation or transaction at the end of the period or when liquidation was suggested or effected, whichever was earlier; provided that if the communications are limited to summarized or averaged records or statistics, in lieu of the complete record there may be included the number of items recommended or transacted, the number that advanced and the number that declined, together with an offer to provide the complete record upon request;
- (D) all relevant costs, including commissions, fees, and daily margin obligations (as applicable) are disclosed and reflected in the performance;
- (E) whenever such communications contain annualized rates of return, all material assumptions used in the process of annualization are disclosed;
- (F) an indication is provided of the general market conditions during the period(s) covered, and any comparison made between such records and statistics and the overall market (e.g., comparison to an index) is valid;
- (G) such communications state that the results presented should not and cannot be viewed as an indicator of future performance; and

(H) a Registered Options Principal determines that the records or statistics fairly present the status of the recommendations or transactions reported upon and so initials the report.

(5) Options Programs

In communications regarding an options program (i.e., an investment plan employing the systematic use of one or more options strategies), the cumulative history or unproven nature of the program and its underlying assumptions shall be disclosed.

(6) Violation of Other Rules

Any violation by a member or associated person of any rule or requirement of the SEC or any rule of the Securities Investor Protection

Corporation applicable to member communications concerning options will be deemed a violation of this Rule 2220.

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4000. FINANCIAL AND OPERATIONAL RULES

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[3500] 4300. OPERATIONS [EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS]

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[3510] 4370. Business Continuity Plans and Emergency Contact Information

(a) Each member must create and maintain a written business continuity plan identifying procedures relating to an emergency or significant business disruption. Such procedures must be reasonably designed to enable the member to meet its existing obligations to customers. In addition, such procedures must address the member's

existing relationships with other broker-dealers and counter-parties. The business continuity plan must be made available promptly upon request to [NASD] FINRA staff.

- (b) Each member must update its plan in the event of any material change to the member's operations, structure, business or location. Each member must also conduct an annual review of its business continuity plan to determine whether any modifications are necessary in light of changes to the member's operations, structure, business, or location.
- (c) The elements that comprise a business continuity plan are flexible and may be tailored to the size and needs of a member. Each plan, however, must at a minimum, address:
 - (1) Data back-up and recovery (hard copy and electronic);
 - (2) All mission critical systems;
 - (3) Financial and operational assessments;
 - (4) Alternate communications between customers and the member;
 - (5) Alternate communications between the member and its employees;
 - (6) Alternate physical location of employees;
 - (7) Critical business constituent, bank, and counter-party impact;
 - (8) Regulatory reporting;
 - (9) Communications with regulators; and
 - (10) How the member will assure customers' prompt access to their funds and securities in the event that the member determines that it is unable to continue its business.

Each member must address the above-listed categories to the extent applicable and necessary. If any of the above-listed categories is not applicable, the member's

business continuity plan need not address the category. The member's business continuity plan, however, must document the rationale for not including such category in its plan. If a member relies on another entity for any one of the above-listed categories or any mission critical system, the member's business continuity plan must address this relationship.

- (d) Members must designate a member of senior management to approve the plan and he or she shall be responsible for conducting the required annual review. The member of senior management must also be a registered principal.
- (e) Each member must disclose to its customers how its business continuity plan addresses the possibility of a future significant business disruption and how the member plans to respond to events of varying scope. At a minimum, such disclosure must be made in writing to customers at account opening, posted on the member's [Internet] Web site (if the member maintains a Web site), and mailed to customers upon request.
 - (f)(1) Each member shall report to FINRA, via such electronic or other means as FINRA may specify, prescribed emergency contact information for the member. The emergency contact information for the member includes designation of two emergency contact persons. Each emergency contact person shall be a member of senior management and a registered principal of the member.
 - (2) Each member must promptly update its emergency contact information, via such electronic or other means as FINRA may specify, in the event of any material change. With respect to the designated emergency contact

persons, each member must identify, review, and, if necessary, update such designations in the manner prescribed by NASD Rule 1160.

([f]g) For purposes of this [r]Rule, the following terms shall have the meanings specified below:

(1) "Mission critical system" means any system that is necessary, depending on the nature of a member's business, to ensure prompt and accurate processing of securities transactions, including, but not limited to, order taking, order entry, execution, comparison, allocation, clearance and settlement of securities transactions, the maintenance of customer accounts, access to customer accounts and the delivery of funds and securities.

(2) "Financial and operational assessment" means a set of written procedures that allow a member to identify changes in its operational, financial, and credit risk exposures.

[3520. Emergency Contact Information]

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5000. SECURITIES OFFERING AND TRADING STANDARDS AND PRACTICES

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5200. QUOTATION AND TRADING OBLIGATIONS AND PRACTICES

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[2460] <u>5250</u>. Payments for Market Making

- (a) No member or person associated with a member shall accept any payment or other consideration, directly or indirectly, from an issuer of a security, or any affiliate or promoter thereof, for publishing a quotation, acting as market maker in a security, or submitting an application in connection therewith.
 - (b) The provisions of paragraph (a) shall not preclude a member from accepting:
 - (1) payment for bona fide services, including, but not limited to, investment banking services (including underwriting compensation and fees); and
 - (2) reimbursement of any payment for registration imposed by the [Securities and Exchange Commission] <u>SEC</u> or state regulatory authorities and for listing of an issue of securities imposed by a self-regulatory organization.
- (c) For purposes of this [r]Rule, the following terms shall have the stated meanings:
 - (1) "affiliate" shall have the same definition as used in <u>NASD</u> Rule 2720 [of the Business Conduct Rules of the Association];
 - (2) "promoter" means any person who founded or organized the business or enterprise of an issuer, is a director or employee of an issuer, acts or has acted as a consultant, advisor, accountant or attorney to an issuer, is the beneficial owner of any of an issuer's securities that are considered "restricted securities" under Securities Act Rule 144, or is the beneficial owner of five percent (5%) or more of the public float of any class of an issuer's securities, and any other person with a similar interest in promoting the entry of quotations or market making in an issuer's securities; and

(3) "quotation" shall mean any bid or offer at a specified price with respect to a security, or any indication of interest by a member in receiving bids or offers from others for a security, or an indication by a member that [he] it wishes to advertise [his] its general interest in buying or selling a particular security.

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