

OMB APPROVAL

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

File No. SR - 2009 - 051

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)(2) ☐	Section 19(b)(3)(A) ☒	Section 19(b)(3)(B) ☐
			Rule		
			☐ 19b-4(f)(1) ☐ 19b-4(f)(4)		
			☐ 19b-4(f)(2) ☐ 19b-4(f)(5)		
			☐ 19b-4(f)(3) ☒ 19b-4(f)(6)		

Exhibit 2 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 to adopt FINRA Rule 6480 on a pilot basis to address the use of multiple Market Participant Symbols when quoting or trading OTC Equity Securities.

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 Last Name
Title
E-mail
Telephone Fax

Signature

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

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

Date By

(Name)

(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.

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

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

Form 19b-4 Information

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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

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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

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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

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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

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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 Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc. (“FINRA”) is filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC” or “Commission”) a proposed rule change to adopt FINRA Rule 6480 on a pilot basis to address the use of multiple Market Participant Symbols (“MPIDs”) when quoting or trading OTC Equity Securities.²

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

* * * * *

6480. Multiple MPIDs for Quoting and Trading in OTC Equity Securities

(a) For a pilot period ending on January 29, 2010, any member that wishes to use more than one Market Participant Symbol ("MPID") for purposes of quoting and trading OTC Equity Securities or for reporting trades to the OTC Reporting Facility must submit a written request to, and obtain approval from, FINRA Operations for such additional MPID(s).

(b) A member that posts a quotation in an OTC Equity Security and reports to a FINRA system a trade resulting from such posted quotation must utilize the same MPID for reporting purposes.

• • • Supplementary Material: -----

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² For purposes of the proposed rule, the term “OTC Equity Security” is defined in FINRA Rule 6420.

.01 FINRA considers the issuance of, and trade reporting with, multiple MPIDs to be a privilege and not a right. A member must identify the purpose(s) and system(s) for which the multiple MPIDs will be used. If FINRA determines that the use of multiple MPIDs is detrimental to the marketplace, or that a member is using one or more additional MPIDs improperly or for other than the purpose(s) identified by the member, FINRA staff retains full discretion to limit or withdraw its grant of the additional MPID(s) to such member.

* * * * *

(b) Not applicable.

(c) Not applicable.

2. Procedures of the Self-Regulatory Organization

The proposed rule change has been approved by senior management pursuant to delegated authority. No other action by FINRA is necessary for the filing of the proposed rule change.

FINRA has filed the proposed rule change for immediate effectiveness and has requested that the SEC waive the requirement that the proposed rule change not become operative for 30 days after the date of the filing, such that FINRA can implement the proposed rule change immediately.

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

(a) Purpose

FINRA has two rules governing the use of multiple MPIDs on FINRA facilities: Rule 6160 (Multiple MPIDs for Trade Reporting Facility Participants) and Rule 6170 (Primary and Additional MPIDs for Alternative Display Facility Participants). The proposed rule change would adopt, on a pilot basis, a rule for the use of multiple MPIDs

when quoting OTC Equity Securities or reporting trades in such securities to the OTC Reporting Facility. The use of multiple MPIDs is currently permitted with respect to FINRA Trade Reporting Facilities and the Alternative Display Facility, and firms have requested that FINRA extend the use of multiple MPIDs to the OTC market so that members can use multiple MPIDs for a variety of back-office purposes that would otherwise not be possible—for example, establishing separate clearing relationships for different types of securities (e.g., foreign and domestic securities). As is the case with respect to the market for exchange-listed securities, FINRA believes that there are legitimate business reasons for members to maintain multiple MPIDs in the OTC market and proposes to establish, on a pilot basis, a system whereby members can request and be granted multiple MPIDs for use in quoting and trading OTC Equity Securities. The proposed rule is substantially similar to Rule 6160 and, like that rule, would expire on January 29, 2010, unless extended.³

Like Rule 6160, proposed Rule 6480 provides that any member that wishes to use more than one MPID for purposes of quoting an OTC Equity Security or reporting trades to the OTC Reporting Facility must submit a written request to, and obtain approval from, FINRA Operations for such additional MPIDs. The rule also states that a member

³ Rule 6160 was approved by the Commission in 2006 on a pilot basis. See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 54715 (November 6, 2006), 71 FR 66354 (November 14, 2006); see also Securities Exchange Act Release No. 54715A (November 14, 2006), 71 FR 67183 (November 20, 2006). The pilot period has been extended several times since the rule was originally adopted and currently expires on January 29, 2010. See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 59183 (December 30, 2008), 74 FR 842 (January 8, 2009); Securities Exchange Act Release No. 57217 (January 28, 2008), 73 FR 6234 (February 1, 2008); Securities Exchange Act Release No. 55206 (January 31, 2007), 72 FR 5479 (February 6, 2007).

that posts a quotation in an OTC Equity Security and reports to a FINRA system a trade resulting from such posted quotation must utilize the same MPID for reporting purposes. In addition, Supplementary Material to the rule states that FINRA considers the issuance of, and trade reporting with, multiple MPIDs to be a privilege and not a right. When requesting an additional MPID(s), a member must identify the purpose(s) and system(s) for which the multiple MPIDs will be used. If FINRA determines that the use of multiple MPIDs is detrimental to the marketplace, or that a member is using one or more additional MPIDs improperly or for purposes other than the purpose(s) identified by the member, FINRA staff retains full discretion to limit or withdraw its grant of the additional MPID(s) to such member.

As noted in Item 2 of this filing, FINRA has filed the proposed rule change for immediate effectiveness and has requested that the SEC waive the requirement that the proposed rule change not become operative for 30 days after the date of the filing, such that FINRA can implement the proposed rule change immediately.

(b) Statutory Basis

FINRA believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the provisions of Section 15A(b)(6) of the Act,⁴ 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 the proposed rule change will create a system that will

⁴ 15 U.S.C. 78o-3(b)(6).

allow members to use multiple MPIDs when quoting and trading OTC Equity Securities with sufficient oversight by FINRA to ensure that the MPIDs are not being used improperly or in a way that would be detrimental to the marketplace.

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

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. 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

Not applicable.

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

The proposed rule change is effective upon filing pursuant to Section 19(b)(3) of the Act⁵ and paragraph (f)(6) of Rule 19b-4 thereunder,⁶ in that the proposed rule change does not significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest; does not impose any significant burden on competition; and does not become operative for 30 days after filing.

FINRA requests that the Commission waive the requirement that the rule change, by its terms, not become operative for 30 days after the date of the filing as set forth in

⁵ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3).

⁶ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii).⁷ FINRA has received requests from firms to extend the use of multiple MPIDs to the OTC market and believes that the reasons supporting the use of multiple MPIDs in the market for exchange-listed securities is similarly applicable to the OTC market. There is currently a system in place for members to request, and FINRA to review those requests for, multiple MPIDs, and the proposed rule change does not impose any obligations on FINRA members. Consequently, FINRA requests that the SEC waive the requirement that the rule change not become operative for thirty days after the date of filing.

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 Federal Register.

⁷ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6)(iii).

EXHIBIT 1

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
(Release No. 34- ; File No. SR-FINRA-2009-051)

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc.; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change Relating to the Use of Multiple Market Participant Symbols When Quoting or Trading OTC Equity Securities

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”) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC” or “Commission”) the proposed rule change as described in Items I and II below, which Items have been prepared by FINRA. FINRA has designated the proposed rule change as constituting a “non-controversial” rule change under paragraph (f)(6) of Rule 19b-4 under the Act,³ which renders the proposal effective upon receipt of this filing by the Commission. 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

FINRA is proposing to adopt FINRA Rule 6480 on a pilot basis to address the use of multiple Market Participant Symbols (“MPIDs”) when quoting or trading OTC Equity Securities.⁴

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

³ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

⁴ For purposes of the proposed rule, the term “OTC Equity Security” is defined in FINRA Rule 6420.

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

1. Purpose

FINRA has two rules governing the use of multiple MPIDs on FINRA facilities: Rule 6160 (Multiple MPIDs for Trade Reporting Facility Participants) and Rule 6170 (Primary and Additional MPIDs for Alternative Display Facility Participants). The proposed rule change would adopt, on a pilot basis, a rule for the use of multiple MPIDs when quoting OTC Equity Securities or reporting trades in such securities to the OTC Reporting Facility. The use of multiple MPIDs is currently permitted with respect to FINRA Trade Reporting Facilities and the Alternative Display Facility, and firms have requested that FINRA extend the use of multiple MPIDs to the OTC market so that members can use multiple MPIDs for a variety of back-office purposes that would otherwise not be possible—for example, establishing separate clearing relationships for different types of securities (e.g., foreign and domestic securities). As is the case with

respect to the market for exchange-listed securities, FINRA believes that there are legitimate business reasons for members to maintain multiple MPIDs in the OTC market and proposes to establish, on a pilot basis, a system whereby members can request and be granted multiple MPIDs for use in quoting and trading OTC Equity Securities. The proposed rule is substantially similar to Rule 6160 and, like that rule, would expire on January 29, 2010, unless extended.⁵

Like Rule 6160, proposed Rule 6480 provides that any member that wishes to use more than one MPID for purposes of quoting an OTC Equity Security or reporting trades to the OTC Reporting Facility must submit a written request to, and obtain approval from, FINRA Operations for such additional MPIDs. The rule also states that a member that posts a quotation in an OTC Equity Security and reports to a FINRA system a trade resulting from such posted quotation must utilize the same MPID for reporting purposes. In addition, Supplementary Material to the rule states that FINRA considers the issuance of, and trade reporting with, multiple MPIDs to be a privilege and not a right. When requesting an additional MPID(s), a member must identify the purpose(s) and system(s) for which the multiple MPIDs will be used. If FINRA determines that the use of multiple MPIDs is detrimental to the marketplace, or that a member is using one or more additional MPIDs improperly or for purposes other than the purpose(s) identified by the

⁵ Rule 6160 was approved by the Commission in 2006 on a pilot basis. See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 54715 (November 6, 2006), 71 FR 66354 (November 14, 2006); see also Securities Exchange Act Release No. 54715A (November 14, 2006), 71 FR 67183 (November 20, 2006). The pilot period has been extended several times since the rule was originally adopted and currently expires on January 29, 2010. See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 59183 (December 30, 2008), 74 FR 842 (January 8, 2009); Securities Exchange Act Release No. 57217 (January 28, 2008), 73 FR 6234 (February 1, 2008); Securities Exchange Act Release No. 55206 (January 31, 2007), 72 FR 5479 (February 6, 2007).

member, FINRA staff retains full discretion to limit or withdraw its grant of the additional MPID(s) to such member.

FINRA has filed the proposed rule change for immediate effectiveness and has requested that the SEC waive the requirement that the proposed rule change not become operative for 30 days after the date of the filing, such that FINRA can implement the proposed rule change immediately.

2. Statutory Basis

FINRA believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the provisions of Section 15A(b)(6) of the Act,⁶ 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 the proposed rule change will create a system that will allow members to use multiple MPIDs when quoting and trading OTC Equity Securities with sufficient oversight by FINRA to ensure that the MPIDs are not being used improperly or in a way that would be detrimental to the marketplace.

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

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. 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 15 U.S.C. 78o-3(b)(6).

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

Because the foregoing proposed rule change does not: (i) significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest; (ii) impose any significant burden on competition; and (iii) become operative for 30 days from the date on which it was filed, or such shorter time as the Commission may designate, it has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act⁷ and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder.⁸

At any time within 60 days of the filing of the proposed rule change, the Commission may summarily abrogate such rule change if it appears to the Commission that such action is necessary or appropriate in the public interest, for the protection of investors, or otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

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-FINRA-2009-051 on the subject line.

⁷ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

⁸ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

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-2009-051. 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-2009-051 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.⁹

Florence E. Harmon

Deputy Secretary

⁹ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).