

11Aa3-2(c)(2),⁵ if it appears to the Commission that such action is necessary or appropriate in the public interests, for the protection of investors and the maintenance of fair and orderly markets, to remove impediments to, and perfect the mechanisms of, a national market system, or otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Exchange Act.⁶

II. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views, and arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposed Plan amendment is consistent with the Act. Persons making written submissions should file six copies thereof with the Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 450 Fifth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20549-0609. Copies of the Submission, all subsequent amendments, and all written statements with respect to the proposed Plan amendment that are filed with the Commission, and all written communications relating to the proposed Plan amendment between the Commission and any person, other than those 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 the filing also will be available at the principal offices of OPRA. All submissions should refer to File No. SR-OPRA-00-09 and should be submitted by November 2, 2000.

For the Commission, by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.⁷

Margaret H. McFarland,
Deputy Secretary.

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-43405; File No. SR-AMEX-00-54]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change by the American Stock Exchange LLC Relating to Amex Rule 915

October 3, 2000.

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 September 27, 2000, the American Stock Exchange LLC (“Amex” or “Exchange”) 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 the Exchange. 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

The Exchange proposes to amend the numbering of Amex Rule 915, Commentary .07, as filed with the Commission in SR-Amex-00-45, to Amex Rule 915, Commentary .08. This commentary relates to liability disclaimer and warranty with respect to the FORTUNE Indexes.

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

In its filing with the Commission, the Exchange included statements concerning the purpose of and basis for the proposed rule change and discussed any comments it received on the proposed rule change. The text of these statements may be examined at the places specified in Item IV below. The Exchange has prepared summaries, set forth in Sections A, B, and C below, of the most significant aspects of such statements.

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

1. Purpose

On August 16, 2000, the Exchange filed an amendment to Amex Rule 915 relating to the liability disclaimer and warranty with respect to the FORTUNE Indexes (SR-Amex-00-45). This amendment became effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3) of the Act and subparagraph (f)(6) of Rule 19b-4 under the Act.³ In SR-Amex-00-45, proposed new Commentary to Amex Rule 915 was inadvertently numbered as Commentary .07. The Exchange hereby amends numbering of this Commentary .07 to Commentary .08 to avoid conflict with Amex Rule 915, Commentary .07 relating to options on Trust Issued

Receipts, previously approved by the Commission on June 15, 2000.⁴

2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 6(b)⁵ of the Act in general and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(5)⁶ in particular in that it is designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system, and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest; and are not designed to permit unfair discrimination between customers, issuers, brokers and dealers.

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

The Exchange represents that the proposed rule change will impose no burden on competition.

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

No written comments were solicited or received with respect to the proposed rule change.

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

The foregoing proposed rule change has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act⁷ and Rule 19b-4(f)(1) thereunder⁸ because the proposed rule change constitutes a stated policy, practice, or interpretation with respect to the meaning, administration, or enforcement of an existing rule. 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 the furtherance of the purposes of the Act.⁹

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. Persons making written submissions

⁴ Securities Exchange Act Release No. 42947, 65 FR 39211 (June 23, 2000).

⁵ 15 U.S.C. 78f.

⁶ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

⁷ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

⁸ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(3).

⁹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(C).

⁵ 17 CFR 240.11Aa3-2(c)(2).

⁶ 17 CFR 240.11Aa3-2.

⁷ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(29).

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

³ Securities Exchange Act Release No. 43191 (August 22, 2000), 65 FR 52456 (August 29, 2000).

should file six copies thereof with the Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 450 Fifth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20549-0609. 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 at the Commission's Public Reference Room. Copies of such filing will also be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the Exchange. All submissions should refer to File No. SR-AMEX-00-54 and should be submitted by November 2, 2000.

For the Commission, by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.¹⁰

Margaret H. McFarland,
Deputy Secretary.

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-43394; File No. SR-BSE-00-13]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Notice of Filing of Proposed Rule Change by the Boston Stock Exchange, Inc. Relating to Electronic Trading Permits for BEACON Remote Units

September 29, 2000.

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 September 21, 2000, the Boston Stock Exchange, Inc. ("Exchange") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II and III below, which items have been prepared by the Exchange. The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

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

The Exchange seeks to add a paragraph to its rules regarding

BEACON Remote specialists relating to Electronic Trading Permits ("ETP") which will provide remote access to the BEACON trading system from remote locations using authorized terminals and related equipment. The text of the proposed rule change follows.

Chapter XXXIII

Boston Exchange Automated Communication Order-routing Network (BEACON)

BEACON Remote

Sec. 9. * * *

Electronic Trading Permits ("ETP")

(o) Each remote BEACON terminal assigned and registered by the Exchange will require an ETP, and will be subject to the following:

(1) Each approved Specialist unit may be authorized to trade up to 200 issues.

(2) Each Specialist unit must have at least one registered Exchange seat assigned to the approved specialist.

a. A specialist may be authorized to obtain additional ETP's for qualified registered clerks to access BEACON in support of the Specialist unit.

b. All specialists and registered clerk ETP holders must be approved by the Market Performance Committee and must meet the following:

i. file an ETP application form with the BSE Surveillance Department;

ii. completion of the required floor training program*;

iii. successful completion of the BSE floor examination with 90 days of application (unless waived by the Exchange);

iv. successful completion of the Series 63 (NASAA Uniform State Law Exam), and registration with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and;

v. submission of fingerprint records to the BSE.

(3) Each Specialist unit identified by the member firm will be assigned an account ("give up") and will be evaluated under the Exchange's Specialist Performance Evaluation Program ("SPEP") which currently measures performance in several separate categories comprising a relative overall performance ranking.

* Training: On-site floor training for at least two weeks unless other arrangements are made with and approved by the Exchange, and will include, among other things:

(1) Questioned trade procedures

(2) Communication procedures with Floor Brokers, Front Desk Operations, Surveillance, Systems Support, and ITS coordination with the Floor.

(3) Competing Specialist Initiative ("CSI") and Unlisted Trading Privilege ("UTP") applications and procedures

(4) Stock allocation procedures

(5) Book or symbol change procedures

(6) Trading Halt procedures

(7) Floor official rulings

(8) Authorizations required for billing, withdrawals, and payment of fines where applicable

(9) Minor Rule Plan Violations policies and application

(10) Books and records/reports available

(11) Explanation of the SPEP categories and procedures

(12) Certain other rules and policies deemed appropriate by the Exchange (e.g. Limit Order Display Rule, auto-executions, Price Improvement, etc.)

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

In its filing with the Commission, the Exchange included statements concerning the purpose of and basis for the proposed rule change and discussed any comments it received on the proposed rule change. The text of these statements may be examined at the places specified in Item III below. The Exchange has prepared summaries, set forth in Section 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

The Exchange proposes to add paragraph (o) to Chapter XXXIII, Section 9, BEACON Remote, to require and establish guidelines for Electronic Trading Permits ("ETP") for remote specialist operations. Each BEACON Remote terminal will be individually identified and associated with (an) authorized and qualified specialist(s) and/or registered clerk(s). The Exchange will specifically authorize and approve each ETP based on certain qualifications. Each ETP will provide remote access to the BEACON system from remote locations using authorized terminals and related equipment.

The Exchange states that remote specialists and associated registered clerks with ETP's, like current BSE floor specialist units, will receive orders, commitments over the Intermarket Trading system ("ITS") and administrative messages through the BEACON system. The existing Exchange systems and rules will support remote specialists as they currently support the physical trading floor. All executions occurring within BEACON, whether

¹⁰ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

¹¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.