

2690 (November 15, 1940); Securities Exchange Act Release No. 9428 (December 29, 1971). Pursuant to Rule 15c2-1, respondents must collect information necessary to prevent the rehypothecation of customer securities in contravention of the rule, issue and retain copies of notices of hypothecation of customer securities in accordance with the rule, and collect written consents from customers in accordance with the rule. The information is necessary to ensure compliance with the rule, and to advise customers of the rule's protections.

There are approximately 145 respondents (*i.e.*, broker-dealers that carry or clear customer accounts that also have bank loans) that require an aggregate total of 3263 hours to comply with the rule. Each of these approximately 145 registered broker-dealers makes an estimated 45 annual responses. Each response takes approximately 0.5 hours to complete. Thus, the total compliance burden per year is 3263 burden hours.

Written comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Consideration will be given to comments and suggestions submitted in writing within 60 days of this publication.

Direct your written comments to R. Corey Booth, Director/Chief Information Officer, Office of Information Technology, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street, NW., Washington, DC 20549.

Dated: January 17, 2006.

**Jill M. Peterson,**

*Assistant Secretary.*

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## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-53131; File No. S7-24-89]

### Joint Industry Plan; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Amendment Nos. 15 and 16 to the Joint Self-Regulatory Organization Plan Governing the Collection, Consolidation and Dissemination of Quotation and Transaction Information for Nasdaq-Listed Securities Traded on Exchanges on an Unlisted Trading Privileges Basis, Submitted by the Pacific Exchange, Inc., the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc., the American Stock Exchange LLC, the Boston Stock Exchange, Inc., the Chicago Stock Exchange, Inc., the National Stock Exchange, Inc., and the Philadelphia Stock Exchange, Inc.

January 17, 2006.

#### I. Introduction and Description

Pursuant to Rule 608 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Act")<sup>1</sup> notice is hereby given that on December 15, 2005, the operating committee ("Operating Committee" or "Committee")<sup>2</sup> of the Joint Self-Regulatory Organization Plan Governing the Collection, Consolidation, and Dissemination of Quotation and Transaction Information for Nasdaq-Listed Securities Traded on Exchanges on an Unlisted Trading Privilege Basis ("Nasdaq/UTP Plan" or "Plan") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") amendments to the Plan. These amendments are incorporated in Amendment 15 to the Plan and reflect elimination of the New York Stock Exchange as a Plan Participant, removal of an outdated section of the Plan regarding Eligible Securities, and modification of Exhibit 1 to the Plan to reflect quarterly year-to-date payments and adjustments of distributable net operating income. Amendment 15 was unanimously approved by the Committee on September 22, 2005.<sup>3</sup> In addition, pursuant to Rule 608 of the Act, notice is hereby given that on

<sup>1</sup> 17 CFR 242.608.

<sup>2</sup> The Plan Participants (collectively, "Participants") are: The American Stock Exchange, LLC ("AMEX"), the Boston Stock Exchange, Inc. ("BSE"), the Chicago Board Options Exchange, Inc. ("CBOE"), the Chicago Stock Exchange, Inc. ("CHX"), the National Stock Exchange, Inc. ("NSX"), the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc. ("NASD"), the Pacific Exchange ("PCX"), and the Philadelphia Stock Exchange, Inc. ("PHLX").

<sup>3</sup> See letter from Bridget M. Farrell, Chairman, OTC/UTP Operating Committee, to Jonathan G. Katz, Secretary, Commission, dated December 14, 2005.

December 23, 2005, the Committee filed with the Commission another amendment to the Plan, Amendment 16. Amendment 16 to the Plan reflects the addition of the International Securities Exchange as a Plan Participant. Amendment 16 was unanimously approved by the Committee on November 17, 2005.<sup>4</sup> The Commission is publishing this notice of filing and immediate effectiveness to solicit comments from interested persons on Amendment Nos. 15 and 16.

#### II. Background

The Plan governs the collection, consolidation, and dissemination of quotation and transaction information for the Nasdaq Stock Market, Inc. ("Nasdaq") National Market ("NNM") and Nasdaq SmallCap securities listed on Nasdaq or traded on an exchange pursuant to unlisted trading privileges ("UTP").<sup>5</sup> The Plan provides for the collection from Plan Participants and the consolidation and dissemination to vendors, subscribers, and others of quotation and transaction information in Eligible Securities.<sup>6</sup>

The Commission originally approved the Plan on a pilot basis on June 26, 1990.<sup>7</sup> The parties did not begin trading until July 12, 1993; accordingly, the pilot period commenced on July 12, 1993. The Plan was most recently extended on December 14, 2005.<sup>8</sup>

<sup>4</sup> See letter from Bridget M. Farrell, Chairman, OTC/UTP Operating Committee, to Jonathan G. Katz, Secretary, Commission, dated December 20, 2005.

<sup>5</sup> Section 12 of the Act generally requires an exchange to trade only those securities that the exchange lists, except that section 12(f) of the Act permits UTP under certain circumstances. For example, section 12(f) of the Act, among other things, permits exchanges to trade certain securities that are traded over-the-counter ("OTC/UTP"), but only pursuant to a Commission order or rule. For a more complete discussion of the section 12(f) requirement, see Securities Exchange Act Release No. 36481 (November 13, 1995), 60 FR 58119 (November 24, 1995).

<sup>6</sup> The Plan defines "Eligible Securities" as any Nasdaq National Market or Nasdaq SmallCap security, as defined in NASD Rule 4200, (i) as to which unlisted trading privileges have been granted to a national securities exchange pursuant to section 12(f) of the Act or which become eligible for such trading pursuant to order of the Commission, or (ii) which is also listed on a national securities exchange.

<sup>7</sup> See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 28146, 55 FR 27917 (July 6, 1990).

<sup>8</sup> See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 52886, 70 FR 74059 (December 14, 2005).

### III. Description and Purpose of the Amendments<sup>9</sup>

#### A. Amendment No. 15

The following is a summary of the changes to the Plan prepared by the Participants:

(i) Section I.A. of the Plan provides for the list of Plan Participants.

Amendment 15 eliminates the New York Stock Exchange ("NYSE") as a Plan Participant.

(ii) Section VI.C.2 of the Plan provides for a phase-in of Eligible Securities and certain Auto-Quoting restrictions that are no longer relevant. Accordingly, Amendment 15 proposes to delete this section of the Plan.

(iii) Section VI.C.3 and Section VI.C.4 shall be renumbered due to the elimination of section VI.C.2.

(iv) Section VIII.C sets forth the symbols for market identification for quotation information and transaction reports. Amendment 15 eliminates "N" as a symbol, since NYSE is being eliminated as a plan participant.

(v) Amendment 15 also modifies Exhibit 1 to the Plan to reflect that Participants will be provided with written estimates of estimated quarterly net distributable operating income within 45 calendar days of the end of the quarter and estimated quarterly payments shall be made on the basis of such estimates.

(vi) Further, Exhibit 1 has been modified to reflect that each quarterly payment shall be reconciled against a Participant's cumulative year-to-date payment received to date and adjusted accordingly. Lastly, Amendment 15 clarifies language regarding interest payments and audit adjustment procedures.

#### B. Amendment No. 16

Section I.A. of the Plan provides for the list of Plan Participants. Amendment 16 adds the International Securities Exchange ("ISE") as a Plan Participant. ISE will commence quoting and trading in Nasdaq-listed securities upon completing the necessary development and implementation work required to become a new Participant in Nasdaq-listed securities. ISE has paid the Plan entrance fee pursuant to section XIII.A.

### IV. Date of Effectiveness of the Amendment

The changes set forth in Amendment Nos. 15 and 16 are concerned solely with the administration of the plan or

involve solely technical or ministerial matters, and thus are being put into effect upon filing with the Commission pursuant to Rules 608(b)(3)(ii) and 608(b)(3)(iii).<sup>10</sup> At any time within 60 days of the filing of any such amendment, the Commission may summarily abrogate the amendment and require that such amendment be refiled in accordance with paragraph (a)(1) of Rule 608 under the Act<sup>11</sup> and reviewed in accordance with paragraph (b)(2) of Rule 608 under the Act,<sup>12</sup> if it appears to the Commission that such action is necessary or appropriate in the public interest, for the protection of investors, or the maintenance of fair and orderly markets, to remove impediments to, and perfect mechanisms of, a national market system or otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.<sup>13</sup>

### V. Solicitation of Comments

The Commission seeks general comments on Amendment Nos. 15 and 16. Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views, and arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposal 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](mailto:rule-comments@sec.gov). Please include File Number S7-24-89 on the subject line.

#### Paper Comments

- Send paper comments in triplicate to Nancy M. Morris, Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, Station Place, 100 F Street, NE., Washington, DC 20549-9303. All submissions should refer to File Number S7-24-89. This file number should be included on the subject line if e-mail is used. To help the Commission process and review your comments more efficiently, please use only one method. The Commission will post all comments on the Commission's Internet Web site (<http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml>). Copies of the submission, all subsequent amendments, all written statements with respect to the proposed rule change that are filed with the Commission, and all written communications relating to the proposed rule change between the

Commission and any person, other than those that may be withheld from the public in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552, will be available for inspection and copying in the Commission's Public Reference Room. Copies of the filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the Office of the Secretary of the Committee, currently located at the Pacific Exchange, Inc. and Archipelago Exchange L.L.C., 100 South Wacker Drive, Suite 2000, Chicago, IL 60606. 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 S7-24-89 and should be submitted on or before February 14, 2006.

For the Commission, by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.<sup>14</sup>

**Jill M. Peterson,**  
Assistant Secretary.

### Exhibit A

Amendment Nos. 15 and 16; Joint Self-Regulatory Organization Plan Governing the Collection, Consolidation and Dissemination of Quotation and Transaction Information for Nasdaq-Listed Securities Traded on Exchanges on an Unlisted Trading Privilege Basis.

The undersigned registered national securities association and national securities exchanges (collectively referred to as the "Participants"), have jointly developed and hereby enter into this Nasdaq Unlisted Trading Privileges Plan ("Nasdaq UTP Plan" or "Plan").

### I. Participants

The Participants include the following:

#### A. Participants

1. American Stock Exchange LLC, 86 Trinity Place, New York, New York 10006.
2. Boston Stock Exchange, 100 Franklin Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02110.
3. Chicago Stock Exchange, 440 South LaSalle Street, Chicago, Illinois 60605.
4. Chicago Board Options Exchange, Inc., 400 South LaSalle Street, 26th Floor, Chicago, Illinois 60605.
5. International Securities Exchange, Inc., 60 Broad Street, New York, New York 60605.
6. National Association of Securities, Dealers, Inc., 1735 K Street, NW., Washington, DC 20006.

<sup>14</sup> 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(27).

<sup>9</sup> The complete text of the Plan, as amended by Amendments No. 15 and 16, is attached as Exhibit A.

<sup>10</sup> 17 CFR 242.608(b)(3)(ii) and (b)(3)(iii).

<sup>11</sup> 17 CFR 242.608(a)(1).

<sup>12</sup> 17 CFR 242.608(b)(2).

<sup>13</sup> 17 CFR 242.608(b)(3)(iii).

7. National Stock Exchange, 440 South LaSalle Street, 26th Floor, Chicago, Illinois 60605.

8. Pacific Exchange, Inc., 115 Sansome Street, San Francisco, CA 94104.

9. Philadelphia Stock Exchange, 1900 Market Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103.

#### B. Additional Participants

Any other national securities association or national securities exchange, in whose market Eligible Securities become traded, may become a Participant, provided that said organization executes a copy of this Plan and pays its share of development costs as specified in section XIII.

### II. Purpose of Plan

The purpose of this Plan is to provide for the collection, consolidation and dissemination of Quotation Information and Transaction Reports in Eligible Securities from the Participants in a manner consistent with the Exchange Act.

It is expressly understood that each Participant shall be responsible for the collection of Quotation Information and Transaction Reports within its market and that nothing in this Plan shall be deemed to govern or apply to the manner in which each Participant does so.

### III. Definitions

A. "Current" means, with respect to Transaction Reports or Quotation Information, such Transaction Reports or Quotation Information during the fifteen (15) minute period immediately following the initial transmission thereof by the Processor.

B. "Eligible Security" means any Nasdaq National Market or Nasdaq SmallCap security, as defined in NASD Rule 4200: (i) As to which unlisted trading privileges have been granted to a national securities exchange pursuant to Section 12(f) of the Exchange Act or which become eligible for such trading pursuant to order of the Securities and Exchange Commission; or (ii) which also is listed on a national securities exchange.

C. "Commission" and "SEC" shall mean the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.

D. "Exchange Act" means the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

E. "Market" shall mean (i) when used with respect to Quotation Information, the NASD in the case of a Nasdaq market maker or a Nasdaq-registered electronic communications network/alternative trading system (hereafter collectively referred to as "Nasdaq

market participants") acting in such capacity, or the Participant on whose floor or through whose facilities the quotation was disseminated; and (ii) when used with respect to Transaction Reports, the Participant through whose facilities the transaction took place or was reported, or the Participant to whose facilities the order was sent for execution.

F. "NASD" means the National Association of Securities Dealers Inc.

G. "NASD Participant" means an NASD member that is registered as a market maker or an electronic communications network or otherwise utilizes the facilities of the NASD pursuant to applicable NASD rules.

H. "NASD Transaction Reporting System" means the System provided for in the NASD's Transaction Reporting Plan filed with and approved by the Commission pursuant to SEC Rule 11Aa3-1, governing the reporting of transactions in Nasdaq securities.

I. "UTP Quote Data Feed" means the service that provides Subscribers with the National Best Bid and Offer quotations, size and market center identifier, as well as the Best Bid and Offer quotations, size and market center identifier from each individual Participant in Eligible Securities.

J. "Nasdaq Level 2 Service" means the Nasdaq service that provides Subscribers with query capability with respect to quotations and sizes in securities included in the Nasdaq System, best bid and asked quotations, and Transaction Reports.

K. "Nasdaq Level 3 Service" means the Nasdaq service that provides Nasdaq market participants with input and query capability with respect to quotations and sizes in securities included in the Nasdaq System, best bid and asked quotations, and Transaction Reports.

L. "Nasdaq System" means the automated quotation system operated by Nasdaq.

M. "UTP Trade Data Feed" means the service that provides Vendors and Subscribers with Transaction Reports.

N. "Nasdaq Security" or "Nasdaq-listed Security" means any security listed on the Nasdaq National Market or Nasdaq SmallCap Market.

O. "News Service" means a person that receives Transaction Reports or Quotation Information provided by the Systems or provided by a Vendor, on a Current basis, in connection with such person's business of furnishing such information to newspapers, radio and television stations and other news media, for publication at least fifteen (15) minutes following the time when

the information first has been published by the Processor.

P. "OTC Montage Data Feed" means the data stream of information that provides Vendors and Subscribers with quotations and sizes from all Participants and Nasdaq market participants.

Q. "Participant" means a registered national securities exchange or national securities association that is a signatory to this Plan.

R. "Plan" means this Nasdaq UTP Plan, as from time to time amended according to its provisions, governing the collection, consolidation and dissemination of Quotation Information and Transaction Reports in Eligible Securities.

S. "Processor" means the entity selected by the Participants to perform the processing functions set forth in the Plan.

T. "Quotation Information" means all bids, offers, displayed quotation sizes, the market center identifiers and, in the case of NASD and Nasdaq, the NASD and Nasdaq market participant that entered the quotation, withdrawals and other information pertaining to quotations in Eligible Securities required to be collected and made available to the Processor pursuant to this Plan.

U. "Regulatory Halt" means a trade suspension or halt called for the purpose of dissemination of material news, as described at Section X hereof or that is called for where there are regulatory problems relating to an Eligible Security that should be clarified before trading therein is permitted to continue, including a trading halt for extraordinary market activity due to system misuse or malfunction under Section X.E.1. of the Plan ("Extraordinary Market Regulatory Halt").

V. "Subscriber" means a person that receives Current Quotation Information or Transaction Reports provided by the Processor or provided by a Vendor, for its own use or for distribution on a non-Current basis, other than in connection with its activities as a Vendor.

W. "Transaction Reports" means reports required to be collected and made available pursuant to this Plan containing the stock symbol, price, and size of the transaction executed, the Market in which the transaction was executed, and related information, including a buy/sell/cross indicator and trade modifiers, reflecting completed transactions in Eligible Securities.

X. "Upon Effectiveness of the Plan" means July 12, 1993, the date on which the Participants commenced publication of Quotation Information and

Transaction Reports on Eligible Securities as contemplated by this Plan.

Y. "Vendor" means a person that receives Current Quotation Information or Transaction Reports provided by the Processor or provided by a Vendor, in connection with such person's business of distributing, publishing, or otherwise furnishing such information on a Current basis to Subscribers, News Services or other Vendors.

Z. "NQDS" means the data stream of information that provides Vendors and Subscribers with the best quotations and sizes from each Nasdaq Participant.

AA. "Nasdaq Participant" means an entity that is registered as a market maker or an electronic communications network in Nasdaq or otherwise utilizes the facilities of The Nasdaq Stock Market pursuant to applicable NASD rules but does not include an NASD Participant as defined in Section III.G. of this Plan.

#### IV. Administration of Plan

##### A. Operating Committee: Composition

The Plan shall be administered by the Participants through an operating committee ("Operating Committee"), which shall be composed of one representative designated by each Participant. Each Participant may designate an alternate representative or representatives who shall be authorized to act on behalf of the Participant in the absence of the designated representative. Within the areas of its responsibilities and authority, decisions made or actions taken by the Operating Committee, directly or by duly delegated individuals, committees as may be established from time to time, or others, shall be binding upon each Participant, without prejudice to the rights of any Participant to seek redress from the SEC pursuant to Rule 11Aa3-2 under the Exchange Act or in any other appropriate forum.

An Electronic Communications Network, Alternative Trading System, Broker-Dealer or other securities organization ("Organization") which is not a Participant, but has an actively pending Form 1 Application on file with the Commission to become a national securities exchange, will be permitted to appoint one representative and one alternate representative to attend regularly scheduled Operating Committee meetings in the capacity of an observer/advisor. If the Organization's Form 1 petition is withdrawn, returned, or is otherwise not actively pending with the Commission for any reason, then the Organization will no longer be eligible to be represented in the Operating Committee

meetings. The Operating Committee shall have the discretion, in limited instances, to deviate from this policy if, as indicated by majority vote, the Operating Committee agrees that circumstances so warrant.

Nothing in this section or elsewhere within the Plan shall authorize any person or organization other than Participants and their representatives to participate on the Operating Committee in any manner other than as an advisor or observer, or in any Executive Session of the Operating Committee.

##### B. Operating Committee: Authority

The Operating Committee shall be responsible for:

1. Overseeing the consolidation of Quotation Information and Transaction Reports in Eligible Securities from the Participants for dissemination to Vendors, Subscribers, News Services and others in accordance with the provisions of the Plan;
2. Periodically evaluating the Processor;
3. Setting the level of fees to be paid by Vendors, Subscribers, News Services or others for services relating to Quotation Information or Transaction Reports in Eligible Securities, and taking action in respect thereto in accordance with the provisions of the Plan;
4. Determining matters involving the interpretation of the provisions of the Plan;
5. Determining matters relating to the Plan's provisions for cost allocation and revenue-sharing; and
6. Carrying out such other specific responsibilities as provided under the Plan.

##### C. Operating Committee: Voting

Each Participant shall have one vote on all matters considered by the Operating Committee.

1. The affirmative and unanimous vote of all Participants entitled to vote shall be necessary to constitute the action of the Operating Committee with respect to:
  - a. Amendments to the Plan;
  - b. Amendments to contracts between the Processor and Vendors, Subscribers, News Services and others receiving Quotation Information and Transaction Reports in Eligible Securities;
  - c. Replacement of the Processor, except for termination for cause, which shall be governed by section V(B) hereof;
  - d. Reductions in existing fees relating to Quotation Information and Transaction Reports in Eligible Securities; and

e. Except as provided under Section IV(C)(3) hereof, requests for system changes; and

f. All other matters not specifically addressed by the Plan.

2. With respect to the establishment of new fees or increases in existing fees relating to Quotation Information and Transaction Reports in Eligible Securities, the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the Participants entitled to vote shall be necessary to constitute the action of the Operating Committee.

3. The affirmative vote of a majority of the Participants entitled to vote shall be necessary to constitute the action of the Operating Committee with respect to:

a. Requests for system changes reasonably related to the function of the Processor as defined under the Plan. All other requests for system changes shall be governed by Section IV(C)(1)(e) hereof.

b. Interpretive matters and decisions of the Operating Committee arising under, or specifically required to be taken by, the provisions of the Plan as written;

c. Interpretive matters arising under Exchange Act Rules 11Aa3-1 and 11Ac1-1; and

d. Denials of access (other than for breach of contract, which shall be handled by the Processor),

4. It is expressly agreed and understood that neither this Plan nor the Operating Committee shall have authority in any respect over any Participant's proprietary systems. Nor shall the Plan or the Operating Committee have any authority over the collection and dissemination of quotation or transaction information in Eligible Securities in any Participant's marketplace, or, in the case of the NASD, from NASD Participants.

##### D. Operating Committee: Meetings

Regular meetings of the Operating Committee may be attended by each Participant's designated representative and/or its alternate representative(s), and may be attended by one or more other representatives of the parties. Meetings shall be held at such times and locations as shall from time to time be determined by the Operating Committee.

Quorum: Any action requiring a vote only can be taken at a meeting in which a quorum of all Participants is present. For actions requiring a simple majority vote of all Participants, a quorum of greater than 50% of all Participants entitled to vote must be present at the meeting before such a vote may be taken. For actions requiring a  $\frac{2}{3}$  majority vote of all Participants, a

quorum of at least  $\frac{2}{3}$  of all Participants entitled to vote must be present at the meeting before such a vote may be taken. For actions requiring a unanimous vote of all Participants, a quorum of all Participants entitled to vote must be present at the meeting before such a vote may be taken.

A Participant is considered present at a meeting only if a Participant's designated representative or alternate representative(s) is either in physical attendance at the meeting or is participating by conference telephone, or other acceptable electronic means.

Any action sought to be resolved at a meeting must be sent to each Participant entitled to vote on such matter at least one week prior to the meeting via electronic mail, regular U.S. or private mail, or facsimile transmission, provided however that this requirement may be waived by the vote of the percentage of the Committee required to vote on any particular matter, under section C above.

Any action may be taken without a meeting if a consent in writing, setting forth the action so taken, is sent to and signed by all Participant representatives entitled to vote with respect to the subject matter thereof. All the approvals evidencing the consent shall be delivered to the Chairman of the Operating Committee to be filed in the Operating Committee records. The action taken shall be effective when the minimum number of Participants entitled to vote have approved the action, unless the consent specifies a different effective date.

The Chairman of the Operating Committee shall be elected annually by and from among the Participants by a majority vote of all Participants entitled to vote. The Chairman shall designate a person to act as Secretary to record the minutes of each meeting. The location of meetings shall be rotated among the locations of the principal offices of the Participants, or such other locations as may from time to time be determined by the Operating Committee. Meetings may be held by conference telephone and action may be taken without a meeting if the representatives of all Participants entitled to vote consent thereto in writing or other means the Operating Committee deems acceptable.

#### *E. Advisory Committee*

##### 1. Composition

a. Each Plan Participant may designate three representatives to participate in the Advisory Committee. The representatives shall each be an employee of a member of that Participant, a professor or other

academic involved in the scholarly study of the securities industry, or an expert in one or more areas of the securities industry.

b. Each representative shall serve a one-year term on the Advisory Committee.

##### 2. Authority

The Advisory Committee shall have the opportunity to:

a. Meet twice yearly, each meeting to occur one day prior to a meeting of the Operating Committee.

b. Discuss any matter related to the operation of the Plan.

c. Present written comments or inquiries to the Operating Committee regarding matters related to the operation of the Plan.

d. Respond to written inquiries from the Operating Committee seeking comment from the Advisory Committee on matters related to the operation of the Plan.

#### **V. Selection and Evaluation of the Processor**

##### *A. Generally*

The Processor's performance of its functions under the Plan shall be subject to review by the Operating Committee at least every two years, or from time to time upon the request of any two Participants but not more frequently than once each year. Based on this review, the Operating Committee may choose to make a recommendation to the Participants with respect to the continuing operation of the Processor. The Operating Committee shall notify the SEC of any recommendations the Operating Committee shall make pursuant to the Operating Committee's review of the Processor and shall supply the Commission with a copy of any reports that may be prepared in connection therewith.

##### *B. Termination of the Processor for Cause*

If the Operating Committee determines that the Processor has failed to perform its functions in a reasonably acceptable manner in accordance with the provisions of the Plan or that its reimbursable expenses have become excessive and are not justified on a cost basis, the Processor may be terminated at such time as may be determined by a majority vote of the Operating Committee.

##### *C. Factors To Be Considered in Termination for Cause*

Among the factors to be considered in evaluating whether the Processor has performed its functions in a reasonably acceptable manner in accordance with

the provisions of the Plan shall be the reasonableness of its response to requests from Participants for technological changes or enhancements pursuant to section IV(C)(3) hereof. The reasonableness of the Processor's response to such requests shall be evaluated by the Operating Committee in terms of the cost to the Processor of purchasing the same service from a third party and integrating such service into the Processor's existing systems and operations as well as the extent to which the requested change would adversely impact the then current technical (as opposed to business or competitive) operations of the Processor.

##### *D. Processor's Right To Appeal Termination for Cause*

The Processor shall have the right to appeal to the SEC a determination of the Operating Committee terminating the Processor for cause and no action shall become final until the SEC has ruled on the matter and all legal appeals of right therefrom have been exhausted.

##### *E. Process for Selecting New Processor*

At any time following effectiveness of the Plan, but no later than upon the termination of the Processor, whether for cause pursuant to section IV(C)(1)(c) or V(B) of the Plan or upon the Processor's resignation, the Operating Committee shall establish procedures for selecting a new Processor (the "Selection Procedures"). The Operating Committee, as part of the process of establishing Selection Procedures, may solicit and consider the timely comment of any entity affected by the operation of this Plan. The Selection Procedures shall be established by a two-thirds majority vote of the Plan Participants, and shall set forth, at a minimum:

1. The entity that will:

(a) Draft the Operating Committee's request for proposal for bids on a new processor;

(b) Assist the Operating Committee in evaluating bids for the new processor; and

(c) Otherwise provide assistance and guidance to the Operating Committee in the selection process.

2. The minimum technical and operational requirements to be fulfilled by the Processor;

3. The criteria to be considered in selecting the Processor; and

4. The entities (other than Plan Participants) that are eligible to comment on the selection of the Processor.

Nothing in this provision shall be interpreted as limiting Participants'

rights under section IV or section V of the Plan or other Commission order.

## VI. Functions of the Processor

### A. Generally

The Processor shall collect from the Participants, and consolidate and disseminate to Vendors, Subscribers and News Services, Quotation Information and Transaction Reports in Eligible Securities in a manner designed to assure the prompt, accurate and reliable collection, processing and dissemination of information with respect to all Eligible Securities in a fair and non-discriminatory manner. The Processor shall commence operations upon the Processor's notification to the Participants that it is ready and able to commence such operations.

### B. Collection and Consolidation of Information

For as long as Nasdaq is the Processor, the Processor shall be capable of receiving Quotation Information and Transaction Reports in Eligible Securities from Participants by the Plan-approved, Processor sponsored interface, and shall consolidate and disseminate such information via the UTP Quote Data Feed, the UTP Trade Data Feed, and the OTC Montage Data Feed to Vendors, Subscribers and News Services. For so long as Nasdaq is not registered as a national securities exchange and for so long as Nasdaq is the Processor, the Processor shall also collect, consolidate, and disseminate the quotation information contained in NQDS. For so long as Nasdaq is not registered as a national securities exchange and after Nasdaq is no longer the Processor for other SIP datafeeds, either Nasdaq or a third party will act as the Processor to collect, consolidate, and disseminate the quotation information contained in NQDS.

### C. Dissemination of Information

The Processor shall disseminate consolidated Quotation Information and Transaction Reports in Eligible Securities via the UTP Quote Data Feed, the UTP Trade Data Feed, and the OTC Montage Data Feed to authorized Vendors, Subscribers and News Services in a fair and non-discriminatory manner. The Processor shall specifically be permitted to enter into agreements with Vendors, Subscribers and News Services for the dissemination of quotation or transaction information on Eligible Securities to foreign (non-U.S.) marketplaces or in foreign countries.

The Processor shall, in such instance, disseminate consolidated quotation or

transaction information on Eligible Securities from all Participants.

Nothing herein shall be construed so as to prohibit or restrict in any way the right of any Participant to distribute quotation, transaction or other information with respect to Eligible Securities quoted on or traded in its marketplace to a marketplace outside the United States solely for the purpose of supporting an intermarket linkage, or to distribute information within its own marketplace concerning Eligible Securities in accordance with its own format. If a Participant requests, the Processor shall make information about Eligible Securities in the Participant's marketplace available to a foreign marketplace on behalf of the requesting Participant, in which event the cost shall be borne by that Participant.

#### 1. Best Bid and Offer

The Processor shall disseminate on the UTP Quote Data Feed the best bid and offer information supplied by each Participant, including the Nasdaq market participants, and shall also calculate and disseminate on the UTP Quote Data Feed a national best bid and asked quotation with size based upon Quotation Information for Eligible Securities received from Participants. The Processor shall not calculate the best bid and offer for any individual Participant, including the NASD.

The Participant responsible for each side of the best bid and asked quotation making up the national best bid and offer shall be identified by an appropriate symbol. If the quotations of more than one Participant shall be the same best price, the largest displayed size among those shall be deemed to be the best. If the quotations of more than one Participant are the same best price and best displayed size, the earliest among those measured by the time reported shall be deemed to be the best. A reduction of only bid size and/or ask size will not change the time priority of a Participant's quote for the purposes of determining time reported, whereas an increase of the bid size and/or ask size will result in a new time reported. The consolidated size shall be the size of the Participant that is at the best.

If the best bid/best offer results in a locked or crossed quotation, the Processor shall forward that locked or crossed quote on the appropriate output lines (*i.e.*, a crossed quote of bid 12, ask 11.87 shall be disseminated). The Processor shall normally cease the calculation of the best bid/best offer after 6:30 p.m., Eastern Time.

#### 2. Quotation Data Streams

The Processor shall disseminate on the UTP Quote Data Feed a data stream of all Quotation Information regarding Eligible Securities received from Participants. Each quotation shall be designated with a symbol identifying the Participant from which the quotation emanates. Quotation Information from individual NASD Participants will not be disseminated on the UTP Quote Data Feed. The Processor shall separately distribute on the OTC Montage Data Feed the Quotation Information regarding Eligible Securities from all NASD Participants from which quotations emanate. The Processor shall separately distribute NQDS for so long as Nasdaq is not registered as a national securities exchange and for so long as Nasdaq is the Processor. For so long as Nasdaq is not registered as a national securities exchange and after Nasdaq is no longer the Processor for other SIP datafeeds, either Nasdaq or a third party will act as the Processor to collect, consolidate, and disseminate the quotation information contained in NQDS.

#### 3. Transaction Reports

The Processor shall disseminate on the UTP Trade Data Feed a data stream of all Transaction Reports in Eligible Securities received from Participants. Each transaction report shall be designated with a symbol identifying the Participant in whose Market the transaction took place.

#### D. Closing Reports

At the conclusion of each trading day, the Processor shall disseminate a "closing price" for each Eligible Security. Such "closing price" shall be the price of the last Transaction Report in such security received prior to dissemination. The Processor shall also tabulate and disseminate at the conclusion of each trading day the aggregate volume reflected by all Transaction Reports in Eligible Securities reported by the Participants.

#### E. Statistics

The Processor shall maintain quarterly, semi-annual and annual transaction and volume statistical counts. The Processor shall, at cost to the user Participant(s), make such statistics available in a form agreed upon by the Operating Committee, such as a secure website.

## VII. Administrative Functions of the Processor

Subject to the general direction of the Operating Committee, the Processor shall be responsible for carrying out all

administrative functions necessary to the operation and maintenance of the consolidated information collection and dissemination system provided for in this Plan, including, but not limited to, record keeping, billing, contract administration, and the preparation of financial reports.

**VIII. Transmission of Information to Processor by Participants**

**A. Quotation Information**

Each Participant shall, during the time it is open for trading be responsible promptly to collect and transmit to the Processor accurate Quotation information in Eligible Securities through any means prescribed herein.

Quotation Information shall include:

1. Identification of the Eligible Security, using the Nasdaq Symbol;
2. The price bid and offered, together with size;
3. The Nasdaq market participant or Participant from which the quotation emanates;
4. Identification of quotations that are not firm; and
5. Through appropriate codes and messages, withdrawals and similar matters.

**B. Transaction Reports**

Each Participant shall, during the time it is open for trading, be responsible promptly to collect and transmit to the Processor Transaction Reports in Eligible Securities executed in its Market by means prescribed herein. With respect to orders sent by one Participant Market to another Participant Market for execution, each Participant shall adopt procedures governing the reporting of transactions in Eligible Securities specifying that the transaction will be reported by the Participant whose member sold the security. This provision shall apply only to transactions between Plan Participants.

Transaction Reports shall include:

1. Identification of the Eligible Security, using the Nasdaq Symbol;
2. The number of shares in the transaction;
3. The price at which the shares were purchased or sold;
4. The buy/sell/cross indicator;
5. The Market of execution; and,
6. Through appropriate codes and messages, late or out-of-sequence trades, corrections and similar matters.

All such Transaction Reports shall be transmitted to the Processor within 90 seconds after the time of execution of the transaction. Transaction Reports transmitted beyond the 90-second period shall be designated as "late" by the appropriate code or message.

The following types of transactions are not required to be reported to the Processor pursuant to the Plan:

1. Transactions that are part of a primary distribution by an issuer or of a registered secondary distribution or of an unregistered secondary distribution;
2. Transactions made in reliance on section 4(2) of the Securities Act of 1933;
3. Transactions in which the buyer and the seller have agreed to trade at a price unrelated to the Current Market for the security, e.g., to enable the seller to make a gift;
4. Odd-lot transactions;
5. The acquisition of securities by a broker-dealer as principal in anticipation of making an immediate exchange distribution or exchange offering on an exchange;
6. Purchases of securities pursuant to a tender offer; and
7. Purchases or sales of securities effected upon the exercise of an option pursuant to the terms thereof or the exercise of any other right to acquire securities at a pre-established consideration unrelated to the Current Market.

**C. Symbols for Market Identification for Quotation Information and Transaction Reports**

The following symbols shall be used to denote the marketplaces:

Code	Participant
A .....	American Stock Exchange, LLC.
B .....	Boston Stock Exchange, Inc.
W .....	Chicago Board Options Exchange, Inc.
M .....	Chicago Stock Exchange, Inc.
D .....	National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc.
Q .....	Nasdaq Stock Market.
C .....	National Stock Exchange.
P .....	Pacific Exchange, Inc.
X .....	Philadelphia Stock Exchange, Inc.

D. Whenever a Participant determines that a level of trading activity or other unusual market conditions prevent it from collecting and transmitting Quotation Information or Transaction Reports to the Processor, or where a trading halt or suspension in an Eligible Security is in effect in its Market, the Participant shall promptly notify the Processor of such condition or event and shall resume collecting and transmitting Quotation Information and Transaction Reports to it as soon as the condition or event is terminated. In the event of a system malfunction resulting in the inability of a Participant or its members to transmit Quotation Information or Transaction Reports to the Processor, the Participant shall

promptly notify the Processor of such event or condition. Upon receiving such notification, the Processor shall take appropriate action, including either closing the quotation or purging the system of the affected quotations.

**IX. Market Access**

A. Each Participant shall permit each Nasdaq market participant, acting in its capacity as such, direct telephone access to the specialist, trading post, and supervisory center in each Eligible Security in which such Nasdaq market participant is registered as a market maker or electronic communications network/alternative trading system with Nasdaq. Such access shall include appropriate procedures or requirements by each Participant or employee to assure the timely response to communications received through telephonic access. No Participant shall permit the imposition of any access or execution fee, or any other fee or charge, with respect to transactions in Eligible Securities effected with Nasdaq market participants which are communicated to the floor by telephone pursuant to the provisions of this Plan. A Participant shall be free to charge for other types of access to its floor or facilities.

B. The NASD shall assure that each Participant, and its members shall have direct telephone access to the trading desk of each Nasdaq market participant in each Eligible Security in which the Participant displays quotations, and to the Nasdaq Supervisory Center. Such access shall include appropriate procedures or requirements to assure the timely response of each Nasdaq market participant to communications received through telephone access. Neither the NASD nor any Nasdaq market participant shall impose any access or execution fee, or any other fee or charge, with respect to transactions in Eligible Securities effected with a member of a Participant which are communicated by telephone pursuant to the provisions of this Plan.

**X. Regulatory Halts**

A. For purposes of this section X, "Participant" shall include the Nasdaq Stock Market. Whenever, in the exercise of its regulatory functions, the Listing Market for an Eligible Security determines that a Regulatory Halt is appropriate pursuant to section III.T, the Listing Market will notify all other Participants pursuant to section X.E and all other Participants shall also halt or suspend trading in that security until notification that the halt or suspension is no longer in effect. The Listing Market shall immediately notify the Processor of such Regulatory Halt as well as notice

of the lifting of a Regulatory Halt. The Processor, in turn, shall disseminate to Participants notice of the Regulatory Halt (as well as notice of the lifting of a regulatory halt) through the UTP Quote Data Feed. This notice shall serve as official notice of a regulatory halt for purposes of the Plan only, and shall not substitute or otherwise supplant notice that a Participant may recognize or require under its own rules. Nothing in this provision shall be read so as to supplant or be inconsistent with a Participant's own rules on trade halts, which rules apply to the Participant's own members. The Processor will reject any quotation information or transaction reports received from any Participant on an Eligible Security that has a Regulatory Halt in effect.

B. Whenever the Listing Market determines that an adequate publication or dissemination of information has occurred so as to permit the termination of the Regulatory Halt then in effect, the Listing Market shall promptly notify the Processor and each of the other Participants that conducts trading in such security pursuant to section X.F. Except in extraordinary circumstances, adequate publication or dissemination shall be presumed by the Listing Market to have occurred upon the expiration of one hour after initial publication in a national news dissemination service of the information that gave rise to the Regulatory Halt.

C. Except in the case of a Regulatory Halt, the Processor shall not cease the dissemination of quotation or transaction information regarding any Eligible Security. In particular, it shall not cease dissemination of such information because of a delayed opening, imbalance of orders or other market-related problems involving such security. During a regulatory halt, the Processor shall collect and disseminate Transaction Information but shall cease collection and dissemination of all Quotation Information.

D. For purposes of this section X, "Listing Market" for an Eligible Security means the Participant's Market on which the Eligible Security is listed. If an Eligible Security is dually listed, Listing Market shall mean the Participant's Market on which the Eligible Security is listed that also has the highest number of the average of the reported transactions and reported share volume for the preceding 12-month period. The Listing Market for dually-listed Eligible Securities shall be determined at the beginning of each calendar quarter.

E. For purposes of coordinating trading halts in Eligible Securities, all Participants are required to utilize the

national market system communication media ("Hoot-n-Holler") to verbally provide real-time information to all Participants. Each Participant shall be required to continuously monitor the Hoot-n-Holler system during market hours, and the failure of a Participant to do so at any time shall not prevent the Listing Market from initiating a Regulatory Halt in accordance with the procedures specified herein.

1. The following procedures shall be followed when one or more Participants experiences extraordinary market activity in an Eligible Security that is believed to be caused by the misuse or malfunction of systems operated by or linked to one or more Participants.

a. The Participant(s) experiencing the extraordinary market activity or any Participant that becomes aware of extraordinary market activity will immediately use best efforts to notify all Participants of the extraordinary market activity utilizing the Hoot-n-Holler system.

b. The Listing Market will use best efforts to determine whether there is material news regarding the Eligible Security. If the Listing Market determines that there is non-disclosed material news, it will immediately call a Regulatory Halt pursuant to section X.E.2.

c. Each Participant(s) will use best efforts to determine whether one of its systems, or the system of a direct or indirect participant in its market, is responsible for the extraordinary market activity.

d. If a Participant determines the potential source of extraordinary market activity pursuant to section X.1.c., the Participant will use best efforts to determine whether removing the quotations of one or more direct or indirect market participants or barring one or more direct or indirect market participants from entering orders will resolve the extraordinary market activity. Accordingly, the Participant will prevent the quotations from one or more direct or indirect market participants in the affected Eligible Securities from being transmitted to the Processor.

e. If the procedures described in section X.E.1.a.-d. do not rectify the situation, the Participant(s) experiencing extraordinary market activity will cease transmitting all quotations in the affected Eligible Securities to the Processor.

f. If the procedures described in section X.E.1.a.-e do not rectify the situation within five minutes of the first notification through the Hoot-n-Holler system, or if Participants agree to call a halt sooner through unanimous

approval among those Participants actively trading impacted Eligible Securities, the Listing Market may determine based on the facts and circumstances, including available input from Participants, to declare an Extraordinary Market Regulatory Halt in the affected Eligible Securities.

Simultaneously with the notification of the Processor to suspend the dissemination of quotations across all Participants, the Listing Market must verbally notify all Participants of the trading halt utilizing the Hoot-n-Holler system.

g. Absent any evidence of system misuse or malfunction, best efforts will be used to ensure that trading is not halted across all Participants.

2. If the Listing Market declares a Regulatory Halt in circumstances other than pursuant to section X.E.1.f., the Listing Market must, simultaneously with the notification of the Processor to suspend the dissemination of quotations across all Participants, verbally notify all Participants of the trading halt utilizing the Hoot-n-Holler system.

F. If the Listing Market declares a Regulatory Halt, trading will resume according to the following procedures:

1. Within 15 minutes of the declaration of the halt, all Participants will make best efforts to indicate via the Hoot-n-Holler their intentions with respect to canceling or modifying transactions.

2. All Participants will disseminate to their members information regarding the canceled or modified transactions as promptly as possible, and in any event prior to the resumption of trading.

3. After all Participants have met the requirements of section X.F.1-2, the Listing Market will notify the Participants utilizing the Hoot-n-Holler and the Processor when trading may resume. Upon receiving this information, Participants may commence trading pursuant to section X.A.

## XI. Hours of Operation

A. Quotation Information may be entered by Participants as to all Eligible Securities in which they make a market between 9:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. Eastern Time ("ET") on all days the Processor is in operation. Transaction Reports shall be entered between 9:30 a.m. and 4:01:30 p.m. ET by Participants as to all Eligible Securities in which they execute transactions between 9:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. ET on all days the Processor is in operation.

B. Participants that execute transactions in Eligible Securities outside the hours of 9:30 a.m. ET and

4 p.m., ET, shall be required to report such transactions as follows:

(i) Transactions in Eligible Securities executed between 4 a.m. and 9:29:59 a.m. ET and between 4:00:01 and 6:30 p.m. ET, shall be designated as “.T” trades to denote their execution outside normal market hours;

(ii) Transactions in Eligible Securities executed after 6:30 p.m. and before 12 a.m. (midnight) shall be reported to the Processor between the hours of 4 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. ET on the next business day (T+1), and shall be designated “as/of” trades to denote their execution on a prior day, and be accompanied by the time of execution;

(iii) Transactions in Eligible Securities executed between 12 a.m. (midnight) and 4 a.m. ET shall be transmitted to the Processor between 4 a.m. and 9:30 a.m. ET, on trade date, shall be designated as “.T” trades to denote their execution outside normal market hours, and shall be accompanied by the time of execution;

(iv) Transactions reported pursuant to this provision of the Plan shall be included in the calculation of total trade volume for purposes of determining net distributable operating revenue, but shall not be included in the calculation of the daily high, low, or last sale.

C. Late trades shall be reported in accordance with the rules of the Participant in whose Market the transaction occurred and can be reported between the hours of 4 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.

D. The Processor shall collect, process and disseminate Quotation Information in Eligible Securities at other times between 4 a.m. and 9:30 a.m. ET, and after 4 p.m. ET, when any Participant or Nasdaq market participant is open for trading, until 6:30 p.m. ET (the “Additional Period”); provided, however, that the best bid and offer quotation will not be disseminated before 4 a.m. or after 6:30 p.m. ET. Participants that enter Quotation Information or submit Transaction Reports to the Processor during the Additional Period shall do so for all Eligible Securities in which they enter quotations.

## **XII. Undertaking by All Participants**

The filing with and approval by the Commission of this Plan shall obligate each Participant to enforce compliance by its members with the provisions thereof. In all other respects not inconsistent herewith, the rules of each Participant shall apply to the actions of its members in effecting, reporting, honoring and settling transactions executed through its facilities, and the entry, maintenance and firmness of

quotations to ensure that such occurs in a manner consistent with just and equitable principles of trade.

## **XIII. Financial Matters**

### *A. Development Costs*

Any Participant becoming a signatory to this Plan after June 26, 1990, shall, as a condition to becoming a Participant, pay to the other Plan Participants a proportionate share of the aggregate development costs previously paid by Plan Participants to the Processor, which aggregate development costs totaled \$439,530, with the result that each Participant's share of all development costs is the same.

Each Participant shall bear the cost of implementation of any technical enhancements to the Nasdaq system made at its request and solely for its use, subject to reapportionment should any other Participant subsequently make use of the enhancement, or the development thereof.

### *B. Cost Allocation and Revenue Sharing*

The provisions governing cost allocation and revenue sharing among the Participants are set forth in Exhibit 1 to the Plan.

### *C. Maintenance of Financial Records*

The Processor shall maintain records of revenues generated and development and operating expenditures incurred in connection with the Plan. In addition, the Processor shall provide the Participants with: (a) A statement of financial and operational condition on a quarterly basis; and (b) an audited statement of financial and operational condition on an annual basis.

## **XIV. Indemnification**

Each Participant agrees, severally and not jointly, to indemnify and hold harmless each other Participant, Nasdaq, and each of its directors, officers, employees and agents (including the Operating Committee and its employees and agents) from and against any and all loss, liability, claim, damage and expense whatsoever incurred or threatened against such persons as a result of any Transaction Reports, Quotation Information or other information reported to the Processor by such Participant and disseminated by the Processor to Vendors. This indemnity agreement shall be in addition to any liability that the indemnifying Participant may otherwise have. Promptly after receipt by an indemnified Participant of notice of the commencement of any action, such indemnified Participant will, if a claim in respect thereof is to be made against an indemnifying Participant, notify the

indemnifying Participant in writing of the commencement thereof; but the omission to so notify the indemnifying Participant will not relieve the indemnifying Participant from any liability which it may have to any indemnified Participant. In case any such action is brought against any indemnified Participant and it promptly notifies an indemnifying Participant of the commencement thereof, the indemnifying Participant will be entitled to participate in, and, to the extent that it may wish, jointly with any other indemnifying Participant similarly notified, to assume and control the defense thereof with counsel chosen by it. After notice from the indemnifying Participant of its election to assume the defense thereof, the indemnifying Participant will not be liable to such indemnified Participant for any legal or other expenses subsequently incurred by such indemnified Participant in connection with the defense thereof but the indemnified Participant may, at its own expense, participate in such defense by counsel chosen by it without, however, impairing the indemnifying Participant's control of the defense. The indemnifying Participant may negotiate a compromise or settlement of any such action, provided that such compromise or settlement does not require a contribution by the indemnified Participant.

## **XV. Withdrawal**

Any Participant may withdraw from the Plan at any time on not less than 30 days prior written notice to each of the other Participants. Any Participant withdrawing from the Plan shall remain liable for, and shall pay upon demand, any fees for equipment or services being provided to such Participant pursuant to the contract executed by it or an agreement or schedule of fees covering such then in effect.

A withdrawing Participant shall also remain liable for its proportionate share, without any right of recovery, of administrative and operating expenses, including start-up costs and other sums for which it may be responsible pursuant to section XIV hereof. Except as aforesaid, a withdrawing Participant shall have no further obligation under the Plan or to any of the other Participants with respect to the period following the effectiveness of its withdrawal.

## **XVI. Modifications to Plan**

The Plan may be modified from time to time when authorized by the agreement of all of the Participants, subject to the approval of the SEC.

## **XVII. Applicability of Securities Exchange Act of 1934**

The rights and obligations of the Participants and of Vendors, News Services, Subscribers and other persons contracting with Participant in respect of the matters covered by the Plan shall at all times be subject to any applicable provisions of the Act, as amended, and any rules and regulations promulgated thereunder.

## **XVIII. Operational Issues**

A. Each Exchange Participant shall be responsible for collecting and validating quotes and last sale reports within their own system prior to transmitting this data to the Processor.

B. Each Exchange Participant may utilize a dedicated Participant line into the Processor to transmit trade and quote information in Eligible Securities to the Processor. The Processor shall accept from Exchange Participants input for only those issues that are deemed Eligible Securities.

C. The Processor shall consolidate trade and quote information from each Participant and disseminate this information on the Nasdaq existing vendor lines.

D. The Processor shall perform gross validation processing for quotes and last sale messages in addition to the collection and dissemination functions, as follows:

### **1. Basic Message Validation.**

(a) The Processor may validate format for each type of message, and reject non-conforming messages.

(b) Input must be for an Eligible Security.

2. Logging Function—The Processor shall return all Participant input messages that do not pass the validation checks (described above) to the inputting Participant, on the entering Participant line, with an appropriate reject notation. For all accepted Participant input messages (i.e., those that pass the validation check), the information shall be retained in the Processor system.

## **XIX. Headings**

The section and other headings contained in this Plan are for reference purposes only and shall not be deemed to be a part of this Plan or to affect the meaning or interpretation of any provisions of this Plan.

## **XX. Counterparts**

This Plan may be executed by the Participants in any number of counterparts, no one of which need contain the signature of all Participants. As many such counterparts as shall together contain all such signatures

shall constitute one and the same instrument.

## **XXI. Depth of Book Display**

The Operating Committee has determined that the entity that succeeds Nasdaq as the Processor should have the ability to collect, consolidate, and disseminate quotations at multiple price levels beyond the best bid and best offer from any Participant that voluntarily chooses to submit such quotations while determining that no Participant shall be required to submit such information. The Operating Committee has further determined that the costs of developing, collecting, processing, and disseminating such depth of book data shall be borne exclusively by those Participants that choose to submit this information to the Processor, by whatever allocation those Participants may choose among themselves. The Operating Committee has determined further that the primary purpose of the Processor is the collection, processing and dissemination of best bid, best offer and last sale information (“core data”), and as such, the Participants will adopt procedures to ensure that such functionality in no way hinders the collecting, processing and dissemination of this core data.

Therefore, implementing the depth of book display functionality will require a plan amendment that addresses all pertinent issues, including:

(1) Procedures for ensuring that the fully-loaded cost of the collection, processing, and dissemination of depth-of-book information will be tracked and invoiced directly to those Plan Participants that voluntarily choose to send that data, voluntarily, to the Processor, allocating in whatever manner those Participants might agree; and

(2) Necessary safeguards the Processor will take to ensure that its processing of depth-of-book data will not impede or hamper, in any way, its core Processor functionality of collecting, consolidating, and disseminating National Best Bid and Offer data, exchange best bid and offer data, and consolidated last sale data.

Upon approval of a Plan amendment implementing depth of book display, this article of the Plan shall be automatically deleted.

*In Witness Whereof*, this Plan has been executed as of the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_, 200\_\_, by each of the Signatories hereto.

American Stock Exchange LLC

By:

Boston Stock Exchange, Inc.

By:

Chicago Stock Exchange, Inc.

By:

Chicago Board Options Exchange, Inc.

By:

International Securities Exchange, Inc.

By:

National Association of Securities

Dealers, Inc.

By:

National Stock Exchange

By:

New York Stock Exchange, Inc.

By:

Pacific Exchange, Inc.

By:

Philadelphia Stock Exchange, Inc.

By:

## **Exhibit 1**

1. Each Participant eligible to receive revenue under the Plan will receive an annual payment for each calendar year to be determined by multiplying (i) that Participant's percentage of total volume in Nasdaq securities reported to the Processor for that calendar year by (ii) the total distributable net operating income (as defined below) for that calendar year. In the event that total distributable net operating income is negative, each Participant eligible to receive revenue under the Plan will receive an annual bill for each calendar year to be determined according to the same formula (described in this paragraph) for determining annual payments to eligible Participants.

2. A Participant's percentage of total volume in Nasdaq securities will be calculated by taking the average of (i) the Participant's percentage of total trades in Nasdaq securities reported to the Processor for the year and (ii) the Participant's percentage of total share volume in Nasdaq securities reported to the Processor for the year (trade/volume average). For any given year, a Participant's percentage of total trades shall be calculated by dividing the total number of trades that that Participant reports to the Processor for that year by the total number of trades in Nasdaq securities reported to the Processor for the year. A Participant's total share volume shall be calculated by multiplying the total number of trades in Nasdaq securities in that year that that Participant reports to the Processor multiplied by the number of shares for each such trade. Unless otherwise stated in this agreement, a year shall run from January 1 to December 31 and quarters shall end on March 31, June 30, September 30, and December 31. Processor shall endeavor to provide Participants with written estimates of each Participant's percentage of total volume within five business days of month end.

3. For purposes of this Exhibit 1, net distributable operating income for any

particular calendar year shall be calculated by adding all revenues from the UTP Quote Data Feed, the UTP Trade Data Feed, the OTC Montage Data Feed, and NQDS, including revenues from the dissemination of information among Eligible Securities to foreign marketplaces (collectively, "the Data Feeds"), and subtracting from such revenues the costs incurred by the Processor, set forth below, in collecting, consolidating, validating, generating, and disseminating the Data Feeds. These costs include, but are not limited to, the following:

a. The Processor costs directly attributable to creating OTC Montage Data Feed and NQDS, including:

1. Cost of collecting Participant quotes into the Processor's quote engine;
2. Cost of processing quotes and creating OTC Montage Data Feed and NQDS messages within the Processor's quote engine;
3. Cost of the Processor's communication management subsystem that distributes OTC Montage Data Feed and NQDS to the market data vendor network for further distribution.

b. The costs directly attributable to creating the UTP Quote Data Feed, including:

1. Cost of calculating the national best bid and offer price within the Processor's quote engine;
2. Cost of creating the UTP Quote Data Feed message within the Processor's quote engine;
3. Cost of the Processor's communication management subsystem that distributes the UTP Quote Data Feed to the market data vendors' networks for further distribution.

c. The costs directly attributable to creating the UTP Trade Data Feed, including:

1. Cost of determining the appropriate last sale price and volume amount within the Processor's trade engine;
2. Cost of utilizing the Processor's trade engine to distribute the UTP Trade Data Feed for distribution to the market data vendors.

d. The additional costs that are shared across all Data Feeds, including:

1. Telecommunication Operations costs of supporting the Participant lines into the Processor's facilities;
2. Telecommunications Operations costs of supporting the external market data vendor network;
3. Data Products account management and auditing function with the market data vendors;
4. Market Operations costs to support symbol maintenance, and other data integrity issues;
5. Overhead costs, including management support of the Processor,

Human Resources, Finance, Legal, and Administrative Services.

e. Processor costs excluded from the calculation of net distributable operating income include trade execution costs for transactions executed using a Nasdaq service and trade report collection costs reported through a Nasdaq service, as such services are market functions for which Participants electing to use such services pay market rate.

f. For the purposes of this provision, the following definitions shall apply:

1. "Quote engine" shall mean the Nasdaq's NT or Tandem system that is operated by Nasdaq to collect quotation information for Eligible Securities;
2. "Trade engine" shall mean the Nasdaq Tandem system that is operated by Nasdaq for the purpose of collecting last sale information in Eligible Securities.

4. At the time a Participant implements a computer-to-computer-interface or other Processor-approved electronic interface with the Processor, the Participant will become eligible to receive revenue.

5. Processor shall endeavor to provide Participants with written estimates of each Participant's quarterly net distributable operating income within 45 calendar days of the end of the quarter, and estimated quarterly payments or billings shall be made on the basis of such estimates. All quarterly payments or billings shall be made to each eligible Participant within 45 days following the end of each calendar quarter in which the Participant is eligible to receive revenue, provided that each quarterly payment or billing shall be reconciled against a Participant's cumulative year-to-date payment or billing received to date and adjusted accordingly, and further provided that the total of such estimated payments or billings shall be reconciled at the end of each calendar year and, if necessary, adjusted by March 31st of the following year. Interest shall be included in quarterly payments and in adjusted payments made on March 31st of the following year. Such interest shall accrue monthly during the period in which revenue was earned and not yet paid and will be based on the 90-day Treasury bill rate in effect at the end of the quarter in which the payment is made. Monthly interest shall start accruing 45 days following the month in which it is earned and accrue until the date on which the payment is made.

In conjunction with calculating estimated quarterly and reconciled annual payments under this Exhibit 1, the Processor shall submit to the Participants a quarterly itemized

statement setting forth the basis upon which net operating income was calculated, including a quarterly itemized statement of the Processor costs set forth in Paragraph 3 of this Exhibit. Such Processor costs and Plan revenues shall be adjusted annually based solely on the Processor's quarterly itemized statement audited pursuant to Processor's annual audit. Processor shall pay or bill Participants for the audit adjustments within thirty days of completion of the annual audit. By majority vote of the Operating Committee, the Processor shall engage an independent auditor to audit the Processor's costs or other calculation(s), the cost of which audit shall be shared equally by all Participants. The Processor agrees to cooperate fully in providing the information necessary to complete such audit.

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BILLING CODE 8010-01-P

## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

### Sunshine Act Meetings

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the provisions of the Government in the Sunshine Act, Pub. L. 94-409, that the Securities and Exchange Commission will hold the following meetings during the week of January 23, 2006: Closed Meetings will be held on Thursday, January 26, 2006 at 9 a.m. and on January 26, 2006 at 2 p.m.

Commissioners and certain staff members who have an interest in the matter will attend the Closed Meeting on January 26, 2006 at 9 a.m. Commissioners, Counsel to the Commissioners, the Secretary to the Commission, and recording secretaries will attend the Closed Meeting on January 26, 2006 at 2 p.m. Certain staff members who have an interest in the matters may also be present.

The General Counsel of the Commission, or his designee, has certified that, in his opinion, one or more of the exemptions set forth in 5 U.S.C. 552b(c), (3), (5), (7), (8), (9)(B), and (10) and 17 CFR 200.402(a), (3), (5), (7), (8), 9(ii) and (10) permit consideration of the scheduled matters at the Closed Meetings.

Commissioner Glassman, as duty officer, voted to consider the items listed for the closed meetings in closed sessions and that no earlier notice thereof was possible.

The subject matter of the Closed Meeting scheduled for 9 a.m. on Thursday, January 26, 2006 will be: