

Required fields are shown with yellow backgrounds and asterisks.

Page 1 of * 23	SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549 Form 19b-4	File No.* SR - 2019 - * 17	Amendment No. (req. for Amendments *)
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Filing by Miami International Securities Exchange, LLC.  
Pursuant to Rule 19b-4 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Initial * <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Amendment * <input type="checkbox"/>	Withdrawal <input type="checkbox"/>	Section 19(b)(2) * <input type="checkbox"/>	Section 19(b)(3)(A) * <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Section 19(b)(3)(B) * <input type="checkbox"/>
Pilot <input type="checkbox"/>			Rule		
Extension of Time Period for Commission Action * <input type="checkbox"/>		Date Expires * <input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 19b-4(f)(1)	<input type="checkbox"/> 19b-4(f)(4)	
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19b-4(f)(2)	<input type="checkbox"/> 19b-4(f)(5)	
			<input type="checkbox"/> 19b-4(f)(3)	<input type="checkbox"/> 19b-4(f)(6)	

Notice of proposed change pursuant to the Payment, Clearing, and Settlement Act of 2010	Security-Based Swap Submission pursuant to the Securities Exchange Act of 1934
Section 806(e)(1) * <input type="checkbox"/>	Section 806(e)(2) * <input type="checkbox"/>
	Section 3C(b)(2) * <input type="checkbox"/>

Exhibit 2 Sent As Paper Document <input type="checkbox"/>	Exhibit 3 Sent As Paper Document <input type="checkbox"/>
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**Description**  
Provide a brief description of the action (limit 250 characters, required when Initial is checked \*).

**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 action.

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.  
 (Title \*)  
 Date  Senior Vice President and Deputy General Counsel  
 By    
 (Name \*)

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 EFFS 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 1A- Notice of Proposed Rule Change, Security-Based Swap Submission, or Advance Notice by Clearing Agencies \***

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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, security-based swap submission, or advance notice 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**

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Exhibit Sent As Paper Document

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 3 - Form, Report, or Questionnaire**

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Exhibit Sent As Paper Document

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 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 the Proposed Rule Change**

(a) Miami International Securities Exchange, LLC (“MIAX Options” or “Exchange”), pursuant to the provisions of Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (“Act”)<sup>1</sup> and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,<sup>2</sup> proposes to amend the MIAX Options Fee Schedule (the “Fee Schedule”) to amend its fees and rebates for Qualified Contingent Cross (“QCC”) orders and Complex Qualified Contingent Cross (“cQCC”) orders.

While changes to the Fee Schedule pursuant to this proposal are effective upon filing, the Exchange has designated these changes to be operative on April 1, 2019.

A notice of the proposed rule change for publication in the Federal Register is attached hereto as Exhibit 1, and a copy of the proposed Fee Schedule is attached hereto as Exhibit 5.

(b) Not applicable.

(c) Not applicable.

**2. Procedures of the Self-Regulatory Organization**

The proposed rule change was approved by the Chief Executive Officer of the Exchange pursuant to authority delegated by the MIAX Options Board of Directors on January 31, 2019. Exchange staff will advise the Board of Directors of any action taken pursuant to delegated authority. No other action by the Exchange is necessary for the filing of the proposed rule change.

Questions and comments on the proposed rule change may be directed to Michael Slade, Counsel, at (609) 897-8499.

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<sup>1</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

<sup>2</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

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

a. Purpose

The Exchange proposes to amend Sections 1)a)vii) and viii) of the Fee Schedule to amend its fees and rebates for QCC and cQCC Orders. A QCC Order is comprised of an order to buy or sell at least 1,000 contracts that is identified as being part of a qualified contingent trade, coupled with a contra side order to buy or sell an equal number of contracts.<sup>3</sup> Currently, the Exchange assesses a transaction fee for all types of market participants other than Priority Customer<sup>4</sup> for QCC Orders of \$0.15 per contract (Priority Customer orders are assessed a charge of \$0.00 per contract) for the Initiator and the Contra-side. In addition, the Exchange currently pays a \$0.10 per contract rebate for the initiating order, regardless of the type of market participant. The rebate is paid to the Member<sup>5</sup> that enters the order into the System<sup>6</sup>, but is only paid on the initiating side of the QCC transaction. No rebates are paid for QCC transactions in which both the initiator and contra-side orders are from Priority Customers. The Exchange notes that with regard to order entry, the first order submitted into the System is marked as the initiating side and the second order is marked as the contra side.

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<sup>3</sup> A Qualified Contingent Cross Order is comprised of an originating order to buy or sell at least 1,000 contracts, or 10,000 mini-option contracts, that is identified as being part of a qualified contingent trade, as that term is defined in Interpretation and Policy .01 to Rule 516, coupled with a contra-side order or orders totaling an equal number of contracts. See Exchange Rule 516(j).

<sup>4</sup> The term “Priority Customer” means a person or entity that (i) is not a broker or dealer in securities, and (ii) does not place more than 390 orders in listed options per day on average during a calendar month for its own beneficial accounts(s). See Exchange Rule 100.

<sup>5</sup> The term “Member” means an individual or organization approved to exercise the trading rights associated with a Trading Permit. Members are deemed “members” under the Exchange Act. See Exchange Rule 100.

<sup>6</sup> The term “System” means the automated trading system used by the Exchange for the trading of securities. See Exchange Rule 100.

The Exchange now proposes to increase the Per Contract Fee for Contra-side QCC Orders for all types of market participants other than Priority Customer from \$0.15 to \$0.17 (Priority Customer orders will continue to be assessed a Per Contract Fee for Contra-side QCC Orders of \$0.00). The Exchange does not propose to change the Per Contract Fee for Initiator QCC Orders for any market participants. In addition, the Exchange proposes to increase the Per Contract Rebate for Initiator QCC Orders for all types of market participants from \$0.10 per contract to \$0.14 per contract. The Exchange is not proposing to change that no rebates will be paid for QCC transactions for which both the Initiator and Contra-side orders are Priority Customers.

A cQCC Order is comprised of an originating complex order to buy or sell where each component is at least 1,000 contracts that is identified as being part of a qualified contingent trade, coupled with a contra-side complex order or orders to sell or buy an equal number of contracts.<sup>7</sup> Currently, the Exchange assesses a transaction fee for all types of market participants other than Priority Customer for cQCC Orders of \$0.15 per contract (Priority Customer orders are assessed a charge of \$0.00 per contract) for the Initiator and the Contra-side. In addition, the Exchange currently pays a \$0.10 per contract rebate for the initiating order, regardless of the type of market participant. No rebates are paid for cQCC transactions in which both the initiator and contra-side orders are from Priority Customers. All fees and rebates are per contract per leg. The rebate is paid to the Member that enters the order into the System, but is only paid on the initiating side of the cQCC transaction.

The Exchange now proposes to increase the Per Contract Fee for Contra-side cQCC Orders for all types of market participants other than Priority Customer from \$0.15 to \$0.17

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<sup>7</sup> See Exchange Rule 518(b)(6).

(Priority Customer orders will continue to be assessed a Per Contract Fee for Contra-side cQCC Orders of \$0.00). The Exchange does not propose to change the Per Contract Fee for Initiator cQCC Orders for any market participants. In addition, the Exchange proposes to increase the Per Contract Rebate for Initiator cQCC Orders for all types of market participants from \$0.10 per contract to \$0.14 per contract. The Exchange is not proposing to change that no rebates will be paid for cQCC transactions for which both the initiator and contra-side orders are Priority Customers.

The Exchange notes that QCC and cQCC Orders are excluded from: (i) the volume threshold calculations for the Market Maker Sliding Scale; (ii) the rebates and volume calculations as part of the Priority Customer Rebate Program; (iii) participation in the Professional Rebate Program; and (iv) the Marketing Fee that is assessed to Market Makers in their assigned classes in simple or complex order executions when the contra-party to the execution is a Priority Customer.

The purpose of increasing the specified QCC and cQCC Order fees and rebates is for business and competitive reasons. The Exchange believes that it is appropriate to adjust these specified QCC and cQCC Order fees and rebates in order to attract additional QCC and cQCC order flow and grow its market share in this segment, through offering a higher rebate (than the Exchange currently offers) and fees that are consistent with other exchanges, effectively lowering the overall cost to Members executing these orders on the Exchange. The Exchange notes that other competing exchanges similarly provide rebates on QCC and cQCC initiating orders,<sup>8</sup> and similarly charge fees on QCC and cQCC on Contra-side orders.<sup>9</sup>

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<sup>8</sup> See BOX Fee Schedule, Section I(D)(1) (a \$0.14 per contract rebate will be applied to the Agency Order where at least one party to the QCC transaction is a Non-Public Customer); see also Cboe Fee Schedule, “QCC Rate Table,” Page 5 (a \$0.10 per contract

The proposed rule change is to become operative April 1, 2019.

b. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that its proposal to amend its Fee Schedule is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act<sup>10</sup> in general, and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(4) of the Act<sup>11</sup> in particular, in that it provides for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees and other charges among Exchange Members and issuers and other persons using its facilities. The Exchange also believes the proposal furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(5) of the Act<sup>12</sup> in that it is designed 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 is not designed to permit unfair discrimination between customer, issuers, brokers and dealers.

The Exchange believes its proposal to increase the Per Contract Fee for Contra-side QCC and cQCC Orders is reasonable, equitable and not unfairly discriminatory because, at the same

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credit will be delivered to the TPH Firm that enters the order into Cboe Command but will only be paid on the initiating side of the QCC transaction); see also NYSE American Options Fee Schedule, Section I.F (a \$0.07 credit is applied to Floor Brokers executing 300,000 or fewer contracts in a month and a \$0.10 credit is applied to Floor Brokers executing more than 300,000 contracts in a month); see also Nasdaq ISE Pricing Schedule, Options 7, Section 6, Other Options Fees and Rebate, A. QCC and Solicitation Rebate (rebates range from \$0.00 to \$0.11 per contract).

<sup>9</sup> See BOX Options Market LLC (“BOX”) Fee Schedule, Section I(D) (BOX does not charge Public Customers but charges Professional Customers, Broker-Dealers and Market Makers \$0.17 per contract on both Agency and Contra Orders); see also Cboe Exchange, Inc. (“Cboe”) Fee Schedule, “QCC Rate Table,” Page 5 (Cboe charges non-Public Customers \$0.17 per contract and does not charge Public Customers); see also NYSE American Options Fee Schedule, Section I.F (NYSE American charges Non-Customers \$0.20 per contract, Specialists and e-Specialists \$0.13 per contract, and does not charge Customer and Professional Customers).

<sup>10</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

<sup>11</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(4).

<sup>12</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

time, the Exchange is proposing to increase the Per Contract Rebate for Initiator QCC and cQCC Orders for all types of market participants, effectively resulting in a lower, all-in execution cost for Members for these orders. The Exchange believes that the proposed fee and rebate changes are reasonable, equitable, and not unfairly discriminatory because the proposed fees and rebates are intended to attract additional QCC and cQCC Order flow, grow the Exchange's market share in this segment by effectively reducing the all-in execution cost for these orders to the benefit of all market participants.

Additionally, the Exchange believes that the proposed increase to the Per Contract Fee for Contra-side QCC and cQCC Orders is not unfairly discriminatory because the proposed fees would be charged to all market participants other than Priority Customers. Assessing QCC and cQCC Order rates to all market participants other than Priority Customer is equitable and not unfairly discriminatory because Priority Customer order flow enhances liquidity on the Exchange for the benefit of all market participants. Specifically, Priority Customer liquidity benefits all market participants by providing more trading opportunities, which attracts Market Makers. An increase in the activity of these market participants in turn facilitates tighter spreads, which may cause an additional corresponding increase in order flow from other market participants. By assessing a \$0.00 fee for Priority Customer orders, the Exchange believes the proposed QCC and cQCC Order fees will not discourage the sending of Priority Customer orders. The Exchange believes the proposed increase to the Per Contract Fee for Contra-side QCC and cQCC Orders for all types of market participants is reasonable because the proposed amount is in line with the amount assessed at other Exchanges for similar transactions.<sup>13</sup>

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<sup>13</sup> See supra note 9.

The Exchange believes the proposed increase to the Per Contract Rebate for Initiator QCC and cQCC Orders for all types of market participants is reasonable because the rebate will offset the fee resulting in a lower all-in execution cost for Members for these orders, even with the proposed increase to the Per Contract Fee for Contra-side QCC and cQCC Orders. Further, other competing exchanges also provide rebates on the initiating order side and the proposed rebate amount is within the range of the rebate amounts at the other competing exchanges.<sup>14</sup> The Exchange believes the proposed increase to the rebate is equitable and not unfairly discriminatory because it applies to all Members that enter the initiating order (except for when both the initiator and contra-side orders are Priority Customers) and because it is intended to incentivize the sending of more QCC and cQCC Orders to the Exchange. The Exchange believes it is reasonable, equitable and not unfairly discriminatory to not provide a rebate for the Initiator for QCC and cQCC Orders for which both the Initiator and the Contra-side are Priority Customers since Priority Customers are already incentivized by being assessed a fee of \$0.00 for submitting QCC and cQCC Orders.

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

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on competition not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act, because the proposed rule change applies to all Members. The Exchange believes this proposal will not cause an unnecessary burden on intermarket competition because the proposed changes will actually enhance the competitiveness of the Exchange relative to other exchanges which offer comparable fees and rebates for QCC and cQCC Orders. To the extent that the proposed changes make the Exchange a more attractive marketplace for market participants at other

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<sup>14</sup> See supra note 8.

exchanges, such market participants are welcome to become market participants on the Exchange.

The Exchange notes that it operates in a highly competitive market in which market participants can readily favor competing venues if they deem fee levels at a particular venue to be excessive. In such an environment, the Exchange must continually adjust its fees to remain competitive with other exchanges and to attract order flow to the Exchange. The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change reflects this competitive environment because it establishes a fee structure in a manner that encourages market participants to direct their order flow, to provide liquidity, and to attract additional transaction volume to the Exchange.

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

No written comments were either solicited or 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)**

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(ii) of the Act,<sup>15</sup> and Rule 19b-4(f)(2) thereunder<sup>16</sup> the Exchange has designated this proposal as establishing or changing a due, fee, or other charge imposed on any person, whether or not the person is a member of the self-regulatory organization, which renders the proposed rule change effective upon filing.

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<sup>15</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(ii).

<sup>16</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

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

The proposed rule change is not based on the rules of another exchange or of the Commission.

**9. Security-Based Swap Submissions Filed Pursuant to Section 3C of the Act**

Not applicable.

**10. Advance Notices Filed Pursuant to Section 806(e) of the Payment, Clearing and Settlement Supervision Act**

Not applicable.

**11. Exhibits**

1. Notice of proposed rule for publication in the Federal Register.

5. Applicable Section of the MIAX Options Fee Schedule.

**EXHIBIT 1**

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
(Release No. 34- ; File No. SR-MIAX-2019-17)

March\_\_, 2019

Self-Regulatory Organizations: Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of a Proposed Rule Change by Miami International Securities Exchange LLC to Amend Its Fee Schedule

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (“Act”)<sup>1</sup> and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,<sup>2</sup> notice is hereby given that on March 27, 2019, Miami International Securities Exchange LLC (“MIAX Options” or “Exchange”) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“Commission”) a 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 is filing a proposal to amend the MIAX Options Fee Schedule (the “Fee Schedule”) to amend its fees and rebates for Qualified Contingent Cross (“QCC”) orders and Complex Qualified Contingent Cross (“cQCC”) orders.

The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Exchange’s website at <http://www.miaxoptions.com/rule-filings>, at MIAX’s principal office, 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, the Exchange included statements concerning the purpose of and basis for the proposed rule change and discussed any comments it received on

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<sup>1</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

<sup>2</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

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

The Exchange proposes to amend Sections 1)a)vii) and viii) of the Fee Schedule to amend its fees and rebates for QCC and cQCC Orders. A QCC Order is comprised of an order to buy or sell at least 1,000 contracts that is identified as being part of a qualified contingent trade, coupled with a contra side order to buy or sell an equal number of contracts.<sup>3</sup> Currently, the Exchange assesses a transaction fee for all types of market participants other than Priority Customer<sup>4</sup> for QCC Orders of \$0.15 per contract (Priority Customer orders are assessed a charge of \$0.00 per contract) for the Initiator and the Contra-side. In addition, the Exchange currently pays a \$0.10 per contract rebate for the initiating order, regardless of the type of market participant. The rebate is paid to the Member<sup>5</sup> that enters the order into the System<sup>6</sup>, but is only paid on the initiating side of the QCC transaction. No rebates are paid for QCC transactions in

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<sup>3</sup> A Qualified Contingent Cross Order is comprised of an originating order to buy or sell at least 1,000 contracts, or 10,000 mini-option contracts, that is identified as being part of a qualified contingent trade, as that term is defined in Interpretation and Policy .01 to Rule 516, coupled with a contra-side order or orders totaling an equal number of contracts. See Exchange Rule 516(j).

<sup>4</sup> The term "Priority Customer" means a person or entity that (i) is not a broker or dealer in securities, and (ii) does not place more than 390 orders in listed options per day on average during a calendar month for its own beneficial accounts(s). See Exchange Rule 100.

<sup>5</sup> The term "Member" means an individual or organization approved to exercise the trading rights associated with a Trading Permit. Members are deemed "members" under the Exchange Act. See Exchange Rule 100.

<sup>6</sup> The term "System" means the automated trading system used by the Exchange for the trading of securities. See Exchange Rule 100.

which both the initiator and contra-side orders are from Priority Customers. The Exchange notes that with regard to order entry, the first order submitted into the System is marked as the initiating side and the second order is marked as the contra side.

The Exchange now proposes to increase the Per Contract Fee for Contra-side QCC Orders for all types of market participants other than Priority Customer from \$0.15 to \$0.17 (Priority Customer orders will continue to be assessed a Per Contract Fee for Contra-side QCC Orders of \$0.00). The Exchange does not propose to change the Per Contract Fee for Initiator QCC Orders for any market participants. In addition, the Exchange proposes to increase the Per Contract Rebate for Initiator QCC Orders for all types of market participants from \$0.10 per contract to \$0.14 per contract. The Exchange is not proposing to change that no rebates will be paid for QCC transactions for which both the Initiator and Contra-side orders are Priority Customers.

A cQCC Order is comprised of an originating complex order to buy or sell where each component is at least 1,000 contracts that is identified as being part of a qualified contingent trade, coupled with a contra-side complex order or orders to sell or buy an equal number of contracts.<sup>7</sup> Currently, the Exchange assesses a transaction fee for all types of market participants other than Priority Customer for cQCC Orders of \$0.15 per contract (Priority Customer orders are assessed a charge of \$0.00 per contract) for the Initiator and the Contra-side. In addition, the Exchange currently pays a \$0.10 per contract rebate for the initiating order, regardless of the type of market participant. No rebates are paid for cQCC transactions in which both the initiator and contra-side orders are from Priority Customers. All fees and rebates are per contract per leg. The rebate is paid to the Member that enters the order into the System, but is only paid on the initiating side of the cQCC transaction.

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<sup>7</sup> See Exchange Rule 518(b)(6).

The Exchange now proposes to increase the Per Contract Fee for Contra-side cQCC Orders for all types of market participants other than Priority Customer from \$0.15 to \$0.17 (Priority Customer orders will continue to be assessed a Per Contract Fee for Contra-side cQCC Orders of \$0.00). The Exchange does not propose to change the Per Contract Fee for Initiator cQCC Orders for any market participants. In addition, the Exchange proposes to increase the Per Contract Rebate for Initiator cQCC Orders for all types of market participants from \$0.10 per contract to \$0.14 per contract. The Exchange is not proposing to change that no rebates will be paid for cQCC transactions for which both the initiator and contra-side orders are Priority Customers.

The Exchange notes that QCC and cQCC Orders are excluded from: (i) the volume threshold calculations for the Market Maker Sliding Scale; (ii) the rebates and volume calculations as part of the Priority Customer Rebate Program; (iii) participation in the Professional Rebate Program; and (iv) the Marketing Fee that is assessed to Market Makers in their assigned classes in simple or complex order executions when the contra-party to the execution is a Priority Customer.

The purpose of increasing the specified QCC and cQCC Order fees and rebates is for business and competitive reasons. The Exchange believes that it is appropriate to adjust these specified QCC and cQCC Order fees and rebates in order to attract additional QCC and cQCC order flow and grow its market share in this segment, through offering a higher rebate (than the Exchange currently offers) and fees that are consistent with other exchanges, effectively lowering the overall cost to Members executing these orders on the Exchange. The Exchange

notes that other competing exchanges similarly provide rebates on QCC and cQCC initiating orders,<sup>8</sup> and similarly charge fees on QCC and cQCC on Contra-side orders.<sup>9</sup>

The proposed rule change is to become operative April 1, 2019.

## 2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that its proposal to amend its Fee Schedule is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act<sup>10</sup> in general, and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(4) of the Act<sup>11</sup> in particular, in that it provides for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees and other charges among Exchange Members and issuers and other persons using its facilities. The Exchange also believes the proposal furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(5) of the Act<sup>12</sup> in that it is designed 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

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<sup>8</sup> See BOX Fee Schedule, Section I(D)(1) (a \$0.14 per contract rebate will be applied to the Agency Order where at least one party to the QCC transaction is a Non-Public Customer); see also Cboe Fee Schedule, “QCC Rate Table,” Page 5 (a \$0.10 per contract credit will be delivered to the TPH Firm that enters the order into Cboe Command but will only be paid on the initiating side of the QCC transaction); see also NYSE American Options Fee Schedule, Section I.F (a \$0.07 credit is applied to Floor Brokers executing 300,000 or fewer contracts in a month and a \$0.10 credit is applied to Floor Brokers executing more than 300,000 contracts in a month); see also Nasdaq ISE Pricing Schedule, Options 7, Section 6, Other Options Fees and Rebate, A. QCC and Solicitation Rebate (rebates range from \$0.00 to \$0.11 per contract).

<sup>9</sup> See BOX Options Market LLC (“BOX”) Fee Schedule, Section I(D) (BOX does not charge Public Customers but charges Professional Customers, Broker-Dealers and Market Makers \$0.17 per contract on both Agency and Contra Orders); see also Cboe Exchange, Inc. (“Cboe”) Fee Schedule, “QCC Rate Table,” Page 5 (Cboe charges non-Public Customers \$0.17 per contract and does not charge Public Customers); see also NYSE American Options Fee Schedule, Section I.F (NYSE American charges Non-Customers \$0.20 per contract, Specialists and e-Specialists \$0.13 per contract, and does not charge Customer and Professional Customers).

<sup>10</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

<sup>11</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(4).

<sup>12</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

protect investors and the public interest and is not designed to permit unfair discrimination between customer, issuers, brokers and dealers.

The Exchange believes its proposal to increase the Per Contract Fee for Contra-side QCC and cQCC Orders is reasonable, equitable and not unfairly discriminatory because, at the same time, the Exchange is proposing to increase the Per Contract Rebate for Initiator QCC and cQCC Orders for all types of market participants, effectively resulting in a lower, all-in execution cost for Members for these orders. The Exchange believes that the proposed fee and rebate changes are reasonable, equitable, and not unfairly discriminatory because the proposed fees and rebates are intended to attract additional QCC and cQCC Order flow, grow the Exchange's market share in this segment by effectively reducing the all-in execution cost for these orders to the benefit of all market participants.

Additionally, the Exchange believes that the proposed increase to the Per Contract Fee for Contra-side QCC and cQCC Orders is not unfairly discriminatory because the proposed fees would be charged to all market participants other than Priority Customers. Assessing QCC and cQCC Order rates to all market participants other than Priority Customer is equitable and not unfairly discriminatory because Priority Customer order flow enhances liquidity on the Exchange for the benefit of all market participants. Specifically, Priority Customer liquidity benefits all market participants by providing more trading opportunities, which attracts Market Makers. An increase in the activity of these market participants in turn facilitates tighter spreads, which may cause an additional corresponding increase in order flow from other market participants. By assessing a \$0.00 fee for Priority Customer orders, the Exchange believes the proposed QCC and cQCC Order fees will not discourage the sending of Priority Customer orders. The Exchange believes the proposed increase to the Per Contract Fee for Contra-side

QCC and cQCC Orders for all types of market participants is reasonable because the proposed amount is in line with the amount assessed at other Exchanges for similar transactions.<sup>13</sup>

The Exchange believes the proposed increase to the Per Contract Rebate for Initiator QCC and cQCC Orders for all types of market participants is reasonable because the rebate will offset the fee resulting in a lower all-in execution cost for Members for these orders, even with the proposed increase to the Per Contract Fee for Contra-side QCC and cQCC Orders. Further, other competing exchanges also provide rebates on the initiating order side and the proposed rebate amount is within the range of the rebate amounts at the other competing exchanges.<sup>14</sup> The Exchange believes the proposed increase to the rebate is equitable and not unfairly discriminatory because it applies to all Members that enter the initiating order (except for when both the initiator and contra-side orders are Priority Customers) and because it is intended to incentivize the sending of more QCC and cQCC Orders to the Exchange. The Exchange believes it is reasonable, equitable and not unfairly discriminatory to not provide a rebate for the Initiator for QCC and cQCC Orders for which both the Initiator and the Contra-side are Priority Customers since Priority Customers are already incentivized by being assessed a fee of \$0.00 for submitting QCC and cQCC Orders.

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

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on competition not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act, because the proposed rule change applies to all Members. The Exchange believes this proposal will not cause an unnecessary burden on intermarket competition because the proposed changes will actually enhance the competitiveness of the Exchange relative to other exchanges which offer

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<sup>13</sup> See supra note 9.

<sup>14</sup> See supra note 8.

comparable fees and rebates for QCC and cQCC Orders. To the extent that the proposed changes make the Exchange a more attractive marketplace for market participants at other exchanges, such market participants are welcome to become market participants on the Exchange.

The Exchange notes that it operates in a highly competitive market in which market participants can readily favor competing venues if they deem fee levels at a particular venue to be excessive. In such an environment, the Exchange must continually adjust its fees to remain competitive with other exchanges and to attract order flow to the Exchange. The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change reflects this competitive environment because it establishes a fee structure in a manner that encourages market participants to direct their order flow, to provide liquidity, and to attract additional transaction volume to the Exchange.

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

Written comments were neither solicited nor received.

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

The foregoing rule change has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(ii) of the Act,<sup>15</sup> and Rule 19b-4(f)(2)<sup>16</sup> thereunder. At any time within 60 days of the filing of the proposed rule change, the Commission summarily may temporarily suspend 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. If the Commission takes such action, the Commission shall institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule should be approved or disapproved.

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<sup>15</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(ii).

<sup>16</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(2).

#### 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](mailto:to-rule-comments@sec.gov). Please include File Number SR-MIAX-2019-17 on the subject line.

##### Paper comments:

- Send paper comments in triplicate to Brent J. Fields, Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549-1090.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-MIAX-2019-17. 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 website viewing and printing in the Commission's Public Reference Room, 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549, on official business days between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Copies of the filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the Exchange. 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-MIAX-2019-17 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.<sup>17</sup>

Brent J. Fields  
Secretary

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<sup>17</sup> 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

**Exhibit 5**

New text is underlined;  
 Deleted text is in [brackets]

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# MIAX Options Fee Schedule

## 1. Transaction Fees

### a) Exchange Fees

i) – vi) No change.

### vii) QCC Fees

Types of Market Participants	QCC Order		
	Per Contract Fee for Initiator	Per Contract Fee for Contra-side	Per Contract Rebate for Initiator
<i>Priority Customer</i>	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.[10] <u>14</u>
<i>Public Customer that is Not a Priority Customer</i>	\$0.15	\$0.[15] <u>17</u>	\$0.[10] <u>14</u>
<i>MIAX Market Maker</i>	\$0.15	\$0.[15] <u>17</u>	\$0.[10] <u>14</u>
<i>Non-MIAX Market Maker</i>	\$0.15	\$0.[15] <u>17</u>	\$0.[10] <u>14</u>
<i>Non-Member Broker-Dealer</i>	\$0.15	\$0.[15] <u>17</u>	\$0.[10] <u>14</u>
<i>Firm</i>	\$0.15	\$0.[15] <u>17</u>	\$0.[10] <u>14</u>

Rebates will be delivered to the Member firm that enters the order into the MIAX system, but will only be paid on the initiating side of the QCC transaction. However, no rebates will be paid for QCC transactions for which both the initiator and contra-side orders are Priority Customers. A QCC transaction is comprised of an ‘initiating order’ to buy (sell) at least 1000 contracts or 10,000 mini-option contracts, coupled with a contra-side order to sell (buy) an equal number of contracts. QCC orders comprised of mini-contracts will be assessed QCC fees and afforded rebates equal to 10% of the fees and rebates applicable to QCC Orders comprised of standard option contracts.

**viii) cQCC Fees**

Types of Market Participants	cQCC Order		
	Per Contract Fee for Initiator	Per Contract Fee for Contra-side	Per Contract Rebate for Initiator
<i>Priority Customer</i>	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.[10]14
<i>Public Customer that is Not a Priority Customer</i>	\$0.15	\$0.[15]17	\$0.[10]14
<i>MIAX Market Maker</i>	\$0.15	\$0.[15]17	\$0.[10]14
<i>Non-MIAX Market Maker</i>	\$0.15	\$0.[15]17	\$0.[10]14
<i>Non-Member Broker-Dealer</i>	\$0.15	\$0.[15]17	\$0.[10]14
<i>Firm</i>	\$0.15	\$0.[15]17	\$0.[10]14

All fees and rebates are per contract per leg. Rebates will be delivered to the Member firm that enters the order into the MIAX system, but will only be paid on the initiating side of the cQCC transaction. However, no rebates will be paid for cQCC transactions for which both the initiator and contra-side orders are Priority Customers. A cQCC transaction is comprised of an 'initiating complex order' to buy (sell) where each component is at least 1,000 contracts that is identified as being part of a qualified contingent trade, coupled with a contra-side complex order or orders to sell (buy) an equal number of contracts.

**ix) – xi) No change.**

**b) No change.**

**c) No change.**

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