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

File No. \* SR 2025 - \* 04

Amendment No. (req. for Amendments \*)

Filing by MIAX Emerald, 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"/>
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Pilot <input type="checkbox"/>	Extension of Time Period for Commission Action * <input type="checkbox"/>	Date Expires * <input type="text"/>
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Rule

<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  
Section 806(e)(1) \*

Section 806(e)(2) \*

Security-Based Swap Submission pursuant to the Securities Exchange Act of 1934  
Section 3C(b)(2) \*

Exhibit 2 Sent As Paper Document

Exhibit 3 Sent As Paper Document

**Description**

Provide a brief description of the action (limit 250 characters, required when Initial is checked \*).

Proposal to amend the Fee Schedule to establish User and Non-Display Usage fees for the Exchange's proprietary market data feeds.

**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 \* Michael Last Name \* Slade

Title \* AVP, Associate Counsel

E-mail \* mslade@miaxglobal.com

Telephone \* (609) 955-0460 Fax

**Signature**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange of 1934, MIAX Emerald, LLC has duly caused this filing to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.

Date 02/14/2025 (Title \*)

By Michael Slade AVP, Associate Counsel  
(Name \*)

NOTE: Clicking the signature block at right will initiate digitally signing the form. A digital signature is as legally binding as a physical signature, and once signed, this form cannot be changed.

Michael Slade Date: 2025.02.14 10:47:19 -05'00'

Required fields are shown with yellow backgrounds and astericks.

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

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

**Form 19b-4 Information \***

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SR-EMERALD-2025-04 - 19b4.doc

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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SR-EMERALD-2025-04 - Exhibit 1.doc

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 Advanced 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 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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Copies of notices, written comments, transcripts, other communications. If such documents cannot be filed electronically in accordance with Instruction F, they shall be filed in accordance with Instruction G.

Exhibit Sent As Paper Document

**Exhibit 3 - Form, Report, or Questionnaire**

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Copies of any form, report, or questionnaire that the self-regulatory organization proposes to use to help implement or operate the proposed rule change, or that is referred to by the proposed rule change.

Exhibit Sent As Paper Document

**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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SR-EMERALD-2025-04 - Exhibit 5.doc

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) MIAX Emerald, LLC (“MIAX Emerald” or “Exchange”), pursuant to the provisions of Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (“Act” or “Exchange Act”)<sup>1</sup> and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,<sup>2</sup> proposes to amend the MIAX Emerald Options Exchange Fee Schedule (the “Fee Schedule”) to, among other things, adopt new fee categories for the Exchange’s proprietary market data feeds: (1) the Top of Market (“ToM”) feed, (2) the Complex Top of Market feed (“cToM”), (3) the Administrative Information Subscriber feed (“AIS”), and (4) the MIAX Emerald Order Feed (“MOR”) (collectively, the “market data feeds”).

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

(b) Inapplicable.

(c) Inapplicable.

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

The proposed rule change was approved by the Chief Executive Officer of the Exchange or his designee pursuant to authority delegated by the Exchange’s Board of Directors on January 19, 2024. 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 Chris Solgan, Vice President, Senior Counsel, at (609) 423-9414.

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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 offers four standard proprietary market data products, ToM, cToM, AIS, and MOR. The ToM data feed is a data feed that contains the Exchange's best bid and offer, with aggregate size, and last sale information, based on order and quoting interest on the Exchange.<sup>3</sup> The ToM data feed includes data that is identical to the data sent to the processor for the Options Price Reporting Authority ("OPRA"). The data for ToM and OPRA leave the System<sup>4</sup> at the same time, as required under Section 5.2(c)(iii)(B) of the Limited Liability Company Agreement of the Options Price Reporting Authority LLC (the "OPRA Plan"), which prohibits the dissemination of proprietary information on any more timely basis than the same information is furnished to the OPRA system for inclusion in OPRA's consolidated dissemination of options information. The cToM data feed includes the same types of information as ToM, but for Complex Orders<sup>5</sup> on the Exchange's Strategy Book.<sup>6</sup> This information includes the Exchange's best bid and offer for a complex strategy<sup>7</sup>, with aggregate

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<sup>3</sup> See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 85207 (February 27, 2019), 84 FR 7963 (March 5, 2019) (SR-EMERALD-2019-09) (Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of a Proposed Rule Change to Establish MIA X Emerald Top of Market ("ToM") Data Feed, MIA X Emerald Complex Top of Market ("cToM") Data Feed, MIA X Emerald Administrative Information Subscriber ("AIS") Data Feed, and MIA X Emerald Order Feed ("MOR")).

<sup>4</sup> The term "System" means the automated trading system used by the Exchange for the trading of securities. See Exchange Rule 100.

<sup>5</sup> In sum, a "Complex Order" is "any order involving the concurrent purchase and/or sale of two or more different options in the same underlying security (the 'legs' or 'components' of the complex order), for the same account ...." See Exchange Rule 518(a)(5).

<sup>6</sup> The "Strategy Book" is the Exchange's electronic book of complex orders and complex quotes. See Exchange Rule 518(a)(17).

<sup>7</sup> The term "complex strategy" means a particular combination of components and their ratios to one another. New complex strategies can be created as the result of the receipt of a complex order or by the Exchange for a complex strategy that is not currently in the System. The Exchange may limit the number of new complex strategies that may be in the System at a particular time and will communicate this limitation to Members via Regulatory Circular. See Exchange Rule 518(a)(6).

size, based on displayable orders in the complex strategy. The cToM data feed also provides subscribers with the following information: (i) the identification of the complex strategies currently trading on the Exchange; (ii) complex strategy last sale information; and (iii) the status of securities underlying the complex strategy (e.g., halted, open, or resumed). The AIS data feed provides subscribers real-time updates regarding products traded on MIAX Emerald, trading status for MIAX Emerald and products traded on MIAX Emerald, and liquidity seeking event notifications (“administrative information”).<sup>8</sup> The MOR data feed includes full order book data for orders on the Simple Order Book<sup>9</sup> and Strategy Book, and includes the following data: product ID, order price, order original volume, remaining volume open, and origin code.<sup>10</sup>

Section 6 of the Fee Schedule, Market Data Fees, provides fees for the ToM, cToM, AIS and MOR data feeds. Currently, the Exchange only charges monthly fees to both Internal and External Distributors (proposed definitions below) of the ToM, cToM, AIS and MOR data feeds. Specifically, the Exchange charges Internal Distributors a monthly fee of \$2,000.00 for the ToM and cToM data feeds, \$1,250.00 for the AIS data feed, and \$3,000.00 for the MOR data feed. The Exchange also charges External Distributors a monthly fee of \$3,000.00 for the ToM and cToM data feeds, \$1,750.00 for the AIS data feed, and \$3,500.00 for the MOR data feed.

The Exchange now proposes to amend the Fee Schedule to, among other things, adopt new fee categories for the Exchange’s proprietary market data feeds. The primary purpose of this proposal is to adopt per User (defined below) fees as well as fees for Non-Display Usage (also defined below). The Exchange also proposes to add a “Market Data Definitions” section to

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<sup>8</sup> See supra note 3.

<sup>9</sup> The “Simple Order Book” is the Exchange’s regular electronic book of orders and quotes. See Exchange Rule 518(a)(15).

<sup>10</sup> See supra note 3.

Section 6 of the Fee Schedule as well as modify how mid-month subscriptions for Distributors are to be handled. The Exchange believes that adopting the same fee structure as its affiliated exchanges would reduce administrative burdens on market data subscribers that also currently subscribe to market data feeds from the Exchange's affiliates. Each of these proposed changes are described below.

\* \* \* \* \*

The Exchange believes that exchanges, in setting fees of all types, should meet very high standards of transparency to demonstrate why each new fee or fee increase meets the requirements of the Act that fees be reasonable, equitably allocated, not unfairly discriminatory, and not create an undue burden on competition among Members<sup>11</sup> and markets. The Exchange believes this high standard is especially important when an exchange imposes various fees for market participants to access an exchange's market data.

Approximately 51% of Members subscribe to one or more market data feeds from the Exchange. Of those Members, approximately 47% subscribe to all four market data feeds, approximately 22% subscribe to three market data feeds, approximately 5% subscribe to two market data feeds, and approximately 26% subscribe to only one market data feed. The Exchange notes that there is no requirement that any Member or market participant subscribe to the ToM, cToM, AIS or MOR data feeds offered by the Exchange. Instead, a Member may choose to maintain subscriptions to the ToM, cToM, AIS or MOR data feeds based on their own business needs and trading models.

### Definitions

The Exchange proposes to include a Definitions section at the beginning of Section 6,

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<sup>11</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.

Market Data Fees, of the Fee Schedule. The purpose of the Definitions section is to provide market participants greater clarity and transparency regarding the applicability of fees by defining certain terms used in connection with market data feeds within the Fee Schedule in a single location related to the Exchange's market data products. The Exchange notes that it includes similar Definitions in its fee schedule applicable to its own equity trading platform, MIAX Pearl Equities,<sup>12</sup> and that each of the proposed definitions are based on the MIAX Pearl Equities fee schedule and that of other exchanges. The Exchange believes that including a Definitions section for market data products makes the Fee Schedule more user-friendly and comprehensive.

The Exchange proposes to define the following terms in Section 6 of the Fee Schedule:

- Distributor. Any entity that receives the Exchange data product directly from the Exchange or indirectly through another entity and then distributes it internally or externally to a third party.
- External Distributor. A Distributor that receives the Exchange data product and then distributes that data to a third party or one or more Users outside the Distributor's own entity.
- Internal Distributor. A Distributor that receives the Exchange data product and then distributes that data to one or more Users within the Distributor's own entity.
  - The Exchange notes that it proposes to use the phrase "own entity" in the

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<sup>12</sup> See MIAX Pearl Equities Fee Schedule, Section 3), Market Data Fees, and Securities Exchange Act Release No. 100319 (June 12, 2024), 89 FR 51562 (June 19, 2024) (SR-PEARL-2024-25). See also Cboe BZX Exchange, Inc. ("Cboe BZX Options") Fee Schedule, Market Data Fees section, and Cboe EDGX Exchange, Inc. ("Cboe EDGX Options") Fee Schedule, Market Data Fees section. See also MEMX LLC ("MEMX Options") Fee Schedule, Market Data Fees section, and Securities Exchange Act Release No. 101370 (October 17, 2024), 89 FR 84638 (October 23, 2024) (SR-MEMX-2024-40) ("MEMX Options Market Data Fee Proposal").

definition of Internal Distributor and External Distributor because a Distributor would be permitted to share data received from an exchange data product to other legal entities affiliated with the Distributor's entity that have been disclosed to the Exchange without such distribution being considered external to a third party. For instance, if a company has multiple affiliated broker-dealers under the same holding company, that company could have one of the broker-dealers or a non-broker-dealer affiliate subscribe to an exchange data product and then share the data with other affiliates that have a need for the data. This sharing with affiliates would not be considered external distribution to a third party but instead would be considered internal distribution to data recipients within the Distributor's own entity.

- The Exchange also notes that the explanatory paragraphs under the ToM, cToM, AIS and MOR data feed fee tables includes the following language which defines the terms Distributor, Internal Distributors, and External Distributors:

MIAX Emerald will assess Market Data Fees applicable to ToM [cToM, AIS or MOR] on Internal and External Distributors in each month the Distributor is credentialed to use ToM [cToM, AIS or MOR] in the production environment. A Distributor of MIAX Emerald data is any entity that receives a feed or file of data either directly from MIAX Emerald or indirectly through another entity and then distributes it either internally (within that entity) or



externally (outside that entity). All Distributors are required to execute a MIAX Emerald Distributor Agreement.

The Exchange proposes to remove these provisions from the Fee Schedule because they: (i) duplicate the proposed definitions of Distributor, External Distributor, and External Distributor proposed herein with no substantive difference; and (ii) provide details that are included in the Exchange's market data policies that are also not also provided for in the fee schedules of other options exchanges.<sup>13</sup> Removing these provisions would also harmonize the definition and fee descriptions with the fee schedule applicable to MIAX PearlEquities.<sup>14</sup>

- Non-Display Usage. Any method of accessing an Exchange data product that involves access or use by a machine or automated device without access or use of a display by a natural person or persons.
- Non-Professional User. A natural person or qualifying trust that uses Exchange data only for personal purposes and not for any commercial purpose and, for a natural person who works in the United States, is not: (i) registered or qualified in any capacity with the Securities and Exchange Commission, the Commodities Futures Trading Commission, any state securities agency, any securities exchange or association, or any commodities or futures contract market or association; (ii)

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<sup>13</sup> See Cboe BZX Options Fee Schedule, Market Data Fees section and Cboe EDGX Options, Market Data Fees section, both available at [https://www.cboe.com/us/options/membership/?\\_gl=1\\*19q7zz0\\*\\_up\\*MQ..\\*\\_ga\\*NjY5OTA0NzE4LjE3MzQ1MzQzODk.\\*\\_ga\\_5O99WB9X71\\*MTczNDUzNzQ0Mi4yLjEuMTczNDUzNzQ0MzQzODk.\\*\\_ga\\_5O99WB9X71\\*MTczNDUzNzQ0MzQzODk.\\*\\_ga\\_5O99WB9X71\\*MTczNDUzNzQ0MzQzODk](https://www.cboe.com/us/options/membership/?_gl=1*19q7zz0*_up*MQ..*_ga*NjY5OTA0NzE4LjE3MzQ1MzQzODk.*_ga_5O99WB9X71*MTczNDUzNzQ0Mi4yLjEuMTczNDUzNzQ0MzQzODk.*_ga_5O99WB9X71*MTczNDUzNzQ0MzQzODk.*_ga_5O99WB9X71*MTczNDUzNzQ0MzQzODk). See also MEMX Options Fee Schedule and Securities Exchange Act Release No. 101370 (October 17, 2024), 89 FR 84638 (October 23, 2024) (SR-MEMX-2024-40).

<sup>14</sup> See MIAX PearlEquities Fee Schedule, Section 3), Market Data Fees, and Securities Exchange Act Release No. 100319 (June 12, 2024), 89 FR 51562 (June 19, 2024) (SR-PEARL-2024-25).

engaged as an “investment adviser” as that term is defined in Section 202(a)(11) of the Investment Advisors Act of 1940 (whether or not registered or qualified under that Act); or (iii) employed by a bank or other organization exempt from registration under federal or state securities laws to perform functions that would require registration or qualification if such functions were performed for an organization not so exempt; or, for a natural person who works outside of the United States, does not perform the same functions as would disqualify such person as a Non-Professional User if he or she worked in the United States.

- Professional User. Any User other than a Non-Professional User.
- User. A Professional User or Non-Professional User.

#### Proposed Market Data Pricing

As described above, the Exchange currently only charges Internal Distributors a monthly fee of \$2,000.00 for the ToM and cToM data feeds, \$1,250.00 for the AIS data feed, and \$3,000.00 for the MOR data feed. The Exchange also only currently charges External Distributors a monthly fee of \$3,000.00 for the ToM and cToM data feeds, \$1,750.00 for the AIS data feed, and \$3,500.00 for the MOR data feed. The Exchange now proposes to charge the below per User fees as well as Non-Display Usage fees for the ToM, cToM, AIS and MOR data feeds, which, the Exchange believes are generally similar to or lower than market data fees charged by other similarly situated options exchanges. The Exchange does not propose to adopt any additional fee categories in this proposal. Each of the below capitalized terms are defined above and would be included under the proposed Definitions section under Section 6, Market Data Fees, of the Fee Schedule.

1. User Fees. For the ToM, cToM, AIS and MOR data feeds, the Exchange

proposes to charge a monthly fee of \$20.00 for each Professional User and \$1.00 for each Non-Professional User of each data feed.<sup>15</sup> The proposed User fees would apply to each person that has access to the ToM, cToM, AIS or MOR data feeds that is provided by a Distributor (either Internal or External) for displayed usage. Each Distributor's User count would include every individual that accesses the data regardless of the purpose for which the individual uses the data. The above Professional or Non-Professional User fee would provide the same Professional or Non-Professional User access to all other MIAX Emerald Market Data feeds for no additional per User charge.<sup>16</sup> In other words, a User would receive access to the ToM, cToM, AIS and MOR data feeds for the applicable single per User fee and not have to pay separate per User fees for each data feed. As such, Distributors should report the number of Users per the Exchange, and not per individual data feed. This would be noted in Section 6 of the Fee Schedule under footnote 1 following the fee tables for the ToM, cToM, AIS and MOR data feeds. Distributors of the ToM, cToM, AIS or MOR data feeds would be required to report all Professional and Non-Professional Users in accordance with the following:

- In connection with a Distributor's distribution of the ToM, cToM, AIS or MOR data feeds, the Distributor must count as one User each unique User that the Distributor is entitled for access to the ToM, cToM, AIS or MOR data

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<sup>15</sup> The Exchange does not propose to adopt an Enterprise Fee at this time and may do so in the future based on feedback from market participants.

<sup>16</sup> The Exchange notes that similar reporting is required by the Nasdaq options markets, The Nasdaq Stock Market LLC ("Nasdaq Options"), Nasdaq Phlx LLC ("Nasdaq Phlx"), and Nasdaq MRX, LLC ("Nasdaq MRX"). See, e.g., <https://www.nasdaqtrader.com/Trader.aspx?id=DPPriceListOptions> (providing that "[t]he monthly user fee should be reported once for Nasdaq Options, not once per datafeed").

feeds.

- Distributors must report each unique individual person who receives access through multiple devices or multiple methods (e.g., a single User has multiple passwords and user identifications) as one User.
- If a Distributor entitles one or more individuals to use the same device, the Distributor must include only the individuals, and not the device, in the count. Thus, Distributors would not be required to report User device counts associated with a User's display use of the data feed.

2. Non-Display Usage Fees. The Exchange proposes to establish a monthly Non-Display Usage<sup>17</sup> fee of \$1,500.00 for the ToM, cToM, AIS and MOR data feeds.

- The Exchange proposes to provide a discount to those that subscribe to two or more MIAX Emerald data feeds by capping the Non-Display Usage fee for Subscribers of two or more MIAX Emerald data feeds at \$3,000.00. This would be noted in Section 6 of the Fee Schedule under footnote 2 following the fee tables for the ToM, cToM, AIS and MOR data feeds.

Lastly, the Exchange proposes to no longer pro-rate fees for Distributors who subscribe or terminate mid-month. The Exchange notes that there were no mid-month subscriptions or terminations over the past twelve (12) months that would have required the monthly fee to be pro-rated. The Exchange also notes that mid-month subscriptions and terminations place an increased burden on Exchange staff and systems that are in place to pro-rate the monthly fee that are not justified by the little to no mid-month subscriptions and terminations that occurred over

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<sup>17</sup> Non-Display Usage would include trading uses such as high frequency or algorithmic trading as well as any trading in any asset class, automated order or quote generation and/or order pegging, price referencing for smart order routing, operations control programs, investment analysis, order verification, surveillance programs, risk management, compliance, and portfolio management.

the past year or that the Exchange anticipates going forward based on its past experience. This portion of the proposal should also encourage subscribers to either begin a new subscription or terminate an existing subscription at the beginning or end of a month, respectively. Lastly, removing these provisions would also harmonize the MIAX Emerald Fee Schedule with the MIAX Pearl Equities fee schedule, which also does not provide for pro-ration.<sup>18</sup> Also, other exchanges do not provide for the similar pro-ration of market data fees.<sup>19</sup> Therefore, the Exchange proposes to remove the following language providing for pro-rated month fees for mid-month subscribers from the explanatory paragraphs under the ToM, cToM, AIS and MOR data feed fee tables:

Market Data Fees for [ToM/cToM/AIS/MOR] will be reduced for new Distributors for the first month during which they subscribe to [ToM/cToM/AIS/MOR], based on the number of trading days that have been held during the month prior to the date on which they have been credentialed to use [ToM/cToM/AIS/MOR] in the production environment. Such new Distributors will be assessed a pro-rata percentage of the fees described above, which is the percentage of the number of trading days remaining in the affected calendar month as of the date on which they have been credentialed to use [ToM/cToM/AIS/MOR] in the production environment, divided by the total number of trading days in the affected calendar month.

### **Implementation**

The Exchange issued alerts publicly announcing the proposed fees on September 30, 2024 and December 17, 2024.<sup>20</sup> The fees subject to this proposal are immediately effective.

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<sup>18</sup> See MIAX Pearl Equities Fee Schedule, Section 3), Market Data Fees, and Securities Exchange Act Release No. 100319 (June 12, 2024), 89 FR 51562 (June 19, 2024) (SR-PEARL-2024-25).

<sup>19</sup> See Cboe BZX Options Fee Schedule and Cboe EDGX Options Fee Schedule, *supra* note 14. See also MEMX Options Fee Schedule and Securities Exchange Act Release No. 101370 (October 17, 2024), 89 FR 84638 (October 23, 2024) (SR-MEMX-2024-40).

<sup>20</sup> See Fee Change Alert, MIAX Exchange Group – January 1, 2025 and March 1, 2025 Market Data Fee Changes (dated September 30, 2024), available at <https://www.miaxglobal.com/alert/2024/09/30/miax-exchange-group-options-markets-january-1-2025-and-march-1-2025-market-1?nav=all> and Fee Change Alert, MIAX Exchange Group – Options Markets – Reminder: January 1, 2025 and March 1, 2025 Market Data Fee Changes (dated December 17, 2024), available at <https://www.miaxglobal.com/alert/2024/12/17/miax-exchange-group-options-markets-reminder-january-1->

b. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the provisions of Section 6(b)<sup>21</sup> of the Act in general, and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(4)<sup>22</sup> of the Act, in particular, in that it is designed to provide for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees and other charges among its Members and other persons using its facilities. Additionally, the Exchange believes that the proposed fees are consistent with the objectives of Section 6(b)(5)<sup>23</sup> of the Act in that they are designed to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to foster cooperation and coordination with persons engaged in regulating, clearing, settling, processing information with respect to, and facilitating transactions in securities, to remove impediments to a free and open market and national market system, and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest, and, particularly, are not designed to permit unfair discrimination between customers, issuers, brokers, or dealers.

The Exchange notes that the ToM, cToM, AIS and MOR data feeds are entirely optional. The Exchange is not required to make the ToM, cToM, AIS and MOR data feeds available to any customers, nor is any customer required to purchase the ToM, cToM, AIS and MOR data feeds.

**The Proposed Fees are Reasonable and Comparable to the Fees Charged By Other Exchanges for Similar Data Products**

**Overall.** In setting fees for the ToM, cToM, AIS and MOR data feeds, the Exchange is constrained by the fact that, if the Exchange's pricing is unattractive to customers, customers have their pick of alternatives to purchase similar data from other options exchanges instead of

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[2025-and-march-1-2?nav=all](#).

<sup>21</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f.

<sup>22</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(4).

<sup>23</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

purchasing it from the Exchange. The existence of alternatives to the Exchange's data products ensure that the Exchange cannot set unreasonable market data fees without suffering the negative effects of that decision in the competitive market for market data. The proposed fees are comparable to those of other options exchanges. Based on publicly-available information, no single exchange currently had more than approximately 13-14% equity options market share for the month of November 2024,<sup>24</sup> and the Exchange compared the fees proposed herein to the fees charged by other options exchanges with similar market share. A more detailed discussion of the comparison follows.

The Exchange assesses the market share for each of the eighteen options markets utilizing total equity options contracts traded in 2024 through December 16, 2024, as set forth in the following charts:<sup>25</sup>

#### User Fees

The proposed per User fees for the Exchange's market data products are comparable to or lower than those charged by Nasdaq Options, Nasdaq MRX, Cboe BZX Options, and Cboe C2, as summarized in the table below.

Exchange	Market Share	Market Data Product	Monthly Professional User Fee	Monthly Non-Professional User Fee
MIAX Emerald	4.13%	All	\$20.00 (per Exchange)	\$1.00 (per Exchange)
Nasdaq Options	5.47%	NOM BONO NOM ITTO	\$42.10 (per exchange)	\$1.00 (per exchange)
Nasdaq MRX	2.73%	MRX Top	\$25.25 (per	\$1.00 (per

<sup>24</sup> See the Market Share section of the Exchange's website, U.S. Options, available at <https://www.miaxglobal.com/company/data/market-share> (last visited December 17, 2024).

<sup>25</sup> Market share is the percentage of volume on a particular exchange relative to the total volume across all exchanges, and indicates the amount of order flow directed to that exchange. High levels of market share enhance the value of trading and ports. Total contracts include both multi-list options and proprietary options products. Proprietary options products are products with intellectual property rights that are not multi-listed.

		MRX Depth	exchange)	exchange)
Cboe BZX Options	3.98%	BZX Depth	\$30.00 (per feed)	\$1.00 (per feed)
Cboe C2	3.02%	C2 Complex	\$25.00 (per feed)	\$25.00 (per feed)

A more detailed discussion of the comparison follows.

Nasdaq Options. Nasdaq Options, with a market share of approximately 5.47% that is comparable to the Exchange, charges higher or comparable Professional and Non-Professional User fees for its top of book and depth of book feeds than proposed by the Exchange. Further, like Nasdaq Options, the Exchange proposes to charge a single per User fee that would provide access to all of its market data products for a single fee.

The NOM Best of Nasdaq Options (“BONO”) feed is an options feed that provides Nasdaq Options’ best bid and offer and last sale information.<sup>26</sup> The NOM BONO feed is similar to the Exchange’s ToM feed. The NOM ITCH to Trade Options (“ITTO”) feed is an options feed that provides full order and quote depth information for individual orders and quotes and last sale information.<sup>27</sup> NOM ITTO also provides, among other things, product (option series) available for trading on NOM, the trading status of such products (i.e., whether the series is available for closing transactions only), and order imbalances on opening/reopenings. The NOM ITTO feed is similar to the Exchange’s MOR and AIS feeds.<sup>28</sup>

NOM charges Professional Users \$42.10 per month and Non-Professional Users \$1.00 per month for the NOM BONO feed and NOM ITTO feed.<sup>29</sup> The Exchange proposes to charge

<sup>26</sup> See Nasdaq Options Rules, Options 3, Section 23(a)(2).

<sup>27</sup> See Nasdaq Options Rules, Options 3, Section 23(a)(1).

<sup>28</sup> The Exchange notes that no other exchange offers a market data feed that provides the same scope of information as the AIS feed. However, many other exchanges, such as NOM and its ITTO feed, include similar information as the AIS feed. The Exchange notes that not all market data subscribers separately purchase the AIS feed.

<sup>29</sup> See Price List – U.S. Derivatives Data, available at <https://www.nasdaqtrader.com/Trader.aspx?id=DPPriceListOptions>. See also Securities Exchange Act



less than NOM for Professional Users and the same as NOM for Non-Professional Users while also providing access to all of its market data feeds for a single per User fee. Specifically, for both the ToM and MOR data feeds, the Exchange proposes to charge Professional Users \$20.00 per month and Non-Professional Users \$1.00 per month. The Exchange's proposed Professional User fee is lower than NOM and its Non-Professional User fee is equal to NOM. Despite having only incrementally higher market share than the Exchange, NOM charges higher or comparable per User fees than proposed by the Exchange herein.

Nasdaq MRX. Nasdaq MRX, with a market share of approximately 2.73%, lower than the Exchange, charges higher Professional and Non-Professional User fees for its top of book and depth of book feeds than the fees proposed by the Exchange. Further, like Nasdaq MRX, the Exchange proposes to charge a single per User fee that would provide access to all of its market data products for a single fee.

The Nasdaq MRX Top of Market feed is an options feed that provides Nasdaq MRX's best bid and offer and last sale information.<sup>30</sup> The Nasdaq MRX Top of Market feed is similar to the Exchange's ToM feed. The Nasdaq MRX Depth of Market feed is an options feed that provides full order and quote depth information for individual orders and quotes and last sale information.<sup>31</sup> The Nasdaq MRX Depth of Market feed is similar to the Exchange's MOR feed.

Nasdaq MRX charges Professional Users \$25.25 per month and Non-Professional Users \$1.00 per month for the Nasdaq MRX Top of Market feed and the Nasdaq MRX Depth of Market Feed.<sup>32</sup> The Exchange proposes to charge less than Nasdaq MRX for Professional Users

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Release No. 73823 (December 11, 2014), 79 FR 75207 (December 17, 2014) (SR-NASDAQ-2014-119).

<sup>30</sup> See Nasdaq MRX Options Rules, Options 3, Section 23(a)(3).

<sup>31</sup> See Nasdaq MRX Options Rules, Options 3, Section 23(a)(1).

<sup>32</sup> See Price List – U.S. Derivatives Data, available at

and the same as Nasdaq MRX for Non-Professional Users while also providing access to all of its market data fees for single per User fee. Specifically, for both the ToM and MOR data feeds, the Exchange proposes to charge Professional Users \$20.00 per month and Non-Professional Users \$1.00 per month. The Exchange's proposed Professional User fee is lower than Nasdaq MRX and its Non-Professional User fee is equal to Nasdaq MRX. Despite having lower market share than the Exchange, Nasdaq MRX charges higher or comparable per User fees than the fees proposed by the Exchange herein.

Cboe BZX Options. Cboe BZX Options, with a market share of approximately 3.98%, which is lower than the Exchange's market share, charges higher Professional and Non-Professional User fees for its depth of book feed than the fees proposed by the Exchange. Further, Cboe BZX Options also charges separate per User fees per data product, whereas the Exchange proposes to charge a single lower per User fee that would provide access to all of its market data products for a single fee.

The Cboe BZX Options Depth feed is an options feed that provides depth of book quotations and execution information. The Cboe BZX Options Depth feed is similar to the Exchange's MOR feed.

Cboe BZX Options charges Professional Users \$30.00 per month and Non-Professional Users \$1.00 per month for the Cboe BZX Options Depth feed. The Exchange proposes to charge less than Cboe BZX Options and provide access to all of its market data fees for single, and still lower, per User fee. Specifically, for ToM, cToM, AIS and MOR data feeds, the Exchange proposes to charge Professional Users \$20.00 per month and Non-Professional Users \$1.00 per month. The Exchange's proposed Professional User fee is lower than Cboe BZX Options and its

Non-Professional User fee is equal to Cboe BZX Options. However, both of the Exchange's proposed fees can be lower than Cboe BZX Options because a User may receive access to each of the Exchange's data feeds for a single per User fee and, unlike Cboe BZX Options, not be required to pay a separate per User fee for each data product.

Cboe C2. Cboe C2, with a market share of approximately 3.02% that is lower than the Exchange, charges higher Professional and Non-Professional User fees for its C2 COB feed than proposed by the Exchange. Unlike Cboe C2, the Exchange proposes to charge a single per User fee that would provide access to all of its market data products for a single fee.

The COB feed is an options feed that provides Cboe C2's best bid and offer and last sale information.<sup>33</sup> The COB feed is similar to the Exchange's cToM feed. Cboe C2 charges all Users, both Professional Users and Non-Professional Users, \$25.00 per month for the COB feed.<sup>34</sup> The Exchange proposes to charge less than Cboe C2 for Professional Users and Non-Professional Users while also providing access to all of its market data feeds for a single per User fee. Specifically, for the cToM data feed, the Exchange proposes to charge Professional Users \$20.00 per month and Non-Professional Users \$1.00 per month. The Exchange's proposed Professional User and Non-Professional User fees are lower than COB. Despite having lower market share than the Exchange, Cboe C2 charges higher or comparable per User fees than proposed by the Exchange herein.

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Each of the above examples of other exchanges' market data fees support the proposition that the Exchange's proposed User fees are comparable to those of other exchanges and therefore

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<sup>33</sup> See [https://www.cboe.com/market\\_data\\_services/us/options/](https://www.cboe.com/market_data_services/us/options/).

<sup>34</sup> See Cboe C2 fee schedule available at [https://www.cboe.com/us/options/membership/fee\\_schedule/ctwo/](https://www.cboe.com/us/options/membership/fee_schedule/ctwo/).

reasonable.

### Non-Display Usage Fee

The proposed Non-Display Usage fee for the Exchange's market data products is comparable to those charged by Nasdaq Options and Nasdaq MRX, as summarized in below table.

Exchange	Market Share	Market Data Products	Monthly Non-Display Usage Fee
MIAX Emerald	4.13%	All	\$1,500.00 (per feed (capped at \$3,000.00))
Nasdaq Options	5.47%	NOM BONO NOM ITTO	\$10,530.00 (per exchange)
Nasdaq MRX	2.73%	MRX Top MRX Depth	\$7,575.00 (per exchange)

A more detailed discussion of the comparison follows.

Nasdaq Options. Nasdaq Options, with a market share of approximately 5.47%, which is comparable to the Exchange's market share, charges higher Non-Display Usage fees for its top of book and depth of book feeds than proposed by the Exchange. Further, Nasdaq Options also charges the full Non-Display Usage fees to receive all of its data products, whereas the Exchange proposes to cap the Non-Display Usage fee at \$3,000.00, which would provide a discount to subscribers that choose to subscribe to multiple Exchange data feeds for Non-Display Usage.

As discussed above, the NOM BONO feed is an options feed that provides Nasdaq Options' best bid and offer and last sale information.<sup>35</sup> The NOM BONO feed is similar to the Exchange's ToM feed. The NOM ITTO feed is an options feed that provides full order and quote depth information for individual orders and quotes and last sale information.<sup>36</sup> NOM ITTO also provides, among other things, product (option series) available for trading on NOM,

<sup>35</sup> See Nasdaq Options Rules, Options 3, Section 23(a)(2).

<sup>36</sup> See Nasdaq Options Rules, Options 3, Section 23(a)(1).

the trading status of such products (i.e., whether the series is available for closing transactions only), and order imbalances on opening/reopenings. The NOM ITTO feed is similar to the Exchange's MOR and AIS feeds.

NOM charges a monthly fee of \$10,530.00 for Non-Display Usage of the NOM BONO feed and NOM ITTO feed.<sup>37</sup> The Exchange proposes to charge less than NOM while also proposing to cap the Non-Display Usage fee at \$3,000.00, which would provide a discount to subscribers that choose to subscribe to multiple Exchange data feeds for Non-Display Usage. Specifically, for the ToM, cToM, AIS and MOR data feeds, the Exchange proposes to charge a monthly fee of \$1,500.00 for Non-Display Usage and to cap the Non-Display Usage fee at \$3,000.00 for those that wish to receive two or more of the Exchange's data feeds for Non-Display Usage. This cap would be in lieu of paying the full Non-Display Usage Fee for each data product, which would total \$6,000.00 per month. Despite having incrementally higher market share than the Exchange, NOM charges higher Non-Display Usage fees than the fees proposed by the Exchange herein.

Nasdaq MRX. Nasdaq MRX, with a market share of approximately 2.73%, which is lower than the Exchange's market share, charges higher Non-Display Usage fees for its top of book, depth of book, and order feeds than the fees proposed by the Exchange. Further, Nasdaq MRX also charges the full Non-Display Usage fees per data product, whereas the Exchange proposes to cap the Non-Display Usage fee at \$3,000.00, which would provide a discount to subscribers that choose to subscribe to multiple Exchange data feeds for Non-Display Usage.

The Nasdaq MRX Top of Market feed is an options feed that provides Nasdaq MRX's

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<sup>37</sup> See Price List – U.S. Derivatives Data, available at <https://www.nasdaqtrader.com/Trader.aspx?id=DPPriceListOptions>. See also Securities Exchange Act Release No. 73823 (December 11, 2014), 79 FR 75207 (December 17, 2014) (SR-NASDAQ-2014-119).

best bid and offer and last sale information.<sup>38</sup> The Nasdaq MRX Top of Market feed is similar to the Exchange's ToM feed. The Nasdaq MRX Depth of Market feed is an options feed that provides full order and quote depth information for individual orders and quotes and last sale information.<sup>39</sup> The Nasdaq MRX Depth of Market feed is similar to the Exchange's MOR feed. The Nasdaq MRX Order feed is an options feed that provides information for both simple and complex orders.<sup>40</sup> The Nasdaq MRX Order feed is similar to the Exchange's cToM data feed.

Nasdaq MRX charges a monthly fee of \$7,575.00 for Non-Display Usage of the Nasdaq MRX Top of Market feed, Nasdaq MRX Depth of Market feed, and Nasdaq MRX Order feed.<sup>41</sup> The Exchange proposes to charge less than Nasdaq MRX while also proposing to cap the Non-Display Usage fee at \$3,000.00, which would provide a discount to subscribers that choose to subscribe to multiple Exchange data feeds for Non-Display Usage. Specifically, for all of the Exchange's data feeds, the Exchange proposes to charge a monthly fee of \$1,500.00 and to cap the Non-Display Usage fee at \$3,000.00 for those that wish to receive two or more of the Exchange's data feeds for Non-Display Usage. This cap would be in lieu of paying the full Non-Display Usage Fee for each data product, which would total \$6,000.00 per month. Despite having lower market share than the Exchange, Nasdaq MRX charges higher Non-Display Usage fees than the fees proposed by the Exchange herein.

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Each of the above examples of other exchanges' market data fees support the proposition that the Exchange's proposed Non-Display Usage fees are comparable to or lower than those of

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<sup>38</sup> See Nasdaq MRX Options Rules, Options 3, Section 23(a)(3).

<sup>39</sup> See Nasdaq MRX Options Rules, Options 3, Section 23(a)(1).

<sup>40</sup> See Nasdaq MRX Options Rules, Options 3, Section 23(a)(2).

<sup>41</sup> See Price List – U.S. Derivatives Data, available at <https://www.nasdaqtrader.com/Trader.aspx?id=DPPriceListOptions>.

other exchanges and therefore reasonable. Furthermore, the Exchange also only currently charges fees to Internal and External Distributors for the ToM, cToM, MOR, and AIS feeds, which when combined with the above proposed fees, result in fee packages that are comparable to or lower than the overall fees charged by Nasdaq Options, Nasdaq MRX, Cboe BZX, and Cboe C2 due to these exchanges charging higher or similar User and Non-Display fees set forth above. The distributor fees for each are set forth in the below table.

Exchange	Market Share	Market Data Product	Internal Distributors	External Distributors
MIAX Emerald	4.13%	ToM	\$2,000.00	\$3,000.00
		cToM	\$2,000.00	\$3,000.00
		MOR	\$3,000.00	\$3,500.00
		AIS	\$1,250.00	\$1,750.00
Nasdaq Options	5.47%	NOM BONO	\$1,566.00	\$2,089.00
		NOM ITTO	\$1,566.00	\$2,089.00
Nasdaq MRX	2.73%	MRX Top	\$1,515.00	\$2,020.00
		MRX Depth	\$1,515.00	\$2,020.00
		MRX Spread	\$1,010.00	\$1,515.00
Cboe BZX Options	3.98%	BZX Depth	\$3,000.00	\$2,000.00
Cboe C2	3.02%	C2 Complex	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00

The proposed discount to charge per User fees at the Exchange level, and not per data feed, as well as capping the monthly Non-Display Usage fee for use of multiple data feeds, is reasonable and cause the Exchange's proposed fees to be even lower for subscribers to multiple Exchange data products.

*Pro-Rata Distribution of Fees.* The Exchange believes its proposal to no longer pro-rate mid-month changes to subscriptions is reasonable because the Exchange had no mid-month subscriptions or terminations over the past twelve (12) months that would have required the monthly fee to be pro-rated and no other options exchanges provides for the similar pro-ration of

market data fees.<sup>42</sup> Also, removing these provisions would harmonize the MIAX Emerald Fee Schedule with the MIAX Pearl Equities Fee Schedule, which does not provide for pro-ration of market data fees.<sup>43</sup>

### **The Proposed Fees are Equitably Allocated**

*Overall.* The Exchange believes that its proposed fees are reasonable, equitable, and not unfairly discriminatory because they are designed to align fees with services provided. The Exchange believes that the proposed fees for the market data feeds are allocated fairly and equitably among the various categories of users of the data feeds, and any differences among categories of users are justified and appropriate.

The Exchange believes that the proposed fees are equitably allocated because they will apply uniformly to all data recipients that choose to subscribe to the market data feeds. Any market participant that chooses to subscribe to the market data feeds is subject to the same Fee Schedule, regardless of what type of business they operate, and the decision to subscribe to one or more market data feeds is based on objective differences in usage of market data feeds among different Members, which are still ultimately in the control of any particular Member. The Exchange believes the proposed pricing of the market data feeds is equitably allocated because it is based, in part, upon the amount of information contained in each data feed, which may have additional value to market participants.

*Pro-Rata Distribution of Fees.* The Exchange believes its proposal to no longer pro-rate mid-month changes to subscriptions is equitably allocated because the Exchange had no

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<sup>42</sup> See the market data sections of the options fee schedules for the Cboe BZX and Cboe EDGX. See also the market data definition section of the MEMX options fee schedule and Securities Exchange Act Release No. 101370 (October 17, 2024), 89 FR 84638 (October 23, 2024) (SR-MEMX-2024-40).

<sup>43</sup> See MIAX Pearl Equities Fee Schedule, Section 3), Market Data Definitions, and Securities Exchange Act Release No. 100319 (June 12, 2024), 89 FR 51562 (June 19, 2024) (SR-PEARL-2024-25).



subscriber utilize pro-ration via a mid-month subscriptions or terminations over the past twelve (12) months, nor does it foresee a subscriber doing so in the near future. The Exchange believes it is equitable to no longer pro-rate fees for Distributors who subscribe mid-month because other options exchanges do not provide for the similar pro-ration of market data fees.<sup>44</sup> Also, removing these provisions would harmonize the MIAX Emerald Fee Schedule with the MIAX Pearl Equities Fee Schedule, which does not provide for pro-ration of market data fees.<sup>45</sup>

User Fees. The Exchange believes that the proposed fee, fee levels, and structure that differentiate between Professional User fees from Non-Professional User fees for display use are equitable. This structure has long been used by other exchanges and OPRA to reduce the price of data to Non-Professional Users and make it more broadly available.<sup>46</sup> Offering the market data feeds to Non-Professional Users at a lower cost than Professional Users results in greater equity among data recipients, as Professional Users are categorized as such based on their employment and participation in financial markets, and thus, are compensated to participate in the markets. While Non-Professional Users too can receive significant financial benefits through their participation in the markets, the Exchange believes it is reasonable to charge more to those Users who are more directly engaged in the markets.

Non-Display Usage Fees. The Exchange believes the proposed Non-Display Usage fees are equitably allocated because they would require Distributors to pay fees only for the uses they

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<sup>44</sup> See the market data sections of the options fee schedules for the Cboe BZX and Cboe EDGX. See also the market data definition section of the MEMX options fee schedule and Securities Exchange Act Release No. 101370 (October 17, 2024), 89 FR 84638 (October 23, 2024) (SR-MEMX-2024-40).

<sup>45</sup> See MIAX Pearl Equities Fee Schedule, Section 3), Market Data Definitions, and Securities Exchange Act Release No. 100319 (June 12, 2024), 89 FR 51562 (June 19, 2024) (SR-PEARL-2024-25).

<sup>46</sup> See, e.g., Securities Exchange Act Release No. 59544 (March 9, 2009), 74 FR 11162 (March 16, 2009) (SR-NYSE-2008-131) (establishing the \$15 Non-Professional User Fee (Per User) for NYSE OpenBook); Securities Exchange Act Release No. 20002, File No. S7-433 (July 22, 1983), 48 FR 34552 (July 29, 1983) (establishing Non-Professional fees for CTA data); NASDAQ BX Equity 7 Pricing Schedule, Section 123.

actually make of the data. As noted above, non-display data can be used by data recipients for a wide variety of profit-generating purposes (including trading and order routing) as well as purposes that do not directly generate revenues (such as risk management and compliance) but nonetheless substantially reduce the recipient's costs by automating certain functions. The Exchange believes that it is equitable to charge non-display data Distributors that use the market data feeds because all such Distributors would have the ability to use such data for as many non-display uses as they wish for one low fee. As noted above, this structure is comparable to that in place for the exchanges referenced above and several other exchanges charge multiple non-display fees to the same client to the extent they use a data feed in several different trading platforms or for several types of non-display use.<sup>47</sup>

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For all of the foregoing reasons, the Exchange believes that the proposed fees for the market data feeds are equitably allocated.

### **The Proposed Fees Are Not Unfairly Discriminatory**

The Exchange believes the proposed fees are not unfairly discriminatory because any differences in the application of the fees are based on meaningful distinctions between customers, and those meaningful distinctions are not unfairly discriminatory between customers.

Overall. The Exchange believes that the proposed fees are not unfairly discriminatory because they would apply to all data recipients that choose to subscribe to the same market data

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<sup>47</sup> See Cboe BZX Options fee schedule available at [https://www.cboe.com/us/options/membership/fee\\_schedule/bzx/](https://www.cboe.com/us/options/membership/fee_schedule/bzx/) (providing fees of \$2,000.00 to \$3,000.00 for Distribution, which includes Non-Display use); C2 fee schedule available at [https://www.cboe.com/us/options/membership/fee\\_schedule/ctwo/](https://www.cboe.com/us/options/membership/fee_schedule/ctwo/) (providing a fee \$2,500.00 for Distribution, which includes Non-Display use); Nasdaq Options fee schedule available at <https://www.nasdaqtrader.com/Trader.aspx?id=DPPriceListOptions> (providing a fee of \$10,000.00 for Non-Display Use); and the NYSE American fee schedule available at [https://www.nyse.com/publicdocs/nyse/data/NYSE\\_Market\\_Data\\_Pricing.pdf](https://www.nyse.com/publicdocs/nyse/data/NYSE_Market_Data_Pricing.pdf) (providing fees of \$5,000.00 for Non-Display Use).

feed(s). Any market participant, including market data vendors, that chooses to subscribe to the market data feeds is subject to the same Fee Schedule, regardless of what type of business they operate. Market participants seeking lower cost options may instead choose to receive data from OPRA or another potentially lower cost option such as a market data vendor. The Exchange notes that market participants can also choose to subscribe to a combination of data feeds for redundancy purposes or to use different feeds for different purposes. In sum, each market participant has the ability to choose the best business solution for itself. The Exchange does not believe it is unfairly discriminatory to base pricing upon the amount of information contained in each data feed and the importance of that information to market participants. As described above, the ToM data feed can be utilized to trade on the Exchange but contains less information than available on the MOR data feed. Thus, the Exchange believes it is not unfairly discriminatory for the products to be priced as proposed, with the same fees being proposed for each data feed coupled with the discounts and caps discussed above.

*Pro-Rata Distribution of Fees.* The Exchange believes that the proposal to no longer pro-rate mid-month changes to market data subscriptions is not unfairly discriminatory because there were no mid-month subscriptions or terminations over the past twelve (12) months that would have required the monthly fee to be pro-rated. The Exchange notes that other options exchanges do not provide for the similar pro-ration of market data fees.<sup>48</sup> Also, removing these provisions would harmonize the MIAX Emerald Fee Schedule with the MIAX Pearl Equities Fee Schedule, which does not provide for pro-ration.<sup>49</sup>

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<sup>48</sup> See Cboe BZX Options Fee Schedule, Market Data Fees section and Cboe EDGX Options Fee Schedule, Market Data Fees section, *supra* note 14. See also MEMX Options Fee Schedule and Securities Exchange Act Release No. 101370 (October 17, 2024), 89 FR 84638 (October 23, 2024) (SR-MEMX-2024-40).

<sup>49</sup> See MIAX Pearl Equities Fee Schedule, Section 3), Market Data Definitions and Securities Exchange Act Release No. 100319 (June 12, 2024), 89 FR 51562 (June 19, 2024) (SR-PEARL-2024-25).

User Fees. The Exchange believes that the proposed fee, fee levels, and structure that differentiates between Professional User fees from Non-Professional User fees for display use are not unfairly discriminatory. This structure has long been used by other exchanges and OPRA to reduce the price of data to Non-Professional Users and make it more broadly available. Offering the market data feeds to Non-Professional Users with the same data as is available to Professional Users, albeit at a lower cost, results in greater equity among data recipients. These User fees would be charged uniformly to all individuals that have access to the market data feeds based on the category of User.

The Exchange also believes the proposed User fees are not unfairly discriminatory, with higher fees for Professional Users than Non-Professional Users, because Non-Professional Users may have less ability to pay for such data than Professional Users as well as less opportunity to profit from their usage of such data.

Non-Display Usage Fees. The Exchange believes that the proposed Non-Display Usage fees are not unfairly discriminatory because they would require Distributors for non-display use to pay fees depending on their use of the data. As noted above, non-display data can be used by data recipients for a wide variety of profit-generating purposes as well as purposes that do not directly generate revenues but nonetheless substantially reduce the recipient's costs by automating certain functions.

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For all of the foregoing reasons, the Exchange believes that the proposed fees for the Exchange's market data feeds are not unfairly discriminatory.

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

In accordance with Section 6(b)(8) of the Act,<sup>50</sup> the Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change would impose any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

#### Intra-Market Competition

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed fees place certain market participants at a relative disadvantage to other market participants because, as noted above, the proposed fees are associated with usage of the data feed by each market participant, which are still ultimately in the control of any particular Member, and such fees do not impose a barrier to entry to smaller participants. Accordingly, the proposed fees do not favor certain categories of market participants in a manner that would impose a burden on competition; rather, the allocation of the proposed fees reflects the types of data consumed by various market participants and their usage thereof. The Exchange also believes that the proposed fees neither favor nor penalize one or more categories of market participants in a manner that would impose an undue burden on competition.

The Exchange believes its proposal to no longer pro-rate mid-month changes to market data subscriptions does not place an undue burden on intra-market competition because all market participants will be subject to the same Fee Schedule, regardless of which point in the month they subscribe. As noted above, there were no mid-month subscriptions or terminations over the past twelve (12) months that would have required the monthly fee to be pro-rated. The Exchange notes that other options exchanges do not provide for the similar pro-ration of market data fees.<sup>51</sup> Also, removing these provisions would harmonize the MIAX Emerald Fee Schedule

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<sup>50</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(8).

<sup>51</sup> See the market data sections of the options fee schedules for the CboeBZX and Cboe EDGX. See also the market data definition section of the MEMX options fee schedule and Securities Exchange Act Release No.

with the MIAX Pearl Equities Fee Schedule, which does not provide for pro-ration.<sup>52</sup>

### Inter-Market Competition

The Exchange does not believe the proposed fees place an undue burden on competition on other SROs that is not necessary or appropriate. In particular, market participants are not forced to subscribe to either data feed, as described above. An exchange that overprices its market data products stands a high risk that users may purchase another market's market data product. These competitive pressures ensure that no one exchange's market data fees can impose an unnecessary burden on competition, and the Exchange's proposed fees do not do so here. Additionally, other exchanges have similar market data fees with comparable rates in place for their participants. Other options exchanges are free to adopt comparable fee structures subject to the Commission's rule filing process.

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

The Exchange neither solicited nor received written comments on the proposed rule change.

### **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>53</sup> and Rule 19b-4(f)(2) thereunder<sup>54</sup> the Exchange has designated this proposal as establishing or changing a due, fee, or other charge

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101370 (October 17, 2024), 89 FR 84638 (October 23, 2024) (SR-MEMX-2024-40).

<sup>52</sup> See MIAX Pearl Equities Fee Schedule, Section 3), Market Data Definitions and Securities Exchange Act Release No. 100319 (June 12, 2024), 89 FR 51562 (June 19, 2024) (SR-PEARL-2024-25).

<sup>53</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(ii).

<sup>54</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

imposed on any person, whether or not the person is a member of the SRO, which renders the proposed rule change effective upon filing.

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

Not applicable.

**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. Completed notice of proposed rule change for publication in the Federal Register.
5. Copy of the applicable section of the Fee Schedule.

**EXHIBIT 1**

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
(Release No. 34- ; File No. SR-EMERALD-2025-04)

February\_\_\_, 2025

Self-Regulatory Organizations: Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of a Proposed Rule Change by MIAX Emerald, 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 February\_\_\_, 2025, MIAX Emerald, LLC (“MIAX Emerald” 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 proposes to amend the MIAX Emerald Options Exchange Fee Schedule (the “Fee Schedule”) to, among other things, adopt new fee categories for the Exchange’s proprietary market data feeds: (1) the Top of Market (“ToM”) feed, (2) the Complex Top of Market feed (“cToM”), (3) the Administrative Information Subscriber feed (“AIS”), and (4) the MIAX Emerald Order Feed (“MOR”) (collectively, the “market data feeds”).

The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Exchange’s website at <https://www.miaxglobal.com/markets/us-options/miax-options/rule-filings>, at the Exchange’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

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

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



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

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

1. Purpose

The Exchange offers four standard proprietary market data products, ToM, cToM, AIS, and MOR. The ToM data feed is a data feed that contains the Exchange's best bid and offer, with aggregate size, and last sale information, based on order and quoting interest on the Exchange.<sup>3</sup> The ToM data feed includes data that is identical to the data sent to the processor for the Options Price Reporting Authority ("OPRA"). The data for ToM and OPRA leave the System<sup>4</sup> at the same time, as required under Section 5.2(c)(iii)(B) of the Limited Liability Company Agreement of the Options Price Reporting Authority LLC (the "OPRA Plan"), which prohibits the dissemination of proprietary information on any more timely basis than the same information is furnished to the OPRA system for inclusion in OPRA's consolidated dissemination of options information. The cToM data feed includes the same types of

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<sup>3</sup> See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 85207 (February 27, 2019), 84 FR 7963 (March 5, 2019) (SR-EMERALD-2019-09) (Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of a Proposed Rule Change to Establish MIA X Emerald Top of Market ("ToM") Data Feed, MIA X Emerald Complex Top of Market ("cToM") Data Feed, MIA X Emerald Administrative Information Subscriber ("AIS") Data Feed, and MIA X Emerald Order Feed ("MOR")).

<sup>4</sup> The term "System" means the automated trading system used by the Exchange for the trading of securities. See Exchange Rule 100.

information as ToM, but for Complex Orders<sup>5</sup> on the Exchange's Strategy Book.<sup>6</sup> This information includes the Exchange's best bid and offer for a complex strategy<sup>7</sup>, with aggregate size, based on displayable orders in the complex strategy. The cToM data feed also provides subscribers with the following information: (i) the identification of the complex strategies currently trading on the Exchange; (ii) complex strategy last sale information; and (iii) the status of securities underlying the complex strategy (e.g., halted, open, or resumed). The AIS data feed provides subscribers real-time updates regarding products traded on MIAX Emerald, trading status for MIAX Emerald and products traded on MIAX Emerald, and liquidity seeking event notifications ("administrative information").<sup>8</sup> The MOR data feed includes full order book data for orders on the Simple Order Book<sup>9</sup> and Strategy Book, and includes the following data: product ID, order price, order original volume, remaining volume open, and origin code.<sup>10</sup>

Section 6 of the Fee Schedule, Market Data Fees, provides fees for the ToM, cToM, AIS and MOR data feeds. Currently, the Exchange only charges monthly fees to both Internal and External Distributors (proposed definitions below) of the ToM, cToM, AIS and MOR data feeds. Specifically, the Exchange charges Internal Distributors a monthly fee of \$2,000.00 for the ToM and cToM data feeds, \$1,250.00 for the AIS data feed, and \$3,000.00 for the MOR data feed.

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<sup>5</sup> In sum, a "Complex Order" is "any order involving the concurrent purchase and/or sale of two or more different options in the same underlying security (the 'legs' or 'components' of the complex order), for the same account ...." See Exchange Rule 518(a)(5).

<sup>6</sup> The "Strategy Book" is the Exchange's electronic book of complex orders and complex quotes. See Exchange Rule 518(a)(17).

<sup>7</sup> The term "complex strategy" means a particular combination of components and their ratios to one another. New complex strategies can be created as the result of the receipt of a complex order or by the Exchange for a complex strategy that is not currently in the System. The Exchange may limit the number of new complex strategies that may be in the System at a particular time and will communicate this limitation to Members via Regulatory Circular. See Exchange Rule 518(a)(6).

<sup>8</sup> See supra note 3.

<sup>9</sup> The "Simple Order Book" is the Exchange's regular electronic book of orders and quotes. See Exchange Rule 518(a)(15).

<sup>10</sup> See supra note 3.

The Exchange also charges External Distributors a monthly fee of \$3,000.00 for the ToM and cToM data feeds, \$1,750.00 for the AIS data feed, and \$3,500.00 for the MOR data feed.

The Exchange now proposes to amend the Fee Schedule to, among other things, adopt new fee categories for the Exchange's proprietary market data feeds. The primary purpose of this proposal is to adopt per User (defined below) fees as well as fees for Non-Display Usage (also defined below). The Exchange also proposes to add a "Market Data Definitions" section to Section 6 of the Fee Schedule as well as modify how mid-month subscriptions for Distributors are to be handled. The Exchange believes that adopting the same fee structure as its affiliated exchanges would reduce administrative burdens on market data subscribers that also currently subscribe to market data feeds from the Exchange's affiliates. Each of these proposed changes are described below.

\* \* \* \* \*

The Exchange believes that exchanges, in setting fees of all types, should meet very high standards of transparency to demonstrate why each new fee or fee increase meets the requirements of the Act that fees be reasonable, equitably allocated, not unfairly discriminatory, and not create an undue burden on competition among Members<sup>11</sup> and markets. The Exchange believes this high standard is especially important when an exchange imposes various fees for market participants to access an exchange's market data.

Approximately 51% of Members subscribe to one or more market data feeds from the Exchange. Of those Members, approximately 47% subscribe to all four market data feeds, approximately 22% subscribe to three market data feeds, approximately 5% subscribe to two market data feeds, and approximately 26% subscribe to only one market data feed. The

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<sup>11</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.

Exchange notes that there is no requirement that any Member or market participant subscribe to the ToM, cToM, AIS or MOR data feeds offered by the Exchange. Instead, a Member may choose to maintain subscriptions to the ToM, cToM, AIS or MOR data feeds based on their own business needs and trading models.

### Definitions

The Exchange proposes to include a Definitions section at the beginning of Section 6, Market Data Fees, of the Fee Schedule. The purpose of the Definitions section is to provide market participants greater clarity and transparency regarding the applicability of fees by defining certain terms used in connection with market data feeds within the Fee Schedule in a single location related to the Exchange's market data products. The Exchange notes that it includes similar Definitions in its fee schedule applicable to its own equity trading platform, MIAX Pearl Equities,<sup>12</sup> and that each of the proposed definitions are based on the MIAX Pearl Equities fee schedule and that of other exchanges. The Exchange believes that including a Definitions section for market data products makes the Fee Schedule more user-friendly and comprehensive.

The Exchange proposes to define the following terms in Section 6 of the Fee Schedule:

- **Distributor.** Any entity that receives the Exchange data product directly from the Exchange or indirectly through another entity and then distributes it internally or externally to a third party.
- **External Distributor.** A Distributor that receives the Exchange data product and then

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<sup>12</sup> See MIAX Pearl Equities Fee Schedule, Section 3), Market Data Fees, and Securities Exchange Act Release No. 100319 (June 12, 2024), 89 FR 51562 (June 19, 2024) (SR-PEARL-2024-25). See also Cboe BZX Exchange, Inc. ("Cboe BZX Options") Fee Schedule, Market Data Fees section, and Cboe EDGX Exchange, Inc. ("Cboe EDGX Options") Fee Schedule, Market Data Fees section. See also MEMX LLC ("MEMX Options") Fee Schedule, Market Data Fees section, and Securities Exchange Act Release No. 101370 (October 17, 2024), 89 FR 84638 (October 23, 2024) (SR-MEMX-2024-40) ("MEMX Options Market Data Fee Proposal").

distributes that data to a third party or one or more Users outside the Distributor's own entity.

- Internal Distributor. A Distributor that receives the Exchange data product and then distributes that data to one or more Users within the Distributor's own entity.
  - The Exchange notes that it proposes to use the phrase "own entity" in the definition of Internal Distributor and External Distributor because a Distributor would be permitted to share data received from an exchange data product to other legal entities affiliated with the Distributor's entity that have been disclosed to the Exchange without such distribution being considered external to a third party. For instance, if a company has multiple affiliated broker-dealers under the same holding company, that company could have one of the broker-dealers or a non-broker-dealer affiliate subscribe to an exchange data product and then share the data with other affiliates that have a need for the data. This sharing with affiliates would not be considered external distribution to a third party but instead would be considered internal distribution to data recipients within the Distributor's own entity.
  - The Exchange also notes that the explanatory paragraphs under the ToM, cToM, AIS and MOR data feed fee tables includes the following language which defines the terms Distributor, Internal Distributors, and External Distributors:

MIAX Emerald will assess Market Data Fees applicable to ToM [cToM, AIS or MOR] on Internal and External Distributors in each month the Distributor is credentialed to use ToM [cToM, AIS or MOR] in the production

environment. A Distributor of MIAX Emerald data is any entity that receives a feed or file of data either directly from MIAX Emerald or indirectly through another entity and then distributes it either internally (within that entity) or externally (outside that entity). All Distributors are required to execute a MIAX Emerald Distributor Agreement.

The Exchange proposes to remove these provisions from the Fee Schedule because they: (i) duplicate the proposed definitions of Distributor, External Distributor, and External Distributor proposed herein with no substantive difference; and (ii) provide details that are included in the Exchange's market data policies that are also not also provided for in the fee schedules of other options exchanges.<sup>13</sup> Removing these provisions would also harmonize the definition and fee descriptions with the fee schedule applicable to MIAX PearlEquities.<sup>14</sup>

- Non-Display Usage. Any method of accessing an Exchange data product that involves access or use by a machine or automated device without access or use of a display by a natural person or persons.
- Non-Professional User. A natural person or qualifying trust that uses Exchange data only for personal purposes and not for any commercial purpose and, for a natural person who works in the United States, is not: (i) registered or qualified in any

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<sup>13</sup> See Cboe BZX Options Fee Schedule, Market Data Fees section and Cboe EDGX Options, Market Data Fees section, both available at [https://www.cboe.com/us/options/membership/?\\_gl=1\\*19q7zz0\\*\\_up\\*MQ..\\*\\_ga\\*NjY5OTA0NzE4LjE3MzQ1MzQzODk.\\*\\_ga\\_5Q99WB9X71\\*MTczNDUzNzQ0Mi4yLjEuMTczNDUzNzQ5OC4wLjAuMA](https://www.cboe.com/us/options/membership/?_gl=1*19q7zz0*_up*MQ..*_ga*NjY5OTA0NzE4LjE3MzQ1MzQzODk.*_ga_5Q99WB9X71*MTczNDUzNzQ0Mi4yLjEuMTczNDUzNzQ5OC4wLjAuMA). See also MEMX Options Fee Schedule and Securities Exchange Act Release No. 101370 (October 17, 2024), 89 FR 84638 (October 23, 2024) (SR-MEMX-2024-40).

<sup>14</sup> See MIAX PearlEquities Fee Schedule, Section 3), Market Data Fees, and Securities Exchange Act Release No. 100319 (June 12, 2024), 89 FR 51562 (June 19, 2024) (SR-PEARL-2024-25).

capacity with the Securities and Exchange Commission, the Commodities Futures Trading Commission, any state securities agency, any securities exchange or association, or any commodities or futures contract market or association; (ii) engaged as an “investment adviser” as that term is defined in Section 202(a)(11) of the Investment Advisors Act of 1940 (whether or not registered or qualified under that Act); or (iii) employed by a bank or other organization exempt from registration under federal or state securities laws to perform functions that would require registration or qualification if such functions were performed for an organization not so exempt; or, for a natural person who works outside of the United States, does not perform the same functions as would disqualify such person as a Non-Professional User if he or she worked in the United States.

- Professional User. Any User other than a Non-Professional User.
- User. A Professional User or Non-Professional User.

#### Proposed Market Data Pricing

As described above, the Exchange currently only charges Internal Distributors a monthly fee of \$2,000.00 for the ToM and cToM data feeds, \$1,250.00 for the AIS data feed, and \$3,000.00 for the MOR data feed. The Exchange also only currently charges External Distributors a monthly fee of \$3,000.00 for the ToM and cToM data feeds, \$1,750.00 for the AIS data feed, and \$3,500.00 for the MOR data feed. The Exchange now proposes to charge the below per User fees as well as Non-Display Usage fees for the ToM, cToM, AIS and MOR data feeds, which, the Exchange believes are generally similar to or lower than market data fees charged by other similarly situated options exchanges. The Exchange does not propose to adopt any additional fee categories in this proposal. Each of the below capitalized terms are defined above and would be included under the proposed Definitions section under Section 6, Market

Data Fees, of the Fee Schedule.

1. User Fees. For the ToM, cToM, AIS and MOR data feeds, the Exchange proposes to charge a monthly fee of \$20.00 for each Professional User and \$1.00 for each Non-Professional User of each data feed.<sup>15</sup> The proposed User fees would apply to each person that has access to the ToM, cToM, AIS or MOR data feeds that is provided by a Distributor (either Internal or External) for displayed usage. Each Distributor's User count would include every individual that accesses the data regardless of the purpose for which the individual uses the data. The above Professional or Non-Professional User fee would provide the same Professional or Non-Professional User access to all other MIAX Emerald Market Data feeds for no additional per User charge.<sup>16</sup> In other words, a User would receive access to the ToM, cToM, AIS and MOR data feeds for the applicable single per User fee and not have to pay separate per User fees for each data feed. As such, Distributors should report the number of Users per the Exchange, and not per individual data feed. This would be noted in Section 6 of the Fee Schedule under footnote 1 following the fee tables for the ToM, cToM, AIS and MOR data feeds. Distributors of the ToM, cToM, AIS or MOR data feeds would be required to report all Professional and Non-Professional Users in accordance with the following:

- In connection with a Distributor's distribution of the ToM, cToM, AIS or

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<sup>15</sup> The Exchange does not propose to adopt an Enterprise Fee at this time and may do so in the future based on feedback from market participants.

<sup>16</sup> The Exchange notes that similar reporting is required by the Nasdaq options markets, The Nasdaq Stock Market LLC ("Nasdaq Options"), Nasdaq Phlx LLC ("Nasdaq Phlx"), and Nasdaq MRX, LLC ("Nasdaq MRX"). See, e.g., <https://www.nasdaqtrader.com/Trader.aspx?id=DPPriceListOptions> (providing that "[t]he monthly user fee should be reported once for Nasdaq Options, not once per datafeed").



MOR data feeds, the Distributor must count as one User each unique User that the Distributor is entitled for access to the ToM, cToM, AIS or MOR data feeds.

- Distributors must report each unique individual person who receives access through multiple devices or multiple methods (e.g., a single User has multiple passwords and user identifications) as one User.
- If a Distributor entitles one or more individuals to use the same device, the Distributor must include only the individuals, and not the device, in the count. Thus, Distributors would not be required to report User device counts associated with a User's display use of the data feed.

2. Non-Display Usage Fees. The Exchange proposes to establish a monthly Non-Display Usage<sup>17</sup> fee of \$1,500.00 for the ToM, cToM, AIS and MOR data feeds.

- The Exchange proposes to provide a discount to those that subscribe to two or more MIAX Emerald data feeds by capping the Non-Display Usage fee for Subscribers of two or more MIAX Emerald data feeds at \$3,000.00. This would be noted in Section 6 of the Fee Schedule under footnote 2 following the fee tables for the ToM, cToM, AIS and MOR data feeds.

Lastly, the Exchange proposes to no longer pro-rate fees for Distributors who subscribe or terminate mid-month. The Exchange notes that there were no mid-month subscriptions or terminations over the past twelve (12) months that would have required the monthly fee to be pro-rated. The Exchange also notes that mid-month subscriptions and terminations place an

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<sup>17</sup> Non-Display Usage would include trading uses such as high frequency or algorithmic trading as well as any trading in any asset class, automated order or quote generation and/or order pegging, price referencing for smart order routing, operations control programs, investment analysis, order verification, surveillance programs, risk management, compliance, and portfolio management.

increased burden on Exchange staff and systems that are in place to pro-rate the monthly fee that are not justified by the little to no mid-month subscriptions and terminations that occurred over the past year or that the Exchange anticipates going forward based on its past experience. This portion of the proposal should also encourage subscribers to either begin a new subscription or terminate an existing subscription at the beginning or end of a month, respectively. Lastly, removing these provisions would also harmonize the MIA X Emerald Fee Schedule with the MIA X Pearl Equities fee schedule, which also does not provide for pro-ration.<sup>18</sup> Also, other exchanges do not provide for the similar pro-ration of market data fees.<sup>19</sup> Therefore, the Exchange proposes to remove the following language providing for pro-rated month fees for mid-month subscribers from the explanatory paragraphs under the ToM, cToM, AIS and MOR data feed fee tables:

Market Data Fees for [ToM/cToM/AIS/MOR] will be reduced for new Distributors for the first month during which they subscribe to [ToM/ cToM/AIS/MOR], based on the number of trading days that have been held during the month prior to the date on which they have been credentialed to use [ToM/cToM/AIS/MOR] in the production environment. Such new Distributors will be assessed a pro-rata percentage of the fees described above, which is the percentage of the number of trading days remaining in the affected calendar month as of the date on which they have been credentialed to use [ToM/cToM/AIS/MOR] in the production environment, divided by the total number of trading days in the affected calendar month.

### **Implementation**

The Exchange issued alerts publicly announcing the proposed fees on September 30, 2024 and December 17, 2024.<sup>20</sup> The fees subject to this proposal are immediately effective.

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<sup>18</sup> See MIA X Pearl Equities Fee Schedule, Section 3), Market Data Fees, and Securities Exchange Act Release No. 100319 (June 12, 2024), 89 FR 51562 (June 19, 2024) (SR-PEARL-2024-25).

<sup>19</sup> See Cboe BZX Options Fee Schedule and Cboe EDGX Options Fee Schedule, *supra* note 14. See also MEMX Options Fee Schedule and Securities Exchange Act Release No. 101370 (October 17, 2024), 89 FR 84638 (October 23, 2024) (SR-MEMX-2024-40).

<sup>20</sup> See Fee Change Alert, MIA X Exchange Group – January 1, 2025 and March 1, 2025 Market Data Fee Changes (dated September 30, 2024), available at <https://www.miaxglobal.com/alert/2024/09/30/miax-exchange-group-options-markets-january-1-2025-and-march-1-2025-market-1?nav=all> and Fee Change

## 2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the provisions of Section 6(b)<sup>21</sup> of the Act in general, and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(4)<sup>22</sup> of the Act, in particular, in that it is designed to provide for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees and other charges among its Members and other persons using its facilities. Additionally, the Exchange believes that the proposed fees are consistent with the objectives of Section 6(b)(5)<sup>23</sup> of the Act in that they are designed to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to foster cooperation and coordination with persons engaged in regulating, clearing, settling, processing information with respect to, and facilitating transactions in securities, to remove impediments to a free and open market and national market system, and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest, and, particularly, are not designed to permit unfair discrimination between customers, issuers, brokers, or dealers.

The Exchange notes that the ToM, cToM, AIS and MOR data feeds are entirely optional. The Exchange is not required to make the ToM, cToM, AIS and MOR data feeds available to any customers, nor is any customer required to purchase the ToM, cToM, AIS and MOR data feeds.

### **The Proposed Fees are Reasonable and Comparable to the Fees Charged By Other Exchanges for Similar Data Products**

**Overall.** In setting fees for the ToM, cToM, AIS and MOR data feeds, the Exchange is constrained by the fact that, if the Exchange's pricing is unattractive to customers, customers

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Alert, MIA X Exchange Group – Options Markets – Reminder: January 1, 2025 and March 1, 2025 Market Data Fee Changes (dated December 17, 2024), available at <https://www.miaxglobal.com/alert/2024/12/17/miax-exchange-group-options-markets-reminder-january-1-2025-and-march-1-2?nav=all>.

<sup>21</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f.

<sup>22</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(4).

<sup>23</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

have their pick of alternatives to purchase similar data from other options exchanges instead of purchasing it from the Exchange. The existence of alternatives to the Exchange's data products ensure that the Exchange cannot set unreasonable market data fees without suffering the negative effects of that decision in the competitive market for market data. The proposed fees are comparable to those of other options exchanges. Based on publicly-available information, no single exchange currently had more than approximately 13-14% equity options market share for the month of November 2024,<sup>24</sup> and the Exchange compared the fees proposed herein to the fees charged by other options exchanges with similar market share. A more detailed discussion of the comparison follows.

The Exchange assesses the market share for each of the eighteen options markets utilizing total equity options contracts traded in 2024 through December 16, 2024, as set forth in the following charts:<sup>25</sup>

#### User Fees

The proposed per User fees for the Exchange's market data products are comparable to or lower than those charged by Nasdaq Options, Nasdaq MRX, Cboe BZX Options, and Cboe C2, as summarized in the table below.

Exchange	Market Share	Market Data Product	Monthly Professional User Fee	Monthly Non-Professional User Fee
MIAX Emerald	4.13%	All	\$20.00 (per Exchange)	\$1.00 (per Exchange)
Nasdaq Options	5.47%	NOM BONO NOM ITTO	\$42.10 (per exchange)	\$1.00 (per exchange)
Nasdaq MRX	2.73%	MRX Top	\$25.25 (per	\$1.00 (per

<sup>24</sup> See the Market Share section of the Exchange's website, U.S. Options, [available at https://www.miaxglobal.com/company/data/market-share](https://www.miaxglobal.com/company/data/market-share) (last visited December 17, 2024).

<sup>25</sup> Market share is the percentage of volume on a particular exchange relative to the total volume across all exchanges, and indicates the amount of order flow directed to that exchange. High levels of market share enhance the value of trading and ports. Total contracts include both multi-list options and proprietary options products. Proprietary options products are products with intellectual property rights that are not multi-listed.

		MRX Depth	exchange)	exchange)
Cboe BZX Options	3.98%	BZX Depth	\$30.00 (per feed)	\$1.00 (per feed)
Cboe C2	3.02%	C2 Complex	\$25.00 (per feed)	\$25.00 (per feed)

A more detailed discussion of the comparison follows.

Nasdaq Options. Nasdaq Options, with a market share of approximately 5.47% that is comparable to the Exchange, charges higher or comparable Professional and Non-Professional User fees for its top of book and depth of book feeds than proposed by the Exchange. Further, like Nasdaq Options, the Exchange proposes to charge a single per User fee that would provide access to all of its market data products for a single fee.

The NOM Best of Nasdaq Options (“BONO”) feed is an options feed that provides Nasdaq Options’ best bid and offer and last sale information.<sup>26</sup> The NOM BONO feed is similar to the Exchange’s ToM feed. The NOM ITCH to Trade Options (“ITTO”) feed is an options feed that provides full order and quote depth information for individual orders and quotes and last sale information.<sup>27</sup> NOM ITTO also provides, among other things, product (option series) available for trading on NOM, the trading status of such products (i.e., whether the series is available for closing transactions only), and order imbalances on opening/reopenings. The NOM ITTO feed is similar to the Exchange’s MOR and AIS feeds.<sup>28</sup>

NOM charges Professional Users \$42.10 per month and Non-Professional Users \$1.00 per month for the NOM BONO feed and NOM ITTO feed.<sup>29</sup> The Exchange proposes to charge

<sup>26</sup> See Nasdaq Options Rules, Options 3, Section 23(a)(2).

<sup>27</sup> See Nasdaq Options Rules, Options 3, Section 23(a)(1).

<sup>28</sup> The Exchange notes that no other exchange offers a market data feed that provides the same scope of information as the AIS feed. However, many other exchanges, such as NOM and its ITTO feed, include similar information as the AIS feed. The Exchange notes that not all market data subscribers separately purchase the AIS feed.

<sup>29</sup> See Price List – U.S. Derivatives Data, available at <https://www.nasdaqtrader.com/Trader.aspx?id=DPPriceListOptions>. See also Securities Exchange Act Release No. 73823 (December 11, 2014), 79 FR 75207 (December 17, 2014) (SR-NASDAQ-2014-119).

less than NOM for Professional Users and the same as NOM for Non-Professional Users while also providing access to all of its market data feeds for a single per User fee. Specifically, for both the ToM and MOR data feeds, the Exchange proposes to charge Professional Users \$20.00 per month and Non-Professional Users \$1.00 per month. The Exchange's proposed Professional User fee is lower than NOM and its Non-Professional User fee is equal to NOM. Despite having only incrementally higher market share than the Exchange, NOM charges higher or comparable per User fees than proposed by the Exchange herein.

Nasdaq MRX. Nasdaq MRX, with a market share of approximately 2.73%, lower than the Exchange, charges higher Professional and Non-Professional User fees for its top of book and depth of book feeds than the fees proposed by the Exchange. Further, like Nasdaq MRX, the Exchange proposes to charge a single per User fee that would provide access to all of its market data products for a single fee.

The Nasdaq MRX Top of Market feed is an options feed that provides Nasdaq MRX's best bid and offer and last sale information.<sup>30</sup> The Nasdaq MRX Top of Market feed is similar to the Exchange's ToM feed. The Nasdaq MRX Depth of Market feed is an options feed that provides full order and quote depth information for individual orders and quotes and last sale information.<sup>31</sup> The Nasdaq MRX Depth of Market feed is similar to the Exchange's MOR feed.

Nasdaq MRX charges Professional Users \$25.25 per month and Non-Professional Users \$1.00 per month for the Nasdaq MRX Top of Market feed and the Nasdaq MRX Depth of Market Feed.<sup>32</sup> The Exchange proposes to charge less than Nasdaq MRX for Professional Users and the same as Nasdaq MRX for Non-Professional Users while also providing access to all of

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<sup>30</sup> See Nasdaq MRX Options Rules, Options 3, Section 23(a)(3).

<sup>31</sup> See Nasdaq MRX Options Rules, Options 3, Section 23(a)(1).

<sup>32</sup> See Price List – U.S. Derivatives Data, available at <https://www.nasdaqtrader.com/Trader.aspx?id=DPPriceListOptions>.

its market data fees for single per User fee. Specifically, for both the ToM and MOR data feeds, the Exchange proposes to charge Professional Users \$20.00 per month and Non-Professional Users \$1.00 per month. The Exchange's proposed Professional User fee is lower than Nasdaq MRX and its Non-Professional User fee is equal to Nasdaq MRX. Despite having lower market share than the Exchange, Nasdaq MRX charges higher or comparable per User fees than the fees proposed by the Exchange herein.

Cboe BZX Options. Cboe BZX Options, with a market share of approximately 3.98%, which is lower than the Exchange's market share, charges higher Professional and Non-Professional User fees for its depth of book feed than the fees proposed by the Exchange. Further, Cboe BZX Options also charges separate per User fees per data product, whereas the Exchange proposes to charge a single lower per User fee that would provide access to all of its market data products for a single fee.

The Cboe BZX Options Depth feed is an options feed that provides depth of book quotations and execution information. The Cboe BZX Options Depth feed is similar to the Exchange's MOR feed.

Cboe BZX Options charges Professional Users \$30.00 per month and Non-Professional Users \$1.00 per month for the Cboe BZX Options Depth feed. The Exchange proposes to charge less than Cboe BZX Options and provide access to all of its market data fees for single, and still lower, per User fee. Specifically, for ToM, cToM, AIS and MOR data feeds, the Exchange proposes to charge Professional Users \$20.00 per month and Non-Professional Users \$1.00 per month. The Exchange's proposed Professional User fee is lower than Cboe BZX Options and its Non-Professional User fee is equal to Cboe BZX Options. However, both of the Exchange's proposed fees can be lower than Cboe BZX Options because a User may receive access to each of the Exchange's data feeds for a single per User fee and, unlike Cboe BZX Options, not be

required to pay a separate per User fee for each data product.

Cboe C2. Cboe C2, with a market share of approximately 3.02% that is lower than the Exchange, charges higher Professional and Non-Professional User fees for its C2 COB feed than proposed by the Exchange. Unlike Cboe C2, the Exchange proposes to charge a single per User fee that would provide access to all of its market data products for a single fee.

The COB feed is an options feed that provides Cboe C2's best bid and offer and last sale information.<sup>33</sup> The COB feed is similar to the Exchange's cToM feed. Cboe C2 charges all Users, both Professional Users and Non-Professional Users, \$25.00 per month for the COB feed.<sup>34</sup> The Exchange proposes to charge less than Cboe C2 for Professional Users and Non-Professional Users while also providing access to all of its market data feeds for a single per User fee. Specifically, for the cToM data feed, the Exchange proposes to charge Professional Users \$20.00 per month and Non-Professional Users \$1.00 per month. The Exchange's proposed Professional User and Non-Professional User fees are lower than COB. Despite having lower market share than the Exchange, Cboe C2 charges higher or comparable per User fees than proposed by the Exchange herein.

\* \* \* \* \*

Each of the above examples of other exchanges' market data fees support the proposition that the Exchange's proposed User fees are comparable to those of other exchanges and therefore reasonable.

#### Non-Display Usage Fee

The proposed Non-Display Usage fee for the Exchange's market data products is comparable to those charged by Nasdaq Options and Nasdaq MRX, as summarized in below

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<sup>33</sup> See [https://www.cboe.com/market\\_data\\_services/us/options/](https://www.cboe.com/market_data_services/us/options/).

<sup>34</sup> See Cboe C2 fee schedule available at [https://www.cboe.com/us/options/membership/fee\\_schedule/ctwo/](https://www.cboe.com/us/options/membership/fee_schedule/ctwo/).



table.

Exchange	Market Share	Market Data Products	Monthly Non-Display Usage Fee
MIAX Emerald	4.13%	All	\$1,500.00 (per feed (capped at \$3,000.00))
Nasdaq Options	5.47%	NOM BONO NOM ITTO	\$10,530.00 (per exchange)
Nasdaq MRX	2.73%	MRX Top MRX Depth	\$7,575.00 (per exchange)

A more detailed discussion of the comparison follows.

Nasdaq Options. Nasdaq Options, with a market share of approximately 5.47%, which is comparable to the Exchange's market share, charges higher Non-Display Usage fees for its top of book and depth of book feeds than proposed by the Exchange. Further, Nasdaq Options also charges the full Non-Display Usage fees to receive all of its data products, whereas the Exchange proposes to cap the Non-Display Usage fee at \$3,000.00, which would provide a discount to subscribers that choose to subscribe to multiple Exchange data feeds for Non-Display Usage.

As discussed above, the NOM BONO feed is an options feed that provides Nasdaq Options' best bid and offer and last sale information.<sup>35</sup> The NOM BONO feed is similar to the Exchange's ToM feed. The NOM ITTO feed is an options feed that provides full order and quote depth information for individual orders and quotes and last sale information.<sup>36</sup> NOM ITTO also provides, among other things, product (option series) available for trading on NOM, the trading status of such products (i.e., whether the series is available for closing transactions only), and order imbalances on opening/reopenings. The NOM ITTO feed is similar to the Exchange's MOR and AIS feeds.

NOM charges a monthly fee of \$10,530.00 for Non-Display Usage of the NOM BONO

<sup>35</sup> See Nasdaq Options Rules, Options 3, Section 23(a)(2).

<sup>36</sup> See Nasdaq Options Rules, Options 3, Section 23(a)(1).

feed and NOM ITTO feed.<sup>37</sup> The Exchange proposes to charge less than NOM while also proposing to cap the Non-Display Usage fee at \$3,000.00, which would provide a discount to subscribers that choose to subscribe to multiple Exchange data feeds for Non-Display Usage. Specifically, for the ToM, cToM, AIS and MOR data feeds, the Exchange proposes to charge a monthly fee of \$1,500.00 for Non-Display Usage and to cap the Non-Display Usage fee at \$3,000.00 for those that wish to receive two or more of the Exchange's data feeds for Non-Display Usage. This cap would be in lieu of paying the full Non-Display Usage Fee for each data product, which would total \$6,000.00 per month. Despite having incrementally higher market share than the Exchange, NOM charges higher Non-Display Usage fees than the fees proposed by the Exchange herein.

Nasdaq MRX. Nasdaq MRX, with a market share of approximately 2.73%, which is lower than the Exchange's market share, charges higher Non-Display Usage fees for its top of book, depth of book, and order feeds than the fees proposed by the Exchange. Further, Nasdaq MRX also charges the full Non-Display Usage fees per data product, whereas the Exchange proposes to cap the Non-Display Usage fee at \$3,000.00, which would provide a discount to subscribers that choose to subscribe to multiple Exchange data feeds for Non-Display Usage.

The Nasdaq MRX Top of Market feed is an options feed that provides Nasdaq MRX's best bid and offer and last sale information.<sup>38</sup> The Nasdaq MRX Top of Market feed is similar to the Exchange's ToM feed. The Nasdaq MRX Depth of Market feed is an options feed that provides full order and quote depth information for individual orders and quotes and last sale

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<sup>37</sup> See Price List – U.S. Derivatives Data, available at <https://www.nasdaqtrader.com/Trader.aspx?id=DPPriceListOptions>. See also Securities Exchange Act Release No. 73823 (December 11, 2014), 79 FR 75207 (December 17, 2014) (SR-NASDAQ-2014-119).

<sup>38</sup> See Nasdaq MRX Options Rules, Options 3, Section 23(a)(3).

information.<sup>39</sup> The Nasdaq MRX Depth of Market feed is similar to the Exchange's MOR feed. The Nasdaq MRX Order feed is an options feed that provides information for both simple and complex orders.<sup>40</sup> The Nasdaq MRX Order feed is similar to the Exchange's cToM data feed.

Nasdaq MRX charges a monthly fee of \$7,575.00 for Non-Display Usage of the Nasdaq MRX Top of Market feed, Nasdaq MRX Depth of Market feed, and Nasdaq MRX Order feed.<sup>41</sup> The Exchange proposes to charge less than Nasdaq MRX while also proposing to cap the Non-Display Usage fee at \$3,000.00, which would provide a discount to subscribers that choose to subscribe to multiple Exchange data feeds for Non-Display Usage. Specifically, for all of the Exchange's data feeds, the Exchange proposes to charge a monthly fee of \$1,500.00 and to cap the Non-Display Usage fee at \$3,000.00 for those that wish to receive two or more of the Exchange's data feeds for Non-Display Usage. This cap would be in lieu of paying the full Non-Display Usage Fee for each data product, which would total \$6,000.00 per month. Despite having lower market share than the Exchange, Nasdaq MRX charges higher Non-Display Usage fees than the fees proposed by the Exchange herein.

\* \* \* \* \*

Each of the above examples of other exchanges' market data fees support the proposition that the Exchange's proposed Non-Display Usage fees are comparable to or lower than those of other exchanges and therefore reasonable. Furthermore, the Exchange also only currently charges fees to Internal and External Distributors for the ToM, cToM, MOR, and AIS feeds, which when combined with the above proposed fees, result in fee packages that are comparable to or lower than the overall fees charged by Nasdaq Options, Nasdaq MRX, Cboe BZX, and

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<sup>39</sup> See Nasdaq MRX Options Rules, Options 3, Section 23(a)(1).

<sup>40</sup> See Nasdaq MRX Options Rules, Options 3, Section 23(a)(2).

<sup>41</sup> See Price List – U.S. Derivatives Data, available at <https://www.nasdaqtrader.com/Trader.aspx?id=DPPriceListOptions>.

Cboe C2 due to these exchanges charging higher or similar User and Non-Display fees set forth above. The distributor fees for each are set forth in the below table.

Exchange	Market Share	Market Data Product	Internal Distributors	External Distributors
MIAX Emerald	4.13%	ToM	\$2,000.00	\$3,000.00
		cToM	\$2,000.00	\$3,000.00
		MOR	\$3,000.00	\$3,500.00
		AIS	\$1,250.00	\$1,750.00
Nasdaq Options	5.47%	NOM BONO	\$1,566.00	\$2,089.00
		NOM ITTO	\$1,566.00	\$2,089.00
Nasdaq MRX	2.73%	MRX Top	\$1,515.00	\$2,020.00
		MRX Depth	\$1,515.00	\$2,020.00
		MRX Spread	\$1,010.00	\$1,515.00
Cboe BZX Options	3.98%	BZX Depth	\$3,000.00	\$2,000.00
Cboe C2	3.02%	C2 Complex	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00

The proposed discount to charge per User fees at the Exchange level, and not per data feed, as well as capping the monthly Non-Display Usage fee for use of multiple data feeds, is reasonable and cause the Exchange's proposed fees to be even lower for subscribers to multiple Exchange data products.

*Pro-Rata Distribution of Fees.* The Exchange believes its proposal to no longer pro-rate mid-month changes to subscriptions is reasonable because the Exchange had no mid-month subscriptions or terminations over the past twelve (12) months that would have required the monthly fee to be pro-rated and no other options exchanges provides for the similar pro-ration of market data fees.<sup>42</sup> Also, removing these provisions would harmonize the MIAX Emerald Fee Schedule with the MIAX Pearl Equities Fee Schedule, which does not provide for pro-ration of market data fees.<sup>43</sup>

<sup>42</sup> See the market data sections of the options fee schedules for the Cboe BZX and Cboe EDGX. See also the market data definition section of the MEMX options fee schedule and Securities Exchange Act Release No. 101370 (October 17, 2024), 89 FR 84638 (October 23, 2024) (SR-MEMX-2024-40).

<sup>43</sup> See MIA X Pearl Equities Fee Schedule, Section 3), Market Data Definitions, and Securities Exchange Act Release No. 100319 (June 12, 2024), 89 FR 51562 (June 19, 2024) (SR-PEARL-2024-25).

### **The Proposed Fees are Equitably Allocated**

*Overall.* The Exchange believes that its proposed fees are reasonable, equitable, and not unfairly discriminatory because they are designed to align fees with services provided. The Exchange believes that the proposed fees for the market data feeds are allocated fairly and equitably among the various categories of users of the data feeds, and any differences among categories of users are justified and appropriate.

The Exchange believes that the proposed fees are equitably allocated because they will apply uniformly to all data recipients that choose to subscribe to the market data feeds. Any market participant that chooses to subscribe to the market data feeds is subject to the same Fee Schedule, regardless of what type of business they operate, and the decision to subscribe to one or more market data feeds is based on objective differences in usage of market data feeds among different Members, which are still ultimately in the control of any particular Member. The Exchange believes the proposed pricing of the market data feeds is equitably allocated because it is based, in part, upon the amount of information contained in each data feed, which may have additional value to market participants.

*Pro-Rata Distribution of Fees.* The Exchange believes its proposal to no longer pro-rate mid-month changes to subscriptions is equitably allocated because the Exchange had no subscriber utilize pro-ration via a mid-month subscriptions or terminations over the past twelve (12) months, nor does it foresee a subscriber doing so in the near future. The Exchange believes it is equitable to no longer pro-rate fees for Distributors who subscribe mid-month because other options exchanges do not provide for the similar pro-ration of market data fees.<sup>44</sup> Also,

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<sup>44</sup> See the market data sections of the options fee schedules for the Cboe BZX and Cboe EDGX. See also the market data definition section of the MEMX options fee schedule and Securities Exchange Act Release No. 101370 (October 17, 2024), 89 FR 84638 (October 23, 2024) (SR-MEMX-2024-40).

removing these provisions would harmonize the MIAX Emerald Fee Schedule with the MIAX Pearl Equities Fee Schedule, which does not provide for pro-ration of market data fees.<sup>45</sup>

User Fees. The Exchange believes that the proposed fee, fee levels, and structure that differentiate between Professional User fees from Non-Professional User fees for display use are equitable. This structure has long been used by other exchanges and OPRA to reduce the price of data to Non-Professional Users and make it more broadly available.<sup>46</sup> Offering the market data feeds to Non-Professional Users at a lower cost than Professional Users results in greater equity among data recipients, as Professional Users are categorized as such based on their employment and participation in financial markets, and thus, are compensated to participate in the markets. While Non-Professional Users too can receive significant financial benefits through their participation in the markets, the Exchange believes it is reasonable to charge more to those Users who are more directly engaged in the markets.

Non-Display Usage Fees. The Exchange believes the proposed Non-Display Usage fees are equitably allocated because they would require Distributors to pay fees only for the uses they actually make of the data. As noted above, non-display data can be used by data recipients for a wide variety of profit-generating purposes (including trading and order routing) as well as purposes that do not directly generate revenues (such as risk management and compliance) but nonetheless substantially reduce the recipient's costs by automating certain functions. The Exchange believes that it is equitable to charge non-display data Distributors that use the market data feeds because all such Distributors would have the ability to use such data for as many non-

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<sup>45</sup> See MIA X Pearl Equities Fee Schedule, Section 3), Market Data Definitions, and Securities Exchange Act Release No. 100319 (June 12, 2024), 89 FR 51562 (June 19, 2024) (SR-PEARL-2024-25).

<sup>46</sup> See, e.g., Securities Exchange Act Release No. 59544 (March 9, 2009), 74 FR 11162 (March 16, 2009) (SR-NYSE-2008-131) (establishing the \$15 Non-Professional User Fee (Per User) for NYSE OpenBook); Securities Exchange Act Release No. 20002, File No. S7-433 (July 22, 1983), 48 FR 34552 (July 29, 1983) (establishing Non-Professional fees for CTA data); NASDAQ BX Equity 7 Pricing Schedule, Section 123.

display uses as they wish for one low fee. As noted above, this structure is comparable to that in place for the exchanges referenced above and several other exchanges charge multiple non-display fees to the same client to the extent they use a data feed in several different trading platforms or for several types of non-display use.<sup>47</sup>

\* \* \* \* \*

For all of the foregoing reasons, the Exchange believes that the proposed fees for the market data feeds are equitably allocated.

### **The Proposed Fees Are Not Unfairly Discriminatory**

The Exchange believes the proposed fees are not unfairly discriminatory because any differences in the application of the fees are based on meaningful distinctions between customers, and those meaningful distinctions are not unfairly discriminatory between customers.

Overall. The Exchange believes that the proposed fees are not unfairly discriminatory because they would apply to all data recipients that choose to subscribe to the same market data feed(s). Any market participant, including market data vendors, that chooses to subscribe to the market data feeds is subject to the same Fee Schedule, regardless of what type of business they operate. Market participants seeking lower cost options may instead choose to receive data from OPRA or another potentially lower cost option such as a market data vendor. The Exchange notes that market participants can also choose to subscribe to a combination of data feeds for redundancy purposes or to use different feeds for different purposes. In sum, each

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<sup>47</sup> See Cboe BZX Options fee schedule [available at https://www.cboe.com/us/options/membership/fee\\_schedule/bzy/](https://www.cboe.com/us/options/membership/fee_schedule/bzy/) (providing fees of \$2,000.00 to \$3,000.00 for Distribution, which includes Non-Display use); C2 fee schedule [available at https://www.cboe.com/us/options/membership/fee\\_schedule/ctwo/](https://www.cboe.com/us/options/membership/fee_schedule/ctwo/) (providing a fee \$2,500.00 for Distribution, which includes Non-Display use); Nasdaq Options fee schedule [available at https://www.nasdaqtrader.com/Trader.aspx?id=DPPriceListOptions](https://www.nasdaqtrader.com/Trader.aspx?id=DPPriceListOptions) (providing a fee of \$10,000.00 for Non-Display Use); and the NYSE American fee schedule [available at https://www.nyse.com/publicdocs/nyse/data/NYSE\\_Market\\_Data\\_Pricing.pdf](https://www.nyse.com/publicdocs/nyse/data/NYSE_Market_Data_Pricing.pdf) (providing fees of \$5,000.00 for Non-Display Use).

market participant has the ability to choose the best business solution for itself. The Exchange does not believe it is unfairly discriminatory to base pricing upon the amount of information contained in each data feed and the importance of that information to market participants. As described above, the ToM data feed can be utilized to trade on the Exchange but contains less information than available on the MOR data feed. Thus, the Exchange believes it is not unfairly discriminatory for the products to be priced as proposed, with the same fees being proposed for each data feed coupled with the discounts and caps discussed above.

*Pro-Rata Distribution of Fees.* The Exchange believes that the proposal to no longer pro-rate mid-month changes to market data subscriptions is not unfairly discriminatory because there were no mid-month subscriptions or terminations over the past twelve (12) months that would have required the monthly fee to be pro-rated. The Exchange notes that other options exchanges do not provide for the similar pro-ration of market data fees.<sup>48</sup> Also, removing these provisions would harmonize the MIAX Emerald Fee Schedule with the MIAX Pearl Equities Fee Schedule, which does not provide for pro-ration.<sup>49</sup>

*User Fees.* The Exchange believes that the proposed fee, fee levels, and structure that differentiates between Professional User fees from Non-Professional User fees for display use are not unfairly discriminatory. This structure has long been used by other exchanges and OPRA to reduce the price of data to Non-Professional Users and make it more broadly available. Offering the market data feeds to Non-Professional Users with the same data as is available to Professional Users, albeit at a lower cost, results in greater equity among data recipients. These

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<sup>48</sup> See Cboe BZX Options Fee Schedule, Market Data Fees section and Cboe EDGX Options Fee Schedule, Market Data Fees section, *supra* note 14. See also MEMX Options Fee Schedule and Securities Exchange Act Release No. 101370 (October 17, 2024), 89 FR 84638 (October 23, 2024) (SR-MEMX-2024-40).

<sup>49</sup> See MIAX Pearl Equities Fee Schedule, Section 3), Market Data Definitions and Securities Exchange Act Release No. 100319 (June 12, 2024), 89 FR 51562 (June 19, 2024) (SR-PEARL-2024-25).



User fees would be charged uniformly to all individuals that have access to the market data feeds based on the category of User.

The Exchange also believes the proposed User fees are not unfairly discriminatory, with higher fees for Professional Users than Non-Professional Users, because Non-Professional Users may have less ability to pay for such data than Professional Users as well as less opportunity to profit from their usage of such data.

Non-Display Usage Fees. The Exchange believes that the proposed Non-Display Usage fees are not unfairly discriminatory because they would require Distributors for non-display use to pay fees depending on their use of the data. As noted above, non-display data can be used by data recipients for a wide variety of profit-generating purposes as well as purposes that do not directly generate revenues but nonetheless substantially reduce the recipient's costs by automating certain functions.

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For all of the foregoing reasons, the Exchange believes that the proposed fees for the Exchange's market data feeds are not unfairly discriminatory.

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

In accordance with Section 6(b)(8) of the Act,<sup>50</sup> the Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change would impose any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

Intra-Market Competition

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed fees place certain market participants at a relative disadvantage to other market participants because, as noted above, the proposed fees

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<sup>50</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(8).

are associated with usage of the data feed by each market participant, which are still ultimately in the control of any particular Member, and such fees do not impose a barrier to entry to smaller participants. Accordingly, the proposed fees do not favor certain categories of market participants in a manner that would impose a burden on competition; rather, the allocation of the proposed fees reflects the types of data consumed by various market participants and their usage thereof. The Exchange also believes that the proposed fees neither favor nor penalize one or more categories of market participants in a manner that would impose an undue burden on competition.

The Exchange believes its proposal to no longer pro-rate mid-month changes to market data subscriptions does not place an undue burden on intra-market competition because all market participants will be subject to the same Fee Schedule, regardless of which point in the month they subscribe. As noted above, there were no mid-month subscriptions or terminations over the past twelve (12) months that would have required the monthly fee to be pro-rated. The Exchange notes that other options exchanges do not provide for the similar pro-ration of market data fees.<sup>51</sup> Also, removing these provisions would harmonize the MIAX Emerald Fee Schedule with the MIAX Pearl Equities Fee Schedule, which does not provide for pro-ration.<sup>52</sup>

#### Inter-Market Competition

The Exchange does not believe the proposed fees place an undue burden on competition on other SROs that is not necessary or appropriate. In particular, market participants are not forced to subscribe to either data feed, as described above. An exchange that overprices its

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<sup>51</sup> See the market data sections of the options fee schedules for the Cboe BZX and Cboe EDGX. See also the market data definition section of the MEMX options fee schedule and Securities Exchange Act Release No. 101370 (October 17, 2024), 89 FR 84638 (October 23, 2024) (SR-MEMX-2024-40).

<sup>52</sup> See MIAX Pearl Equities Fee Schedule, Section 3), Market Data Definitions and Securities Exchange Act Release No. 100319 (June 12, 2024), 89 FR 51562 (June 19, 2024) (SR-PEARL-2024-25).

market data products stands a high risk that users may purchase another market's market data product. These competitive pressures ensure that no one exchange's market data fees can impose an unnecessary burden on competition, and the Exchange's proposed fees do not do so here. Additionally, other exchanges have similar market data fees with comparable rates in place for their participants. Other options exchanges are free to adopt comparable fee structures subject to the Commission's rule filing process.

C. 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.

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>53</sup> and Rule 19b-4(f)(2)<sup>54</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.

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:

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<sup>53</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(ii).

<sup>54</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(2).

- Use the Commission's internet comment form (<https://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml>); or
- Send an email to [rule-comments@sec.gov](mailto:rule-comments@sec.gov). Please include file number SR-EMERALD-2025-04 on the subject line.

Paper Comments:

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

All submissions should refer to file number SR-EMERALD-2025-04. This file number should be included on the subject line if email 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 website (<https://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 a.m. and 3 p.m. Copies of the filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the Exchange. Do not include personal identifiable information in submissions; you should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly. We may redact in part or withhold entirely from publication submitted material that is obscene or subject to copyright protection. All submissions should refer to file number SR-EMERALD-2025-04 and should be submitted on or before [INSERT DATE 21 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE *FEDERAL REGISTER*].

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.<sup>55</sup>

**Sherry R. Haywood,**

*Assistant Secretary.*

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<sup>55</sup> 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

**Exhibit 5**

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

**MIAX Emerald Options Exchange Fee Schedule**

\* \* \* \* \*

**6) Market Data Fees**

**Market Data Definitions**

Distributor. Any entity that receives the Exchange data product directly from the Exchange or indirectly through another entity and then distributes it internally or externally to a third party.

External Distributor. A Distributor that receives the Exchange data product and then distributes that data to a third party or one or more Users outside the Distributor’s own entity.

Internal Distributor. A Distributor that receives the Exchange data product and then distributes that data to one or more Users within the Distributor’s own entity.

Non-Display Usage. Any method of accessing an Exchange data product that involves access or use by a machine or automated device without access or use of a display by a natural person or persons.

Non-Professional User. A natural person or qualifying trust that uses Exchange data only for personal purposes and not for any commercial purpose and, for a natural person who works in the United States, is not: (i) registered or qualified in any capacity with the Securities and Exchange Commission, the Commodities Futures Trading Commission, any state securities agency, any securities exchange or association, or any commodities or futures contract market or association; (ii) engaged as an “investment adviser” as that term is defined in Section 202(a)(11) of the Investment Advisors Act of 1940 (whether or not registered or qualified under that Act); or (iii) employed by a bank or other organization exempt from registration under federal or state securities laws to perform functions that would require registration or qualification if such functions were performed for an organization not so exempt; or, for a natural person who works outside of the United States, does not perform the same functions as would disqualify such person as a Non-Professional User if he or she worked in the United States.

Professional User. Any User other than a Non-Professional User.

User. A Professional User or Non-Professional User.

**a) MIAX Emerald Top of Market (“ToM”) and Complex Top of Market (“cToM”)**

<b>[Distributor Type] <u>Delivery</u></b>	<b>ToM Monthly Fee</b>	<b>cToM Monthly Fee</b>
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Internal Distributor	(No change).	(No change).
External Distributor	(No change).	(No change).
<u>Professional User<sup>1</sup></u>	<u>\$20.00</u>	<u>\$20.00</u>
<u>Non-Professional User<sup>1</sup></u>	<u>\$1.00</u>	<u>\$1.00</u>
<u>Non-Display Usage<sup>2</sup></u>	<u>\$1,500.00</u>	<u>\$1,500.00</u>

1. [MIAX Emerald will assess Market Data Fees to ToM and cToM on Internal and External Distributors in each month the Distributor is credentialed to use ToM or cToM in the production environment. A Distributor of MIAX Emerald data is any entity that receives a feed or file of data either directly from MIAX Emerald or indirectly through another entity and then distributes it either internally (within that entity) or externally (outside that entity). All Distributors are required to execute a MIAX Emerald Distributor Agreement. Market Data Fees for ToM and/or cToM, as applicable, will be reduced for new Distributors for the first month during which they subscribe to ToM and/or cToM, as applicable, based on the number of trading days that have been held during the month prior to the date on which they have been credentialed to use ToM and/or cToM, as applicable, in the production environment. Such new Distributors will be assessed a pro-rata percentage of the fees described above, which is the percentage of the number of trading days remaining in the affected calendar month as of the date on which they have been credentialed to use ToM and/or cToM in the production environment, divided by the total number of trading days in the affected calendar month.]The above Professional or Non-Professional User fee provides the same Professional or Non-Professional User access to all other MIAX Emerald Market Data feeds for no additional per User charge. As such, the number of Users should be reported per the Exchange, and not per MIAX Emerald Market Data feed.

2. The Non-Display Usage fee for Subscribers of two or more MIAX Emerald Market Data feeds will be capped at \$3,000.00.

**b) Administrative Information Subscriber (“AIS”)**

<b>[Distributor Type]Delivery</b>	<b>Monthly Fee</b>
Internal Distributor	(No change).
External Distributor	(No change).
<u>Professional User<sup>1</sup></u>	<u>\$20.00</u>
<u>Non-Professional User<sup>1</sup></u>	<u>\$1.00</u>
<u>Non-Display Usage<sup>2</sup></u>	<u>\$1,500.00</u>

1. [MIAX Emerald will assess Market Data Fees applicable to AIS on Internal and External Distributors in each month the Distributor is credentialed to use AIS in the production environment. A Distributor of MIAX Emerald data is any entity that receives a feed or file of data either directly from MIAX Emerald or indirectly through another entity and then distributes it either internally (within that entity) or externally (outside that entity). All Distributors are required to execute a MIAX Emerald Distributor Agreement. Market Data Fees for AIS will be reduced for new Distributors for the first month during which they have been credentialed to use AIS in the production environment, based on the number of trading days that have been held during the month prior to the date on which they have been credentialed to use AIS in the production environment. Such new Distributors will be assessed a pro-rata percentage of the fees described above, which is the percentage of the number of trading days remaining in the affected calendar month as of the date on which they have been credentialed to use AIS in the production environment, divided by the total number of trading days in the affected calendar month. AIS includes administrative information for simple and complex orders.]The above Professional or Non-Professional User fee provides the same Professional or Non-Professional User access to all other MIAX Emerald Market Data feeds for no additional per User charge. As such, the number of Users should be reported per the Exchange, and not per MIAX Emerald Market Data feed.

2. The Non-Display Usage fee for Subscribers of two or more MIAX Emerald Market Data feeds will be capped at \$3,000.00.

**c) MIAX Emerald Order Feed (“MOR”)**

<b>[Distributor Type]<u>Delivery</u></b>	<b>Monthly Fee</b>
Internal Distributor	(No change).
External Distributor	(No change).
<u>Professional User</u> <sup>1</sup>	<u>\$20.00</u>
<u>Non-Professional User</u> <sup>1</sup>	<u>\$1.00</u>
<u>Non-Display Usage</u> <sup>2</sup>	<u>\$1,500.00</u>

1. [MIAX Emerald will assess Market Data Fees applicable to MOR on Internal and External Distributors in each month the Distributor is credentialed to use MOR in the production environment. A Distributor of MIAX Emerald data is any entity that receives a feed or file of data either directly from MIAX Emerald or indirectly through another entity and then distributes it either internally (within that entity) or externally (outside that entity). All Distributors are required to execute a MIAX Emerald Distributor Agreement. Market Data Fees for MOR will be reduced for new Distributors for the first month during which they have been credentialed to use MOR in the production environment, based on the number of trading days that have been



held during the month prior to the date on which they have been credentialed to use MOR in the production environment. Such new Distributors will be assessed a pro-rata percentage of the fees described above, which is the percentage of the number of trading days remaining in the affected calendar month as of the date on which they have been credentialed to use MOR in the production environment, divided by the total number of trading days in the affected calendar month. MOR subscribers will receive information for simple and complex orders.]The above Professional or Non-Professional User fee provides the same Professional or Non-Professional User access to all other MIAX Emerald Market Data feeds for no additional per User charge. As such, the number of Users should be reported per the Exchange, and not per MIAX Emerald Market Data feed.

2. The Non-Display Usage fee for Subscribers of two or more MIAX Emerald Market Data feeds will be capped at \$3,000.00.

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