

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
(Release No. 34-100630; File No. SR-SAPPHIRE-2024-03)

July 31, 2024

Self-Regulatory Organizations; MIAX Sapphire, LLC; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of a Proposed Rule Change to Amend Exchange Rule 100, Definitions; Rule 518, Complex Orders; and Rule 530, Limit Up-Limit Down

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (“Act”)¹ and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,² notice is hereby given that on July 24, 2024, MIAX Sapphire, LLC (“MIAX Sapphire” or “Exchange”) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“Commission”) a proposed rule change as described in Items I and II 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 Exchange Rule 100, Definitions; Rule 518, Complex Orders; and Rule 530, Limit Up-Limit Down.

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

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

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

in Item IV below. The Exchange has prepared summaries, set forth in sections A, B, and C below, of the most significant aspects of such statements.

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

1. Purpose

The Exchange proposes to amend Exchange Rule 100 to adopt a definition for the term “Professional Interest” to mean, “an order that is for the account of a person or entity that is not a Priority Customer, or, “an order for the account of a Market Maker.”³ This definition is substantively identical to the definition of “Professional Interest” on the Exchange’s affiliate, MIAX Emerald.⁴

The Exchange proposes to update citations to Rule 600(b) of Regulation NMS in Exchange Rule 518, Complex Orders; Rule 530, Limit Up-Limit Down.

In 2021, the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “Commission”) amended Regulation NMS under the Act in connection with the adoption of the Market Data Infrastructure Rules.⁵ As part of that initiative, the Commission adopted new definitions in Rule 600(b) of Regulation NMS and renumbered the remaining definitions, including the definitions of Trading Center (formerly Rule 600(b)(78)), NMS Stock (formerly Rule 600(b)(47)), and Regular Trading Hours (formerly Rule 600(b)(64)).

³ The term “Professional Interest” is used in establishing complex order priority for stock-option orders. See Exchange Rule 518(c)(3)(ii).

⁴ The term “Professional Interest” means (i) an order that is for the account of a person or entity that is not a Priority Customer, or (ii) an order or non-priority quote for the account of a Market Maker. See MIAX Emerald Exchange Rule 100.

⁵ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 90610, 86 FR 18596 (April 9, 2021) (S7-03-20).

The Exchange accordingly proposes to update the relevant citations to Rule 600(b) in its rules as follows:

- The citation to the definition of NMS Stock in Rule 518 would be changed to Rule 600(b)(55).
- The citation to the definition of Trading Center in Rule 518 would be changed to Rule 600(b)(95).
- The citation to the definition of Regular Trading Hours in Rule 530, Limit Up-Limit Down, would be changed to Rule 600(b)(77).

2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that its proposed rule change is consistent with the Act and the rules and regulations thereunder applicable to the Exchange and, in particular, the requirements of Section 6(b) of the Act.⁶ Specifically, the Exchange believes that its proposed rule change is consistent with Section 6(b)(5)⁷ requirements in that it is designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, 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 and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest.

The Exchange believes the proposed change to adopt a definition for Professional Interest promotes just and equitable principles of trade and removes impediments to and perfects the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system because the proposed change

⁶ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

⁷ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

would provide greater clarity to investors and the public regarding the operation of the Exchange's Rules. It is in the public interest for rules to be clear and accurate so as to avoid the potential for confusion.

Additionally, the Exchange believes that the proposed changes to its rules to correct citations to Rule 600(b) of Regulation NMS would remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system because the proposed change is designed to update an external rule reference. The Exchange believes that Members⁸ would benefit from the increased clarity, thereby reducing potential confusion and ensuring that those subject to the Exchange's jurisdiction, regulators, and the investing public can more easily navigate and understand the Exchange's rules. The Exchange further believes that the proposed changes would not be inconsistent with the public interest and the protection of investors because investors will not be harmed and in fact would benefit from increased clarity, thereby reducing potential confusion.

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

The Exchange believes that the proposed rule changes would not impose any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. The proposed rule changes are not intended to address competitive issues but rather would provide additional clarity in the Exchange's rule by adopting a definition for Professional Interest and by modifying Exchange rules to provide the correct citations to Rule 600(b) of Regulation NMS. Since the proposal does not substantively modify System⁹ functionality or processes on the

⁸ 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.

⁹ The term "System" means the automated trading system used by the Exchange for the trading of securities. See Exchange Rule 100.

Exchange, the proposed changes will not impose any burden on competition nor are they meant to affect competition among the exchanges.

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

Written comments were neither solicited nor received.

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

Because the foregoing proposed rule change does not: (i) significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest; (ii) impose any significant burden on competition; and (iii) become operative for 30 days from the date on which it was filed, or such shorter time as the Commission may designate, if consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest, the proposed rule change has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(iii) of the Act¹⁰ and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder.¹¹

A proposed rule change filed pursuant to Rule 19b-4(f)(6) under the Act¹² normally does not become operative for 30 days after the date of its filing. However, Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii)¹³ permits the Commission to designate a shorter time if such action is consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest. The Exchange has requested that the Commission waive the 30-day operative delay so that the proposal may become operative immediately upon filing. The Exchange states that a waiver of the operative delay would permit the Exchange to

¹⁰ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(iii).

¹¹ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6). In addition, Rule 19b-4(f)(6) requires a self-regulatory organization to give the Commission written notice of its intent to file the proposed rule change, along with a brief description and text of the proposed rule change, at least five business days prior to the date of filing of the proposed rule change, or such shorter time as designated by the Commission. The Exchange has satisfied this requirement.

¹² 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

¹³ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6)(iii).

adopt a definition for Professional Interest and to promptly correct citations to Rule 600(b) of Regulation NMS in order to alleviate potential investor or public confusion and to add clarity to it rules. For these reasons, and because the proposed rule change does not raise any new or novel legal or regulatory issues, the Commission believes that waiver of the 30-day operative delay is consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest. Accordingly, the Commission hereby waives the 30-day operative delay and designates the proposed rule change operative upon filing.¹⁴

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 under Section 19(b)(2)(B)¹⁵ of the Act to determine whether the proposed rule change 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:

- Use the Commission's internet comment form (<https://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml>); or
- Send an email to rule-comments@sec.gov. Please include file number

¹⁴ For purposes only of waiving the 30-day operative delay, the Commission has also considered the proposed rule's impact on efficiency, competition, and capital formation. See 15 U.S.C. 78c(f).

¹⁵ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2)(B).

SR-SAPPHIRE-2024-03 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-SAPPHIRE-2024-03. 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-SAPPHIRE-2024-03 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.¹⁶

Sherry R. Haywood,
Assistant Secretary.

¹⁶ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12), (59).