SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. 34-54488; File No. SR-SCCP-2006-02)

September 22, 2006

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Stock Clearing Corporation of Philadelphia; Notice of Filing of a Proposed Rule Change Relating to the Definition of a Margin Member

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act"), 1 notice is hereby given that on August 14, 2006, Stock Clearing Corporation of Philadelphia ("SCCP") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II, and III below, which items have been prepared primarily by SCCP. The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

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

The proposed rule change would amend the definition of "margin member" in SCCP Rule 1, Definitions, to accommodate the proposed introduction of equity Market Makers on the Philadelphia Stock Exchange ("Phlx") and to reflect the proposed introduction of Phlx's new equity trading system, XLE, which will replace Phlx's equity trading floor.<sup>2</sup>

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

In its filing with the Commission, SCCP 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

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

Securities Exchange Act Release No. 54329 (August 17, 2006), 71 FR 50482, (August 25, 2006) [File No. SR-Phlx-2006-43].

below. SCCP has prepared summaries, set forth in sections (A), (B), and (C) below, of the most significant aspects of such statements.<sup>3</sup>

(A) <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis</u> for, the Proposed Rule Change

The purpose of the proposed rule change is to conform SCCP's Rules to the proposed change that the Phlx is making to its market structure through the introduction of XLE and market makers. Phlx has proposed to eliminate its equity trading floor and to replace it with an electronic trading system, XLE, which will provide for the entry, display, ranking, routing, and execution of orders in NMS stocks<sup>4</sup> for its members and member organizations ("XLE Participants"). As proposed by Phlx, the current equity specialists would be replaced by market makers, a type of XLE Participant, which would be liquidity providers on XLE.<sup>5</sup>

SCCP Rule 1, Definitions, currently defines "margin members" as SCCP participants that are Phlx specialists, alternate specialists, or other Phlx floor members specifically approved by the National Securities Clearing Corporation to effect trading in a margin account. Margin members that clear and settle their transactions through SCCP's "omnibus clearance and settlement account" at NSCC receive margin accounts from SCCP. SCCP expects that many of its current margin members that are Phlx specialists, alternate specialists, or other Phlx floor

The Commission has modified parts of these statements.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> 17 CFR 242.600(b)(47).

As proposed by Phlx, not every security on XLE will require a market maker. However, if a market maker or multiple market makers choose to register in a security, they must provide a two-sided market in that security on XLE during regular trading hours (usually 9:30 AM to 4:00 PM) of the security. Therefore, some securities on XLE may have no market makers or may have one or more market makers.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> SCCP Rule 9, Margin Accounts.

members would become XLE Participants, including market makers, upon approval of XLE. This proposed rule change would amend the definition of margin member in SCCP's rules to add the term market maker<sup>7</sup> and to remove the word floor from the term Phlx floor member. This would allow SCCP members that are currently margin members under Rule 1 of SCCP's rules to maintain their status as margin members following Phlx's transition to XLE.

SCCP believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 17A of the Act<sup>8</sup> because the proposed rule change is designed to allow current SCCP Margin Members to maintain their status as they transition from the current floor based trading environment on Phlx to an electronic trading system, XLE, and would thereby promote the prompt and accurate clearance and settlement of securities transactions and remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a national system for the prompt and accurate clearance of securities transactions.

- (B) <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition</u>

  SCCP 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.
  - (C) <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed Rule</u> <u>Change Received from Members, Participants, or Others</u>

No written comments were solicited or received.

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

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The proposed rule change File No. SR-Phlx-2006-43 would define the term "market maker" in Phlx Rule 1, Definitions, paragraph (m). It would also add new rules 170 through 174 to set forth the registration requirements, rights, and obligations of Phlx market makers.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78q-1.

Within 35 days of the date of publication of this notice in the <u>Federal Register</u> or within such longer period (i) as the Commission may designate up to 90 days of such date if it finds such longer period to be appropriate and publishes its reasons for so finding, or (ii) as to which the self-regulatory organization consents, the Commission will:

- (A) by order approve the proposed rule change, or
- (B) institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule change should be 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 (http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml) or
- Send an e-mail to <u>rule-comments@sec.gov</u>. Please include File Number SR-SCCP-2006-02 on the subject line.

## Paper comments:

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

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-SCCP-2006-02. This file number should be included on the subject line if e-mail is used. To help the Commission process and review your comments more efficiently, please use only one method. The Commission will post all comments on the Commission's Internet Web site (http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml). Copies

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of the submission, all subsequent amendments, all written statements with respect to the proposed rule change that are filed with the Commission, and all written communications relating to the proposed rule change between the Commission and any person, other than those that may be withheld from the public in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552, will be available for inspection and copying in the Commission's Public Reference Section, 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549. Copies of such filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of SCCP and on SCCP's Web site at <a href="http://www.phlx.com/SCCP/memindex\_sccpproposals.html">http://www.phlx.com/SCCP/memindex\_sccpproposals.html</a>. All comments received will be posted without change; the Commission does not edit personal identifying information from submissions. You should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly. All submissions should refer to File Number SR-SCCP-2006-02 and should be submitted on or

For the Commission by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.<sup>9</sup>

before [insert date 21 days from publication in the Federal Register].

Nancy M. Morris Secretary

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