SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. 34-74225; File No. SR-MIAX-2015-05)

February 6, 2015

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Miami International Securities Exchange LLC; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of a Proposed Rule Change to Modify the Closing Date of the Equity Rights Program

Pursuant to the provisions of 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 January 27, 2015, Miami International Securities Exchange LLC ("MIAX" 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. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed</u> <u>Rule Change</u>

The Exchange is filing a proposal to modify the closing date of the equity rights program.

The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Exchange's website at

http://www.miaxoptions.com/filter/wotitle/rule_filing, at MIAX's principal office, and at the Commission's Public Reference Room.

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, 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

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

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

1. Purpose

On January 6, 2015, the Exchange filed a rule change to implement an equity rights program ("Program") pursuant to which units representing the right to acquire equity in the Exchange's parent holding company, Miami International Holdings, Inc. ("MIH") would be issued to a participating Member in exchange for payment of an initial purchase price or the prepayment of certain transaction fees and the achievement of certain liquidity volume thresholds on the Exchange over a 29-month period. All applicants are subject to the same eligibility and designation criteria, and all participant Members participate in the Program on the same terms, conditions and restrictions. To be designated as a participant Member, an applicant must: (i) be a Member in good standing of MIAX; (ii) qualify as an "accredited investor" as such term is defined in Regulation D of the Securities Act of 1933; and (iii) have executed all required documentation for Program participation. Participant Members must have executed the definitive documentation, satisfied the eligibility criteria required of Program participants enumerated above, and tendered the minimum cash investment or prepayment of fees by January 27, 2015, with a closing to occur on January 30, 2015.

Because all prospective participant Members are not able to execute the definitive documentation, satisfy the eligibility criteria required of Program participants, and tender the minimum cash investment or prepayment of fees by the January 27, 2015 deadline, the Exchange

See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 74095 (January 20, 2015), 80 FR 4011 (January 26, 2015) (SR-MIAX-2015-02).

proposes to make a reasonable accommodation to all prospective participant Members.

Accordingly, the Exchange proposes to extend the deadline, by which Participant Members must have executed the definitive documentation, satisfied the eligibility criteria required of Program participants, and tendered the minimum cash investment or prepayment of fees must be submitted [sic] to the Exchange, by 3 days to January 30, 2015, with a closing to occur on February 2, 2015. The Exchange will initiate the measurement period on February 1, 2015, as previously prescribed. This extension will allow all Members desiring to participate in the Program to subscribe. In making such accommodation, no prospective Participant Member will be impaired in their ability to participate in the Program.

2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that its proposed rule change is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act⁵ in general, and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(5) of the Act⁶ in particular, 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 facilitating transactions in securities, to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanisms of a free and open market and a national market system and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest. Additionally, the Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with the Section 6(b)(5) of the Act⁷ requirement that the rules of an exchange not be designed to permit unfair discrimination between customers, issuers, brokers, or dealers. The Exchange also

⁴ See id.

⁵ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

⁶ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

⁷ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

believes the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 6(b)(4) of the Act,⁸ which requires that Exchange rules provide for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees, and other charges among its members and other persons using its facilities.

In particular, the proposed rule change is reasonable, equitable and not unfairly discriminatory because it proposes to make a reasonable accommodation to all prospective participant Members who wish to participate in the Program. This will ensure that no prospective participant Member to the Program would be impaired in their ability to participate in the Program.

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

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on competition not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change will improve competition by allowing all market participants to subscribe to the Program.

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

Written comments were neither solicited nor received.

III. <u>Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission Action</u>

⁸ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(4).

⁹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(ii).

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:

- 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-MIAX-2015-05 on the subject line.

Paper Comments:

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

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-MIAX-2015-05. 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 website (http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml).

Copies of the submission, all subsequent amendments, all written statements with respect to the proposed rule change that are filed with the Commission, and all written communications relating to the proposed rule change between the Commission and any person, other than those that may be withheld from the public in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552, will be available for website viewing and printing in the Commission's Public Reference Room, 100 F

Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549, on official business days between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Copies of the filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the Exchange. All comments received will be posted without change; the Commission does not edit personal identifying information from submissions. You should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-MIAX-2015-05 and should be submitted on or before [insert date 21 days from publication in the Federal Register]. For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority. 10

> Brent J. Fields Secretary

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¹⁰ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).