SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-103251; File No. SR-NYSEARCA-2025-42]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; NYSE Arca, Inc.; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change to amend Rule 6.40P-O

June 13, 2025.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1)¹ of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act")² and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,³ notice is hereby given that, on June 10, 2025, NYSE Arca, Inc. ("NYSE Arca" or the "Exchange") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") the proposed rule change as described in Items I and II below, which Items have been prepared by the self-regulatory organization. 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 proposes to amend Rule 6.40P-O (Pre-Trade and Activity-Based Risk Controls) to adopt "Gross Risk Credit Limits," which optional pre-trade risk control will be available to Entering Firms. The proposed rule change is available on the Exchange's website at www.nyse.com, at the principal office of the Exchange, and at the Commission's Public Reference Room.

³ 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

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¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 15 U.S.C. 78a.

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 self-regulatory organization 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 those 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 parts of such statements.

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

1. Purpose

The Exchange proposes to amend Rule 6.40P-O (Pre-Trade and Activity-Based Risk Controls) to adopt "Gross Risk Credit Limits," which optional pre-trade risk control will be available to Entering Firms.⁴

Background and Proposal

In 2022, in connection with the Exchange's migration to Pillar and to better assist OTP Holders and OTP Firms (collectively, "OTP Holders") in managing their risk, the Exchange adopted Rule 6.40P-O (the "Rule"), which included pre-trade risk controls, among other activity-based controls, wherein an Entering Firm had the option of establishing limits or restrictions on certain of its trading behavior on the Exchange and authorizing the Exchange to take action if those limits or restrictions were exceeded.⁵

The term "Entering Firm" refers to an OTP Holder or OTP Firm (including those acting as Market Makers). See Rule 6.40P-O(a)(1).

See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 94072 (January 26, 2022), 87 FR 5592 (February 1, 2022) (Notice of Filing of Amendment No. 4 and Order Granting Accelerated Approval of a Proposed Rule Change, as Modified by Amendment No. 4) (SR-NYSEArca-2021-47). Later, the Exchange amended its rules to make additional pre-trade risk controls available to Entering Firms. See, e.g., Securities Exchange Act Release No. 96504 (December 15, 2022), 87 FR 78166 (December 21, 2022) (SR-NYSEARCA-2022-82) (adopting, on an immediately effective basis, "Single-Order Risk Controls").

The Exchange has recently received requests from market participants to adopt Gross Credit Limits, which would provide OTP Holders with additional pre-trade risk controls. As detailed below, each of the proposed additional risk controls is based on risk settings that are already available on the Exchange's equity platform and its affiliated equities exchanges, including NYSE American LLC ("NYSE American"). The Exchange notes that similar risk controls are offered on at least one other option exchange, Cboe EDGX Exchange, Inc. ("Cboe EDGX"). Cboe EDGX offers its members optional risk settings to monitor their credit exposure, including a "Gross Credit Risk Limit - Executed Only", which is calculated based solely on executed orders, and an "Aggregate Gross Credit Exposure Limit", which is calculated based on both executed and unexecuted orders. As such, market participants are already familiar with these various gross credit risk checks, such that the ones proposed by the Exchange in this filing are not novel.

In light of these requests, the Exchange proposes to modify Rule 6.40P-O to adopt three "Gross Credit Risk Limits," each of which would allow Entering Firms to set pre-established maximum daily dollar amounts for purchases and sales across all symbols where both buy and sell orders are counted as positive values, which limits would not apply to Market Maker

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See Rule 7.19-E(b)(1)(A)-(C) (providing for Gross Credit Risk Limit - Open + Executed; Gross Credit Risk Limit - Open Only; and Gross Credit Risk Limit - Executed Only) and (f)(3) (allowing firms to set one of the following automated breach actions when such risk limits are breached: Notification Only, Block Only, and Cancel and Block). See also NYSE American Rule 7.19E(b)(1) and (f)(3) (offering identical functionality as Exchange Rule 7.19-E).

See Cboe EDGX Rule 11.10, Interpretation and Policy .03 paragraphs (a)(1) and (a)(3) (describing the risk limits) and (e) (describing automated breach actions to block all new orders or to both block new orders and cancel open orders). Unlike the Exchange, Cboe EDGX does not offer a risk check for open (i.e., unexecuted) orders only. See also MEMX LLC (MEMX") Rule 21.17, Interpretation and Policy .01(f) (providing optional user-configured credit controls on gross exposure that, when breached, prevent submission of either all new orders or Market Orders only).

interest.8 "Market Maker interest" refers solely to interest submitted by a Market Maker acting in its registered capacity (i.e., for its own account and in fulfillment of its quoting obligations).

As described below, an Entering Firm will receive notifications if it is approaching or has breached its limit.

- Proposed subsection (i) of Rule 6.40P-O(a)(2)(B) would define the "Gross Credit Risk
 Limit Open + Executed" risk check to include unexecuted orders in the Consolidated
 Book, orders routed on arrival pursuant to Rule 6.76AP-O(b), and executed orders.
- Proposed subsection (ii) of Rule 6.40P-O(a)(2)(B) would define the "Gross Credit Risk
 Limit Open Only" risk check to include unexecuted orders in the Consolidated Book
 and orders routed on arrival pursuant to Rule 6.76AP-O(b).
- Proposed subsection (iii) of Rule 6.40P-O(a)(2)(B) would define the "Gross Credit Risk
 Limit Executed Only" risk check to include executed orders only.

Consistent with current Pre-Trade Risk Controls, the Entering Firm can set the proposed Gross Credit Risk Limits at the MPID level or at one or more sub-IDs associated with that MPID, or both. ¹⁰ The Exchange proposes to add new rule text specifying that, consistent with current functionality, "[i]f a Pre-Trade Risk Control set at the MPID level is breached, the

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See proposed Rule 6.40P-O(a)(2)(B). The Exchange notes that Market Maker interest is not excluded from the Gross Credit Risk Limits per Rule 7.19-E(b)(1). As discussed infra, the Exchange does not believe it is necessary to offer the proposed checks to Market Makers because their risk management practices and capital adequacy requirements are designed to mitigate their credit risk. Further, options Market Makers are subject to mandatory Activity-Based Risk Controls for their orders and quotes that are tailored to the high-frequency, high-volume nature of options market making. See, e.g., Rule 6.40P-O(c)(2)(A). The Exchange notes that the Activity-Based and Global Risk Controls are unique to the options market and the Exchange's equities platform does not offer analogous controls.

A Market Maker is an individual who is registered with the Exchange for the purpose of making transactions as a dealer-specialist. See Rule 6.32P-O(a) [sic]. "Market Maker interest" as used in the proposed Rule does not include interest submitted by a market-making firm for an account other than its own (i.e., on behalf of a client).

^{10 &}lt;u>See</u> Rule 6.40P-O(b)(2).

Automated Breach Action specified at the MPID level will be applied to all sub-IDs associated with that MPID."¹¹ The Exchange believes this additional text, which is included in the Exchange's equities rule will add clarity and transparency to the Rule.

Proposed Rule 6.40P-O(c)(1)(B) would set forth the potential Breach Actions the Entering Firms would authorize the Exchange to take if a designated Gross Credit Risk Limit is breached, which automated action will be applied to its orders in the affected class of options. As proposed, the Entering Firm would select one of the following automated breach actions that the Exchange would take in the event of a breach:

- "Notification Only." As set forth in proposed Rule 6.40P-O(c)(1)(B)(i), if this option is selected, the Exchange would continue to accept new order messages and related instructions and would not cancel any unexecuted orders in the Consolidated Book.
 Instead, the Exchange would only notify the Entering Firm of the breach.¹²
- "Block Only." As set forth in proposed Rule 6.40P-O(c)(1)(B)(ii), if this option is selected, the Exchange would reject new order messages and related instructions. The Exchange would continue to process instructions from the Entering Firm to cancel one or more orders in full (including Auction-Only Orders) or any of the instructions specified in paragraph (e) of this Rule. The Exchange would not, however, take any automated action to cancel orders.¹³

See proposed Rule 6.40P-O(b)(2) (describing the options for setting and adjusting Pre-Trade Risk Controls). The Exchange notes that this rule text is included in the Exchange's analogous equities rule (i.e., Rule 7.19-E(f)(4)).

This proposed automated breach action is substantially similar to the risk check of the same name on the Exchange's equities platform. Compare proposed Rule 6.40P-O(c)(1)(B)(i) with Rule 7.19-E(f)(3)(A)(i).

This proposed automated breach action is substantially similar to the risk check of the same name on the Exchange's equities platform. Compare proposed Rule 6.40P-O(c)(1)(B)(ii) with Rule 7.19-E(f)(3)(A)(ii).

• "Cancel and Block." As set forth in proposed Rule 6.40P-O(c)(1)(B)(iii), if this option is selected, in addition to the Block actions described above, the Exchange would also cancel all unexecuted orders in the Consolidated Book other than Auction-Only Orders as well as orders designated as GTC.¹⁴

Current Rule 6.40P-O(d) describes the requirements for reinstating Entering Firms following the trigger of the "Block Only" or "Cancel and Block" automated breach actions. The Exchange proposes to modify this provision to include the reinstatement of Entering Firms taken out of the market for breach of a Gross Credit Risk Limits, which will add clarity and internal consistency to the Rule. ¹⁵

As is the case with the existing Pre-Trade Risk Controls, all orders on the Exchange would pass through these risk checks regardless of whether a firm opts to utilize them. As such, there would be no difference in the latency experienced by OTP Holders who have opted to use the proposed risk checks versus those who have not. In addition, like the existing Pre-Trade Risk Controls, the Exchange expects that any latency added by the proposed risk controls would be *de minimis*.

Technical Changes

The Exchange proposes to modify Rule 6.40P-O(c)(1)(A) to specify that it describes the breach action applicable to the Single-Order (pre-trade) Risk Controls, which distinguishes it from the breach actions applicable to the new Gross Credit Risk Limits described in proposed

This proposed automated breach action is substantially similar to the risk check of the same name on the Exchange's equities platform (except that the proposed Rule includes reference to GTC orders, which order type is not available on the Exchange's equities platform). Compare proposed Rule 6.40P-O(c)(1)(B)(iii) with Rule 7.19-E(f)(3)(A)(iii).

See proposed Rule 6.40P-O(d) (adding reference to breach of Gross Credit Risk Limit).

Rule 6.40P-O(c)(1)(B). ¹⁶ The Exchange also proposes to correct a typographical error by removing an errant open parathesis from Rule 6.40P-O(c)(1)(A)(iii). These proposed changes are non-substantive and are meant to add clarity and transparency to the Rule.

Continuing Obligations of OTP Holders Under Rule 15c3-5

Like the existing Pre-Trade Risk Controls, the proposed Gross Credit Risk Limits are meant to supplement, and not replace, the OTP Holders' own internal systems, monitoring, and procedures related to risk management.¹⁷ As such, the Exchange does not guarantee that these Pre-Trade Controls (including the proposed Credit Risk Limits) will be sufficiently comprehensive to meet all of an OTP Holder's needs as these controls are not designed to be the sole means of risk management and use of these controls will not necessarily meet an OTP Holder's obligations required by Exchange or federal rules (including, without limitation, the Rule 15c3-5 under the Act¹⁸ ("Rule 15c3-5")).¹⁹ Further, as is the case today, use of the Exchange's Pre-Trade Risk Controls (including the proposed Gross Credit Risk Limits) will not automatically constitute compliance with Exchange or federal rules and responsibility for compliance with all Exchange and SEC rules remains with the OTP Holder.²⁰

Timing and Implementation

The Exchange anticipates implementing the proposed change in the second quarter of 2025 and, in any event, will implement the proposed rule change no later than the end of September 2025. The Exchange will announce the timing of such changes by Trader Update.

See proposed Rule 6.40P-O(c)(1)(A) (specifying "Breach Action for Single-Order Risk Controls").

See Commentary .01 to Rule 6.40P-O.

¹⁸ See 17 CFR 240.15c3-5.

See id.

See id.

2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act,²¹ in general, and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(5) of the Act,²² in particular, because 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, and because it is not designed to permit unfair discrimination between customers, issuers, brokers, or dealers.

Specifically, the Exchange believes that the proposed rule change will remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system because the proposed additional Gross Credit Risk Limits would provide Entering Firms with enhanced abilities to manage their risk with respect to orders on the Exchange. As noted herein, these new Pre-Trade Risk Controls are not novel; they are based on existing risk settings already in place on the Exchange's (and its affiliates) equities platform, and similar to those on Cboe EDGX.²³ Accordingly, market participants are already familiar with the types of protections that the proposed risk controls afford. As such, the Exchange believes that the proposed additional Pre-Trade Risk Controls would provide a means to address potentially market-impacting events, helping to ensure the proper functioning of the market. Moreover, the proposed Gross Credit Risk Limits (like the existing Pre-Trade Risk Controls) are optional, and

²¹ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

²² 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

See supra notes 6-7.

Entering Firms are free to utilize them or not at their discretion. In addition, because all orders on the Exchange would pass through the proposed risk checks, there would be no difference in the latency experienced by OTP Holders that opt to use the proposed Gross Credit Risk Limits versus those that opt not to use them. In addition, the Exchange expects that any latency added by the proposed pre-trade risk controls would be *de minimis*.

The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change will protect investors and the public interest because the proposed Gross Credit Risk Limits are a form of impact mitigation that will aid Entering Firms in minimizing their risk exposure and reduce the potential for disruptive, market-wide events. As such, the Exchange believes that the proposed risk checks will help to ensure the proper functioning of the market.

The Exchange believes that excluding Market Maker interest from the proposed Gross Credit Risk Limits will remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system because, while they may accumulate credit risk from their trading activities, Market Makers' risk management practices and capital adequacy requirements are designed to mitigate this risk. More importantly, Market Makers must utilize real-time Activity-Based Risk Controls for their orders and quotes that dynamically manage exposure at the transaction level.²⁴ Market Makers often quote across thousands of strikes simultaneously. The Activity-Based Controls are tailored to the high-frequency, high-volume nature of options market making as they allow Market Makers to track (and limit) their exposure across all strikes and sides of the market.²⁵ The Exchange believes these mandatory risk controls offer robust and

See Rule 6.40P-O(c)(2)(A). Market Makers must set limits on transactions, contracts, or market volume percentages for each symbol within a defined interval. See Rule 6.40P-O(a)(3). If these controls are breached repeatedly, Market Makers are removed from the market to reassess risk. See Rule 6.40P-O(c)(3)(A).

As noted <u>supra</u>, Activity-Based and Global Risk Controls are unique to the options market and are not offered on the Exchange's equities platform.

layered safeguards and thus neutralize the need for Market Makers to avail themselves of the (static) pre-trade Gross Credit Risk Limits.

The Exchange understands that OTP Holders implement a number of different risk-based controls, including those required by Rule 15c3-5. The controls proposed here will serve as an additional tool for Entering Firms to assist them in identifying any risk exposure. The Exchange believes the proposed additional Pre-Trade Risk Controls will assist Entering Firms in managing their financial exposure which, in turn, could enhance the integrity of trading on the securities markets and help to assure the stability of the financial system.

Finally, the Exchange believes the proposed (non-substantive) technical changes to delineate the automated breach actions for Single-Order Risk Controls as opposed to the new Gross Credit Risk Limits and to correct a typo will remove impediments to a free and open market because they will add clarity and transparency to the Rule, which benefits investors and the investing public.

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 that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. In fact, the Exchange believes that the proposal will have a positive effect on competition because, by providing Entering Firms additional means to monitor and control risk, the proposed rule will increase confidence in the proper functioning of the markets. The Exchange believes the proposed additional Gross Credit Risk Limits will assist Entering Firms in managing their financial exposure which, in turn, could enhance the integrity of trading on the securities markets and help to assure the stability of the financial system. As a result, the level of competition should increase as public confidence in the markets is solidified.

The Exchange believes that excluding Market Makers interest from the proposed risk checks will not impose an undue burden on intra-market competition because Market Makers' risk management practices and capital adequacy requirements are designed to mitigate their credit risk. Further, as discussed herein, Market Makers are subject to mandatory Activity-Based Risk Controls designed to dynamically manage their exposure in the high-frequency, high-volume options market. The Exchange believes these mandatory real-time risk controls neutralize the need to offer the Gross Credit Risk Limit to Market Makers.

Finally, the Exchange believes the proposed (non-substantive) technical changes do not raise competitive issues but instead will benefit investors and the investing public by adding clarity and transparency to the Rule.

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

No written comments were solicited or received with respect to the proposed rule change.

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

The Exchange has filed the proposed rule change pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(iii) of the Act²⁶ and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder.²⁷ Because the 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 prior to 30 days from the date on which it was

investors and the public interest, the proposed rule change has become effective pursuant to

filed, or such shorter time as the Commission may designate, if consistent with the protection of

Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act and Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii) thereunder.²⁸

²⁶ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(iii).

²⁷ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

²⁸ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6). In addition, Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii) 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

A proposed rule change filed under Rule 19b-4(f)(6)²⁹ normally does not become operative prior to 30 days after the date of the filing. However, pursuant to Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii), ³⁰ the Commission may 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 it may offer the proposed Gross Credit Risk Limits immediately. The Commission believes that waiver of the operative delay would be consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest because the proposal raises no novel issues and would assist Entering Firms in managing their financial exposure which, in turn, could enhance the integrity of trading on the securities markets. Accordingly, the Commission hereby waives the 30-day operative delay and designates the proposed rule change as operative upon filing.³¹

At any time within 60 days of the filing of such 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)³² of the Act to determine whether the proposed rule change should be approved or disapproved.

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rule change, or such shorter time as designated by the Commission. The Exchange has satisfied this requirement.

²⁹ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

³⁰ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6)(iii).

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

³² 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2)(B).

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 <u>rule-comments@sec.gov</u>. Please include file number
 SR-NYSEARCA-2025-42 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-NYSEARCA-2025-42. 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-NYSEARCA-2025-42 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.³³

Sherry R. Haywood,

Assistant Secretary.

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