# NASDAQ OMX BX, INC. NOTICE OF ACCEPTANCE OF AWC

# Certified, Return Receipt Requested

TO: OCTEG, LLC

Mr. Alex Sadowski Deputy General Counsel

350 N. Orleans 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor South Chicago, IL 60654

FROM: The NASDAQ OMX BX, Inc. (the "Exchange")

c/o Financial Industry Regulatory Authority ("FINRA")

Department of Market Regulation

9509 Key West Avenue Rockville, MD 20850

DATE: January 13, 2014

RE: Notice of Acceptance of Letter of Acceptance, Waiver and Consent No. 20110293752-01

Please be advised that your above-referenced Letter of Acceptance, Waiver and Consent ("AWC") has been accepted on **January 10, 2014** by the Exchange Review Council's Review Subcommittee, or by the Office of Disciplinary Affairs on behalf of the Exchange Review Council, pursuant to Nasdaq OMX BX Rule 9216. A copy of the AWC is enclosed herewith.

You are again reminded of your obligation, if currently registered, immediately to update your Uniform Application for Broker-Dealer Registration ("Form BD") to reflect the conclusion of this disciplinary action. Additionally, you must also notify FINRA (or the Exchange if you are not a member of FINRA) in writing of any change of address or other changes required to be made to your Form BD.

You are reminded that Section I of the attached Letter of Acceptance, Waiver, and Consent includes an undertaking. In accordance with the terms of the AWC, a registered principal of the firm is required to notify the Compliance Assistant, Legal Section, Market Regulation Department, 9509 Key West Avenue, Rockville, MD 20850, of completion of the undertaking.

You will be notified by the Registration and Disclosure Department regarding sanctions if a suspension has been imposed and by the Nasdaq's Finance Department regarding the payment of any fine if a fine has been imposed.

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If you have any questions concerning this matter, please call Douglas M. Jacoby, Counsel, at (240) 386-6561.

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Chief Counsel, Legal Section

Department of Market Regulation, FINRA

Signed on behalf of Nasdaq OMX BX, Inc.

# Enclosure

FINRA District 8 – Chicago Carla A. Romano Regional Director 55 West Monroe Street Suite 2700 Chicago, IL 60603-5052

# NASDAQ OMX BX, INC. LETTER OF ACCEPTANCE, WAIVER AND CONSENT NO. 2010293752-0/

TO: NASDAQ OMX BX, Inc.

c/o Department of Market Regulation

Financial Industry Regulatory Authority ("FINRA")

RE: OCTEG, LLC, Respondent

Broker-Dealer CRD No. 117429

Pursuant to Rule 9216 of NASDAQ OMX BX, Inc. ("BX") Code of Procedure, OCTEG, LLC (the "firm") submits this Letter of Acceptance, Waiver and Consent ("AWC") for the purpose of proposing a settlement of the alleged rule violations described below. This AWC is submitted on the condition that, if accepted, BX will not bring any future actions against the firm alleging violations based on the same factual findings described herein.

I.

#### ACCEPTANCE AND CONSENT

A. The firm hereby accepts and consents, without admitting or denying the findings, and solely for the purposes of this proceeding and any other proceeding brought by or on behalf of BX, or to which BX is a party, prior to a hearing and without an adjudication of any issue of law or fact, to the entry of the following findings by BX:

## BACKGROUND

The firm has been a member of BX since January 12, 2009, and its registration remains in effect.

#### RELEVANT PRIOR DISCIPLINARY HISTORY

The firm has no relevant disciplinary history.

#### SUMMARY

In connection with Matter No. 20110293752, the Market Analysis Section of the Department of Market Regulation staff reviewed the firm's compliance with rules regarding locked/crossed markets during the periods January 1, 2011, through March 31, 2011, and April 1, 2011, through June 30, 2011 (together, the "review period").

#### FACTS AND VIOLATIVE CONDUCT

- 1. During the review period, the firm failed to reasonably avoid displaying, and engaged in a pattern or practice of displaying, quotations that locked or crossed a protected quotation, in that, it entered intermarket sweep orders into the BX that locked or crossed a quotation previously disseminated pursuant to an effective national market system plan and failed to simultaneously route an intermarket sweep order to execute against the full displayed size of the locked or crossed protected quote. The conduct described in this paragraph constitutes separate and distinct violations of BX Rules 4613(e) and 4755(b), and SEC Rule 611(c) of Regulation NMS.
- 2. During the review period, the firm's supervisory system did not provide for supervision reasonably designed to achieve compliance with respect to the applicable securities laws and regulations, and the BX Rules concerning locked/crossed markets. Specifically, the firm's supervisory system did not include written supervisory procedures providing for:

  the identification of the person(s) responsible for supervision with respect to the applicable rules;
  a statement of the supervisory step(s) to be taken by the identified person(s);
  a statement as to how often such person(s) should take such step(s); and (4) a statement as to how the completion of the step(s) included in the written supervisory procedures should be documented. The conduct in this paragraph constitutes violations of BX Rules 2110 and 3010.
- B. The firm also consents to the imposition of the following sanctions:

A censure and a fine of \$12,500 (consisting of a \$5,000 fine for the violations of BX Rules 4613(e) and 4755(b), and SEC Rule 611(c) of Regulation NMS, and a \$7,500 fine for the violations of BX Rules 2110 and 3010), and an undertaking to revise the firm's written supervisory procedures with respect to the locked/crossed markets described in paragraph A.1. Within 30 business days of acceptance of this AWC by the NAC, a registered principal of the Respondent shall submit to the COMPLIANCE ASSISTANT, LEGAL SECTION, MARKET REGULATION DEPARTMENT, 9509 KEY WEST AVENUE, ROCKVILLE, MD 20850, a signed, dated letter, or an e-mail from a work-related account of the registered principal to MarketRegulationComp@finra.org, providing the following information: (1) a reference to this matter; (2) a representation that the firm has revised its written supervisory procedures to address the deficiencies described in paragraph A.1; and, (3) the date the revised procedures were implemented.

The firm agrees to pay the monetary sanction in accordance with its executed Election of Payment Form.

The firm specifically and voluntarily waives any right to claim that it is unable to pay, now or at any time hereafter, the monetary sanction imposed in this matter.

The sanctions imposed herein shall be effective on a date set by FINRA staff.

#### II.

#### WAIVER OF PROCEDURAL RIGHTS

The firm specifically and voluntarily waives the following rights granted under BX's Code of Procedure:

- A. To have a Formal Complaint issued specifying the allegations against the firm;
- B. To be notified of the Formal Complaint and have the opportunity to answer the allegations in writing;
- C. To defend against the allegations in a disciplinary hearing before a hearing panel, to have a written record of the hearing made and to have a written decision issued; and
- D. To appeal any such decision to the Exchange Review Council and then to the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission and a U.S. Court of Appeals.

Further, the firm specifically and voluntarily waives any right to claim bias or prejudgment of the Chief Regulatory Officer, the Exchange Review Council, or any member of the Exchange Review Council, in connection with such person's or body's participation in discussions regarding the terms and conditions of this AWC, or other consideration of this AWC, including acceptance or rejection of this AWC.

The firm further specifically and voluntarily waives any right to claim that a person violated the ex parte prohibitions of Rule 9143 or the separation of functions prohibitions of Rule 9144, in connection with such person's or body's participation in discussions regarding the terms and conditions of this AWC, or other consideration of this AWC, including its acceptance or rejection.

## III.

#### OTHER MATTERS

#### The firm understands that:

- A. Submission of this AWC is voluntary and will not resolve this matter unless and until it has been reviewed and accepted by FINRA's Department of Market Regulation and the Exchange Review Council, the Review Subcommittee, or the Office of Disciplinary Affairs ("ODA"), pursuant to BX Rule 9216;
- B. If this AWC is not accepted, its submission will not be used as evidence to prove any of the allegations against the firm; and

# C. If accepted:

- 1. this AWC will become part of the firm's permanent disciplinary record and may be considered in any future actions brought by BX or any other regulator against the firm;
- 2. BX may make a public announcement concerning this agreement and the subject matter thereof in accordance with BX Rule 8310 and IM-8310-3; and
- 3. The firm may not take any action or make or permit to be made any public statement, including in regulatory filings or otherwise, denying, directly or indirectly, any finding in this AWC or create the impression that the AWC is without factual basis. The firm may not take any position in any proceeding brought by or on behalf of BX, or to which BX is a party, that is inconsistent with any part of this AWC. Nothing in this provision affects the firm's right to take legal or factual positions in litigation or other legal proceedings in which BX is not a party.
- D. The firm may attach a Corrective Action Statement to this AWC that is a statement of demonstrable corrective steps taken to prevent future misconduct. The firm understands that it may not deny the charges or make any statement that is inconsistent with the AWC in this Statement. This Statement does not constitute factual or legal findings by BX, nor does it reflect the views of BX or its staff.

The undersigned, on behalf of the Firm, certifies that a person duly authorized to act on its behalf has read and understands all of the provisions of this AWC and has been given a full opportunity to ask questions about it; that it has agreed to the AWC's provisions voluntarily; and that no offer, threat, inducement, or promise of any kind, other than the terms set forth herein and the prospect of avoiding the issuance of a Complaint, has been made to induce the firm to submit it.

Date

OCTEG, LLC
Respondent

By:
Name: Alex Sadowde:

Title: De puty General Counsel

Reviewed by:

Counsel for Respondent
Firm Name
Address
City/State/Zip
Phone Number

Accepted by BX:

Date

[Use date of ODA Memo notifying Market Regulation of Exchange Review Council approval.]

Tina Salehi Gubb Chief Counsel

Department of Market Regulation

Signed on behalf of Nasdaq OMX BX, by delegated authority from the Director of ODA

# **ELECTION OF PAYMENT FORM**

The firm intends to pay the fine proposed in the attached Letter of Acceptance,	, Waiver
and Consent by the following method (check one):	

A firm check or bank check for the full amount;

**X** Wire transfer;

The installment payment plan.1

o Monthly

o Quarterly

Respectfully submitted,

Respondent OCTEG, LLC

11/18/13

Name: Alex Sadouski
Title: Deputy General Counsel

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The installment payment plan is only available for a fine of \$50,000 or more. Certain requirements apply.