



Sean M. Downey
Director and Assistant General Counsel
Legal Department

April 24, 2012

Mr. David Stawick
Office of the Secretariat
Commodity Futures Trading Commission
Three Lafayette Centre
1155 21st Street, NW
Washington, DC 20581

**RE: Rule 40.6 (a) Certification. Notification Regarding the Partial Delisting of the CME NASDAQ 100 Weekly Options and E-mini NASDAQ 100 Weekly Options
CME Submission No. 12-128**

Dear Mr. Stawick:

The Chicago Mercantile Exchange Inc. ("CME" or "Exchange") is notifying the Commodity Futures Trading Commission ("CFTC" or "Commission") that it is self-certifying a partial delisting of the CME NASDAQ 100 Weekly Options (Chapter 357A) and E-mini NASDAQ 100 Weekly Options (Chapter 359A) contracts. Pursuant to this partial delisting, we will no longer be listing the Fifth NASDAQ 100 Weekly Options and the Fifth E-mini NASDAQ 100 Weekly Options (collectively, the "Fifth Options"). The Fifth Options are currently not listed for trading (the next listing date for June would have been Sunday, June 10, 2012) and as such, there is no open interest in the contracts. This partial delisting shall be effective immediately.

CME business staff responsible for the delisting of the contracts and the CME legal department collectively reviewed the designated contract market core principles ("Core Principles") as set forth in the Commodity Exchange Act ("CEA"). During the review, CME staff identified that the delisting of the contracts may have some bearing on the following Core Principles:

- Emergency Authority: There is no open interest in the Fifth Options submitted for delisting and therefore, there will be no market disruption related to their delisting.
- Availability of General Information: Pursuant to the Exchange's obligations under this core principle, upon delisting, the terms and conditions of the CME NASDAQ 100 Weekly Options (Chapter 357A) and E-mini NASDAQ 100 Weekly Options (Chapter 359A) contracts will be amended to reflect the delisting of the Fifth Options.

A marked version of the rule amendments with additions underscored and deletions bracketed and lined out are attached in Appendix 1. A clean copy of the rule amendments is attached in Appendix 2.

Pursuant to Section 5c(c) of the CEA and CFTC Rule 40.6 (a), the Exchange hereby certifies that the delisting of these contracts complies with the CEA, including regulations under the CEA. There were no substantive opposing views to this proposal.

Mr. David Stawick
Page 2
April 24, 2012

The Exchange certifies that this submission has been concurrently posted on the Exchange's website at <http://www.cmegroup.com/market-regulation/rule-filings.html>.

If you require any additional information regarding this action, please do not hesitate to contact me at 312-930-8167. Please reference CME Submission No.12-128 in any related correspondence.

Sincerely,

/s/ Sean Downey
Director and Assistant General Counsel

Attachments: Appendix 1: Proposed Rules
Appendix 2: Clean Copy

cc: Mr. Thomas M. Leahy and Mr. Philip Colling
CFTC Division of Market Oversight, Product Review & Analysis Section

APPENDIX 1: PROPOSED RULES

(Additions are underlined, deletions are bracketed and overstruck)

Chapter 359A Options on E-mini NASDAQ 100 Index® Futures

359A01.D. Underlying Futures Contract

1. Options in the March Quarterly Cycle

For options that expire in the March quarterly cycle (i.e., March, June, September, and December), the underlying futures contract is the futures contract for the month in which the option expires. For example, the underlying futures contract for an option that expires in March is the March futures contract.

2. Options Not in the March Quarterly Cycle

For options that expire in months other than those in the March quarterly cycle (i.e., January, February, April, May, July, August, October, and November), the underlying futures contract is the next futures contract in the March quarterly cycle that is nearest the expiration of the option. For example, the underlying futures contract for options that expire in January or February is the March future contract.

3. Options in the European style Weekly Option Series¹

For options in the European style weekly options series, the underlying futures contract is the next futures contract in the March quarterly cycle that is nearest the expiration of the option. For example, the underlying futures contract for the first (1st), second (2nd) [~~–~~] and fourth (4th) [~~and fifth (5th)~~] April [~~–~~] and May [~~and June~~] weekly options shall be the June futures contract; the underlying futures contract for the first (1st) and second (2nd) June weekly options shall be the June futures contract; the underlying futures contract for the fourth (4th) [~~and fifth (5th)~~] June weekly options shall be the September futures contract.

359A01.E. Exercise Prices²

1. Options in the March Quarterly Cycle

A referencing index shall be determined each quarter on the day prior to the expiration of the March Quarterly futures contract and shall equal the daily settlement price of the nearest expiring NASDAQ 100 index futures contract. The chosen referencing index will then be used to determine the strike listing range for all listed contracts. The index points are rounded to the nearest integer.

At the commencement of trading, the Exchange shall list all exercise prices that are integers divisible by 10 without remainder in a range of 30 percent of the referencing index above and below the previous day's settlement price of the underlying futures contract.

Thereafter, when a daily settlement price in the underlying futures contract occurs at, or passes through, any exercise price, the Exchange shall list, on the next trading day, all eligible exercise prices in the corresponding ranges.

Exchange Staff, under delegated authority from the Board may modify the provisions governing the establishment of exercise prices as it deems appropriate.

2. Options not in the March Quarterly Cycle

Exercise prices for options not in the March quarterly cycle listed for trading shall be identical to the exercise prices that are listed for the March quarterly options on the same underlying futures contract. For example, the exercise prices listed for the January contract shall be identical to those listed for the March contract.

3. Options in the European style Weekly Option Series³

At the commencement of trading, the Exchange shall list all exercise prices within 25 strikes above and below the previous day's settlement price of the March quarterly options on the same underlying futures contract that are integers divisible by 10 without remainder, e.g. 1200, 1210, 1220, etc.

Exchange staff, under delegated authority from the Board may modify the provisions governing the establishment of exercise prices as it deems appropriate.

¹ Adopted October 2010.

² Revised July 2005, November 2005, June 2007, November 2007, April 2008, September 2008.

³ Adopted October 2010.

359A01.I. Termination of Trading

1. Options in the March Quarterly Cycle

For options that expire in the March quarterly cycle, options trading shall terminate at the same date and time as the underlying futures contract.

2. Options Not in the March Quarterly Cycle

For options that expire in months other than those in the March quarterly cycle, options trading shall terminate on the third Friday of the contract month. If that day is not a scheduled Exchange business day, options trading shall terminate on the first preceding business day. In the event that the underlying futures market does not open on the scheduled expiration day, the option expiration shall be extended to the next day on which the underlying futures market is open for trading.

3. Options in the European style Weekly Options Series⁴

For options in the European style Weekly Options Series, trading shall terminate at 3:00 p.m. Chicago Time on the Friday of the named week of the contract month.

For the first (1st) weekly option of the month, if the first Friday of the month is a scheduled Exchange holiday, the option shall terminate on the first business day immediately preceding the Friday. However, if the first business day immediately preceding the Friday falls in the preceding calendar month, the first weekly option shall not be listed for trading.

For the second (2nd) weekly option of the month, if the second Friday of the month is a scheduled Exchange holiday, the option shall terminate on the first business day immediately preceding the Friday.

For the fourth (4th) weekly option of the month, if the fourth Friday of the month is a scheduled Exchange holiday, the option shall terminate on the first business day immediately preceding the Friday.

~~[For the fifth (5th) weekly option of month, if the fifth Friday of the month is a scheduled Exchange holiday, the option shall terminate on the first business day immediately preceding the Friday.]~~

In the event that the underlying futures market does not open on the scheduled options expiration day, the option expiration shall be extended to the next day on which the underlying futures market is open for trading.

35[8]9A02.A.2 Options in the European style Weekly Options Series⁵

Following the termination of trading of an option, all in-the money options shall be automatically exercised by the Clearing Houses on the day of expiration of the option. All out-of-the-money options shall be abandoned by the Clearing House on the day of expiration of the option. Whether an option is in or out of the money shall be determined based on the fixing price of the CME E-mini NASDAQ 100 stock index futures on the day of expiration as follows:

- Tier 1 Take the thirty (30) second average of sale prices of the underlying futures contract on Globex, weighted by volume, from 2:59:30 to 3:00:00 p.m. Chicago time.
- Tier 2 If no sales occurred during the thirty-second interval noted above, take the midpoint of each bid and ask spread and average the resulting midpoints over the thirty-second interval. However, when looking at each bid/ask spread, if it is wider than 2 ticks (0.50 index points), the bid/ask pair shall be discarded in the calculation.
- Tier 3 If the fixing price cannot be determined by both Tier 1 and 2, or there is a trading interruption in the underlying futures market on Globex at any point from 2:58:00 to 3:00:00 p.m. Chicago time due to system outage or trading stoppages, including stoppage pursuant to Rule 580.3, take the thirty (30) second average of sale prices of the NASDAQ 100 futures contract of the same contract month as the underlying futures contract, from 2:59:30 to 3:00:00 p.m. Chicago time.
- Tier 4 If the fixing price cannot be determined pursuant to Tier 1, 2 and 3, Exchange Staff shall take into consideration any other information it deems appropriate to determine the fixing price. This information may include, but is not limited to, the following, and procedures to determine the information may be performed in any order by Exchange Staff: (1) derive the fixing price based on basis relationship against the underlying cash index level; (2) repeat Tier 1, 2, or 3 at ever increasing 30 second increment intervals until data is obtained.

The calculation of the fixing prices shall be rounded to the nearest 0.01 index points.

In the event of an option expiring on a shortened trading day, the fixing calculation shall be performed

⁴ Adopted October 2010.

⁵ Adopted October 2010.

based on the market activities during the thirty-second period immediately preceding the close of the underlying stock market.

An option is deemed in the money if the fixing price of the underlying futures contract lies strictly above the exercise price in the case of a call, or lies strictly below the exercise price in the case of a put. For example, if the fixing price were 1250.01 or higher, then 1250 Calls shall be exercised. If the fixing price were 1249.99 or lower, then 1250 Calls shall be abandoned. Similarly, if the CME currency fixing price were 1249.99 or lower, then 1250 Puts shall be exercised. If the fixing price were 1250.00 or higher, then 1250 Puts shall be abandoned.

Options in the weekly options series may not be exercised prior to the expiration of the options. At the expiration, in-the-money options may not be abandoned and out-of-the-money options may not be exercised.

[Remainder of Chapter 359 is unchanged.]

Chapter 357A

Options on NASDAQ 100 Index® Futures

357A01.D. Underlying Futures Contract

1. Options in the March Quarterly Cycle

For options that expire in the March quarterly cycle (i.e., March, June, September, and December), the underlying futures contract is the futures contract for the month in which the option expires. For example, the underlying futures contract for an option that expires in March is the March futures contract.

2. Options Not in the March Quarterly Cycle

For options that expire in months other than those in the March quarterly cycle (i.e., January, February, April, May, July, August, October, and November), the underlying futures contract is the next futures contract in the March quarterly cycle that is nearest the expiration of the option. For example, the underlying futures contract for options that expire in January or February is the March futures contract.

3. Options in the European Style Weekly Option Series⁶

For options in the European Style weekly options series, the underlying futures contract is the next futures contract in the March quarterly cycle that is nearest the expiration of the option. For example, the underlying futures contract for the first (1st), second (2nd) [~~and~~] and fourth (4th) [~~and fifth (5th)~~] April and May weekly options shall be the June futures contract; the underlying futures contract for the first (1st) and second (2nd) June weekly options shall be the June futures contract; the underlying futures contract for the fourth (4th) [~~and fifth (5th)~~] June weekly options shall be the September futures contract.

357A01.E. Exercise Prices⁷

1. Options in the March Quarterly Cycle

The exercise prices shall be stated in terms of the NASDAQ 100 futures.

A referencing index shall be determined each quarter on the day prior to the expiration of the March Quarterly futures contract and shall equal the daily settlement price of the nearest expiring NASDAQ 100 Index futures contract. The chosen referencing index will then be used to determine the strike listing range for all listed contracts. The index points are rounded to the nearest integer.

At the commencement of trading, the Exchange shall list all exercise prices in a range of 30 percent of the referencing index above and below the previous day's settlement price of the underlying futures contract that are integers divisible by 10 without remainder, e.g. 1500, 1520, 1530, etc.

Thereafter, when a settlement price in the underlying futures contract occurs at, or passes through, any exercise price, the Exchange shall add, on the next trading day, all eligible exercise prices in the corresponding range. New options may be listed for trading up to and including the termination of trading.

Exchange Staff, under delegated authority from the Board may modify the provisions governing the establishment of exercise prices as it deems appropriate.

2. Options not in the March Quarterly Cycle

⁶ Adopted October 2010.

⁷ Revised March 1999; December 2000, December 2001; July 2005, November 2005, April 2008, September 2008.

Exercise prices for options not in the March quarterly cycle listed for trading shall be identical to the exercise prices that are listed for the March quarterly options on the same underlying futures contract. For example, the exercise prices listed for the January contract shall be identical to those listed for the March contract.

3. Dynamically-Listed Exercise Prices

Upon demand and at the discretion of the Exchange, new out-of-current-range exercise prices at regularly defined intervals may be added for trading on as soon as possible basis.

4. Options in the European Style Weekly Options Series⁸

At the commencement of trading, the Exchange shall list all exercise prices within 25 strikes above and below the previous day's settlement price of the March quarterly options on the same underlying futures contract that are integers divisible by 10 without remainder, e.g. 1210, 1220, 1230, etc.

Exchange Staff, under delegated authority from the Board may modify the provisions governing the establishment of exercise prices as it deems appropriate.

357A01.I. Termination of Trading⁹

1. Options in the March Quarterly Cycle

For options that expire in the March quarterly cycle, options trading shall terminate at the same date and time as the underlying futures contract.

2. Options Not in the March Quarterly Cycle

For options that expire in months other than those in the March quarterly cycle, options trading shall terminate on the third Friday of the contract month. If that day is not a scheduled Exchange business day, options trading shall terminate on the first preceding business day. In the event that the underlying futures market does not open on the scheduled expiration day, the option expiration shall be extended to the next day on which the underlying futures market is open for trading.

3. Options in the European Style Weekly Options Series¹⁰

For options in the European Style Weekly Options Series, trading shall terminate at 3:00 p.m. Chicago Time on the Friday of the named week of the contract month.

For the first (1st) weekly option of the month, if the first Friday of the month is a scheduled Exchange holiday, the option shall terminate on the first business day immediately preceding the Friday. However, if the first business day immediately preceding the Friday falls in the preceding calendar month, the first weekly option shall not be listed for trading.

For the second (2nd) weekly option of the month, if the second Friday of the month is a scheduled Exchange holiday, the option shall terminate on the first business day immediately preceding the Friday.

For the fourth (4th) weekly option of the month, if the fourth Friday of the month is a scheduled Exchange holiday, the option shall terminate on the first business day immediately preceding the Friday.

~~[For the fifth (5th) weekly option of the month, if the fifth Friday of the month is a scheduled Exchange holiday, the option shall terminate on the first business day immediately preceding the Friday.]~~

357A02.A.2 Options in the European style Weekly Options Series

Following the termination of trading of an option, all in-the-money options shall be automatically exercised by the Clearing House. All out-of-the-money options shall be abandoned by the Clearing House on the day of expiration for the option. Whether an option is in or out of the money shall be determined based on the fixing price of the CME E-mini NSDAQ 100 stock index futures on the day of expiration, determined pursuant rule 359.A02.A.2.

An option is deemed in the money if the fixing price of the underlying futures contract lies strictly above the exercise price in the case of a call, or lies strictly below the exercise price in the case of a put. For example, if the fixing price were 1250.01 or higher, then 1250 Calls shall be exercised. If the fixing price were 1250.00 or lower, then 1250 Calls shall be abandoned. Similarly, if the fixing price were 1249.99 or lower, then 1250 Puts shall be exercised. If the fixing price were 1250.00 or higher, then 1250 Puts shall be abandoned. *[Remainder of Chapter 357 is unchanged.]*

⁸ Adopted October 2010.

⁹ Revised December 2001.

¹⁰ Adopted October 2010.

APPENDIX 2 : PROPOSED RULES
(Clean Copy)

Chapter 359A
Options on E-mini NASDAQ 100 Index® Futures

359A01.D. Underlying Futures Contract

1. Options in the March Quarterly Cycle

For options that expire in the March quarterly cycle (i.e., March, June, September, and December), the underlying futures contract is the futures contract for the month in which the option expires. For example, the underlying futures contract for an option that expires in March is the March futures contract.

2. Options Not in the March Quarterly Cycle

For options that expire in months other than those in the March quarterly cycle (i.e., January, February, April, May, July, August, October, and November), the underlying futures contract is the next futures contract in the March quarterly cycle that is nearest the expiration of the option. For example, the underlying futures contract for options that expire in January or February is the March future contract.

3. Options in the European style Weekly Option Series¹¹

For options in the European style weekly options series, the underlying futures contract is the next futures contract in the March quarterly cycle that is nearest the expiration of the option. For example, the underlying futures contract for the first (1st), second (2nd) and fourth (4th) April and May weekly options shall be the June futures contract; the underlying futures contract for the first (1st) and second (2nd) June weekly options shall be the June futures contract; the underlying futures contract for the fourth (4th) June weekly options shall be the September futures contract.

359A01.E. Exercise Prices¹²

1. Options in the March Quarterly Cycle

A referencing index shall be determined each quarter on the day prior to the expiration of the March Quarterly futures contract and shall equal the daily settlement price of the nearest expiring NASDAQ 100 index futures contract. The chosen referencing index will then be used to determine the strike listing range for all listed contracts. The index points are rounded to the nearest integer.

At the commencement of trading, the Exchange shall list all exercise prices that are integers divisible by 10 without remainder in a range of 30 percent of the referencing index above and below the previous day's settlement price of the underlying futures contract.

Thereafter, when a daily settlement price in the underlying futures contract occurs at, or passes through, any exercise price, the Exchange shall list, on the next trading day, all eligible exercise prices in the corresponding ranges.

Exchange Staff, under delegated authority from the Board may modify the provisions governing the establishment of exercise prices as it deems appropriate.

2. Options not in the March Quarterly Cycle

Exercise prices for options not in the March quarterly cycle listed for trading shall be identical to the exercise prices that are listed for the March quarterly options on the same underlying futures contract. For example, the exercise prices listed for the January contract shall be identical to those listed for the March contract.

3. Options in the European style Weekly Option Series¹³

At the commencement of trading, the Exchange shall list all exercise prices within 25 strikes above and below the previous day's settlement price of the March quarterly options on the same underlying futures contract that are integers divisible by 10 without remainder, e.g. 1200, 1210, 1220, etc.

Exchange staff, under delegated authority from the Board may modify the provisions governing the establishment of exercise prices as it deems appropriate.

¹¹ Adopted October 2010.

¹² Revised July 2005, November 2005, June 2007, November 2007, April 2008, September 2008.

¹³ Adopted October 2010.

359A01.I. Termination of Trading

1. Options in the March Quarterly Cycle

For options that expire in the March quarterly cycle, options trading shall terminate at the same date and time as the underlying futures contract.

2. Options Not in the March Quarterly Cycle

For options that expire in months other than those in the March quarterly cycle, options trading shall terminate on the third Friday of the contract month. If that day is not a scheduled Exchange business day, options trading shall terminate on the first preceding business day. In the event that the underlying futures market does not open on the scheduled expiration day, the option expiration shall be extended to the next day on which the underlying futures market is open for trading.

3. Options in the European style Weekly Options Series¹⁴

For options in the European style Weekly Options Series, trading shall terminate at 3:00 p.m. Chicago Time on the Friday of the named week of the contract month.

For the first (1st) weekly option of the month, if the first Friday of the month is a scheduled Exchange holiday, the option shall terminate on the first business day immediately preceding the Friday. However, if the first business day immediately preceding the Friday falls in the preceding calendar month, the first weekly option shall not be listed for trading.

For the second (2nd) weekly option of the month, if the second Friday of the month is a scheduled Exchange holiday, the option shall terminate on the first business day immediately preceding the Friday.

For the fourth (4th) weekly option of the month, if the fourth Friday of the month is a scheduled Exchange holiday, the option shall terminate on the first business day immediately preceding the Friday.

In the event that the underlying futures market does not open on the scheduled options expiration day, the option expiration shall be extended to the next day on which the underlying futures market is open for trading.

359A02.A.2 Options in "End-of-Month" Series and the European style Weekly Options Series¹⁵

Following the termination of trading of an option, all in-the money options shall be automatically exercised by the Clearing Houses on the day of expiration of the option. All out-of-the-money options shall be abandoned by the Clearing House on the day of expiration of the option. Whether an option is in or out of the money shall be determined based on the fixing price of the CME E-mini NASDAQ 100 stock index futures on the day of expiration as follows:

- Tier 1 Take the thirty (30) second average of sale prices of the underlying futures contract on Globex, weighted by volume, from 2:59:30 to 3:00:00 p.m. Chicago time.
- Tier 2 If no sales occurred during the thirty-second interval noted above, take the midpoint of each bid and ask spread and average the resulting midpoints over the thirty-second interval. However, when looking at each bid/ask spread, if it is wider than 2 ticks (0.50 index points), the bid/ask pair shall be discarded in the calculation.
- Tier 3 If the fixing price cannot be determined by both Tier 1 and 2, or there is a trading interruption in the underlying futures market on Globex at any point from 2:58:00 to 3:00:00 p.m. Chicago time due to system outage or trading stoppages, including stoppage pursuant to Rule 580.3, take the thirty (30) second average of sale prices of the NASDAQ 100 futures contract of the same contract month as the underlying futures contract, from 2:59:30 to 3:00:00 p.m. Chicago time.
- Tier 4 If the fixing price cannot be determined pursuant to Tier 1, 2 and 3, Exchange Staff shall take into consideration any other information it deems appropriate to determine the fixing price. This information may include, but is not limited to, the following, and procedures to determine the information may be performed in any order by Exchange Staff: (1) derive the fixing price based on basis relationship against the underlying cash index level; (2) repeat Tier 1, 2, or 3 at ever increasing 30 second increment intervals until data is obtained.

The calculation of the fixing prices shall be rounded to the nearest 0.01 index points.

In the event of an option expiring on a shortened trading day, the fixing calculation shall be performed based on the market activities during the thirty-second period immediately preceding the close of the underlying stock market.

¹⁴ Adopted October 2010.

¹⁵ Adopted October 2010.

An option is deemed in the money if the fixing price of the underlying futures contract lies strictly above the exercise price in the case of a call, or lies strictly below the exercise price in the case of a put. For example, if the fixing price were 1250.01 or higher, then 1250 Calls shall be exercised. If the fixing price were 1249.99 or lower, then 1250 Calls shall be abandoned. Similarly, if the CME currency fixing price were 1249.99 or lower, then 1250 Puts shall be exercised. If the fixing price were 1250.00 or higher, then 1250 Puts shall be abandoned.

Options in the weekly options series may not be exercised prior to the expiration of the options. At the expiration, in-the-money options may not be abandoned and out-of-the-money options may not be exercised.

[Remainder of Chapter 359 is unchanged.]

Chapter 357A **Options on NASDAQ 100 Index® Futures**

357A01.D. Underlying Futures Contract

1. Options in the March Quarterly Cycle

For options that expire in the March quarterly cycle (i.e., March, June, September, and December), the underlying futures contract is the futures contract for the month in which the option expires. For example, the underlying futures contract for an option that expires in March is the March futures contract.

2. Options Not in the March Quarterly Cycle

For options that expire in months other than those in the March quarterly cycle (i.e., January, February, April, May, July, August, October, and November), the underlying futures contract is the next futures contract in the March quarterly cycle that is nearest the expiration of the option. For example, the underlying futures contract for options that expire in January or February is the March futures contract.

3. Options in the European Style Weekly Option Series¹⁶

For options in the European Style weekly options series, the underlying futures contract is the next futures contract in the March quarterly cycle that is nearest the expiration of the option. For example, the underlying futures contract for the first (1st), second (2nd) and fourth (4th) April and May weekly options shall be the June futures contract; the underlying futures contract for the first (1st) and second (2nd) June weekly options shall be the June futures contract; the underlying futures contract for the fourth (4th) June weekly options shall be the September futures contract.

357A01.E. Exercise Prices¹⁷

1. Options in the March Quarterly Cycle

The exercise prices shall be stated in terms of the NASDAQ 100 futures.

A referencing index shall be determined each quarter on the day prior to the expiration of the March Quarterly futures contract and shall equal the daily settlement price of the nearest expiring NASDAQ 100 Index futures contract. The chosen referencing index will then be used to determine the strike listing range for all listed contracts. The index points are rounded to the nearest integer.

At the commencement of trading, the Exchange shall list all exercise prices in a range of 30 percent of the referencing index above and below the previous day's settlement price of the underlying futures contract that are integers divisible by 10 without remainder, e.g. 1500, 1520, 1530, etc.

Thereafter, when a settlement price in the underlying futures contract occurs at, or passes through, any exercise price, the Exchange shall add, on the next trading day, all eligible exercise prices in the corresponding range. New options may be listed for trading up to and including the termination of trading.

Exchange Staff, under delegated authority from the Board may modify the provisions governing the establishment of exercise prices as it deems appropriate.

2. Options not in the March Quarterly Cycle

Exercise prices for options not in the March quarterly cycle listed for trading shall be identical to the exercise prices that are listed for the March quarterly options on the same underlying futures contract.

¹⁶ Adopted October 2010.

¹⁷ Revised March 1999; December 2000, December 2001; July 2005, November 2005, April 2008, September 2008.

For example, the exercise prices listed for the January contract shall be identical to those listed for the March contract.

3. Dynamically-Listed Exercise Prices

Upon demand and at the discretion of the Exchange, new out-of-current-range exercise prices at regularly defined intervals may be added for trading on as soon as possible basis.

4. Options in the European Style Weekly Options Series¹⁸

At the commencement of trading, the Exchange shall list all exercise prices within 25 strikes above and below the previous day's settlement price of the March quarterly options on the same underlying futures contract that are integers divisible by 10 without remainder, e.g. 1210, 1220, 1230, etc.

Exchange Staff, under delegated authority from the Board may modify the provisions governing the establishment of exercise prices as it deems appropriate.

357A01.I. Termination of Trading¹⁹

1. Options in the March Quarterly Cycle

For options that expire in the March quarterly cycle, options trading shall terminate at the same date and time as the underlying futures contract.

2. Options Not in the March Quarterly Cycle

For options that expire in months other than those in the March quarterly cycle, options trading shall terminate on the third Friday of the contract month. If that day is not a scheduled Exchange business day, options trading shall terminate on the first preceding business day. In the event that the underlying futures market does not open on the scheduled expiration day, the option expiration shall be extended to the next day on which the underlying futures market is open for trading.

3. Options in the European Style Weekly Options Series²⁰

For options in the European Style Weekly Options Series, trading shall terminate at 3:00 p.m. Chicago Time on the Friday of the named week of the contract month.

For the first (1st) weekly option of the month, if the first Friday of the month is a scheduled Exchange holiday, the option shall terminate on the first business day immediately preceding the Friday. However, if the first business day immediately preceding the Friday falls in the preceding calendar month, the first weekly option shall not be listed for trading.

For the second (2nd) weekly option of the month, if the second Friday of the month is a scheduled Exchange holiday, the option shall terminate on the first business day immediately preceding the Friday.

For the fourth (4th) weekly option of the month, if the fourth Friday of the month is a scheduled Exchange holiday, the option shall terminate on the first business day immediately preceding the Friday.

357A02.A.2 Options in "End-of-Month" Series and the European style Weekly Options Series

Following the termination of trading of an option, all in-the-money options shall be automatically exercised by the Clearing House. All out-of-the-money options shall be abandoned by the Clearing House on the day of expiration for the option. Whether an option is in or out of the money shall be determined based on the fixing price of the CME E-mini NSDAQ 100 stock index futures on the day of expiration, determined pursuant rule 359.A02.A.2.

An option is deemed in the money if the fixing price of the underlying futures contract lies strictly above the exercise price in the case of a call, or lies strictly below the exercise price in the case of a put. For example, if the fixing price were 1250.01 or higher, then 1250 Calls shall be exercised. If the fixing price were 1250.00 or lower, then 1250 Calls shall be abandoned. Similarly, if the fixing price were 1249.99 or lower, then 1250 Puts shall be exercised. If the fixing price were 1250.00 or higher, then 1250 Puts shall be abandoned.

[Remainder of Chapter 357 is unchanged.]

¹⁸ Adopted October 2010.

¹⁹ Revised December 2001.

²⁰ Adopted October 2010.