# SEC Rule 15c3-5 Market Access Rule

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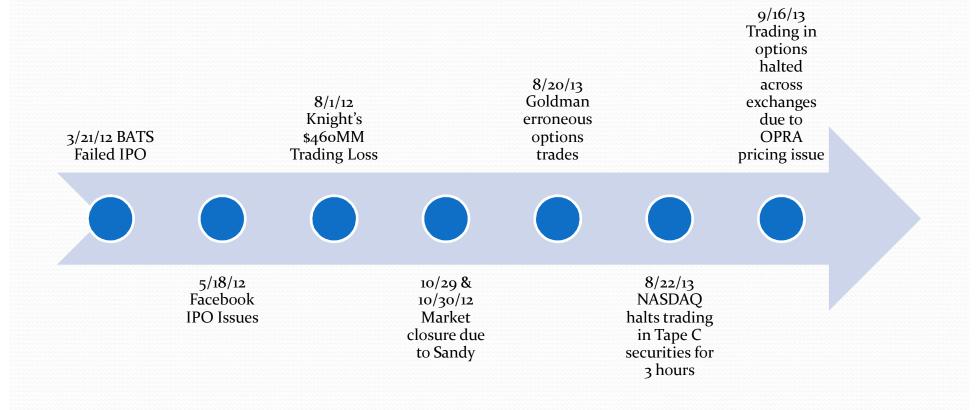
## Agenda

- Market Structure Backdrop
- Overview of Market Access Rule
- Key Considerations
- Questions

#### Market Structure

- Post NMS Market Structure
  - Cross Market Connectivity
  - High Speed and Algorithmic Trading
  - Rise of Direct and Sponsored Access Arrangements

#### Significant Automated Trading/System Failures



#### **Benefits and Costs**

#### Benefits: Technology Provides Investors with Advantages

- Increased Execution Speed
- Lowers Transaction Handling Costs
- *Realize Market Pricing Efficiencies*

#### Cost/Risk Implication: Technology Exposure

- Programing Problems Increase Speed and Volume of Trade Errors
- Technology Complexities Increases Errors in Trading Assumptions, Programing, Deployment, and Maintenance.
- Detective Controls are Generally Rendered Ineffective

## **Rule Making Response**

• Elimination of Stub Quotes

- Single Stock Circuit Breakers => Limit Up / Limit Down
- Market Access Rule
- Large Trader / CAT

#### **Core Elements of Market Access Rule**

- Establish, document and maintain a system of risk management controls and supervisory procedures <u>reasonably designed</u> to manage the financial, regulatory and other risks associated with market access
- Must be under the direct & exclusive control of the BD
- Annual review of system of controls and supervisory procedures in the context of the BD's business model
- CEO Certification

## Who is impacted?

- BDs that access the markets through exchange memberships or as subscribers to alternative trading systems ("ATS")
- BDs that provide customers with access to exchanges or ATSs via the BD's membership / MPID
  - Sponsored Access
  - Direct Market Access (DMA)
- BDs that operate ATS(s) and provide non-brokerdealers with access to trade on the ATS

## What is in scope?

- All securities traded on an exchange and/or ATS
  - Equities and ETFs
  - Options
  - Fixed income securities
  - Security-based swaps
- Sponsored and Direct Market Access
- Proprietary Trading
- Agency routing

#### Financial Risk Management Controls and Supervisory Procedures

- Controls to systematically limit the financial exposure of the broker-dealer that could arise as a result of market access
  - Pre-set credit or capital thresholds in the aggregate for each customer and the BD
  - Prevent erroneous orders, including potential duplicative orders
  - Must be automated and applied pre-trade
  - Ongoing monitoring for appropriate adjustments

#### Regulatory Risk Management Controls and Supervisory Procedures

- Assure compliance with "all federal securities laws, rules and regulations and rules of self-regulatory organizations, that are applicable <u>in connection with</u> <u>market access</u>"
  - Pre-trade and automated
  - Examples order marking, locates, order types & trading halts
- 2. Prevent orders that the BD or its customers are restricted from trading
- 3. Restrict market access technology to authorized persons and accounts
- 4. Ensure availability of post-trade surveillance reports

### **Direct & Exclusive Control**

- Vendor / Exchange-based tools can be used
  - BD must maintain exclusive control over setting limits
  - Vendor cannot be a market access customer or affiliated with one
  - After appropriate due diligence
- Responsibility for certain controls can be allocated to another BD
  - Regulatory controls; not financial controls
  - Pursuant to a written contract
  - After thorough due diligence
  - Conduct regular review of effectiveness of allocated controls

### **Review and Certification**

- Establish, document and maintain a system for regularly reviewing effectiveness
- Annual review
  - Conducted pursuant to procedures
  - Documented and retained as books & records
- CEO Certification
  - Annual requirement
  - Risk management controls and supervisory procedures comply with the Rule and that annual review has been conducted

#### Where does Internal Audit fit in?

- Periodic testing of controls / Annual review process
- Entitlement Review
  - Must have effective process for granting / reviewing entitlements
  - Maintaining technology in a physically secure location
  - Effective mechanisms for authentication
- Allocation Provisions
  - Assist with due diligence / initial testing
  - Assist/perform periodic testing as part of ongoing review process

## **Key Considerations**

- Current Market Trends will continue
  - Continued focus on speed and reducing transaction costs
  - Increased complexity and sophistication of system
  - Heightened IT and Operational Risk
- Focus on risk mitigation:
  - Quality Assurance and Continuous Improvement
  - Controlled Testing and User Acceptance,
  - Process Measuring, Management and Control,
  - Regular and Rigorous Review of Regulatory Compliance
  - Strong Independent Audit Process

### **Key Considerations**

 Technology expertise in Compliance, Risk Management and Internal Audit

# Questions?