perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system, and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest. By extending the period of time that VTS is operational, the Exchange can evaluate the VTS for its impact on investors as well as the market as a whole as it prepares the Commission's requested report.

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

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change, as amended, will result in any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

C. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed Rule Change Received From Members, Participants or Others

The Exchange has neither solicited nor received written comments on the proposed rule change, as amended.

III. Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed rule Change and Timing for Commission Action

The foregoing rule change has become effective upon filing pursuant to section 19(b)(3)(A)(iii) of the Act [10] and Rule 19b–4(f)(6) [11] thereunder 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 for 30 days from the date on which the proposed rule change was filed, or such shorter time as the Commission may designate. At any time within 60 days of the filing of such proposed rule change, the Commission may summarily abrogate 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 furthernance of the purposes of the Act.

The Commission finds that it is appropriate to accelerate the effective date of the proposed rule change and to permit the proposed rule change to become immediately effective because the proposal simply extends a previously approved pilot program. By extending the pilot program, the Commission will enable the Exchange to continue to offer the System without interruption, and will allow the Exchange to collect and analyze the information necessary to produce the report requested by the Commission. In addition, the Commission finds that the Exchange provided the required prefiling written notice of its intent to file this proposed rule change when it filed the original proposed rule change.[12]

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. Persons making written submissions should file six copies thereof with the Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 450 Fifth Street, NW., Washington, DC 20549–0609. 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 inspection and copying in the Commission's Public Reference Room. Copies of such filing will also be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the Exchange. All submissions should refer to File No. SR–Phlx–00–26 and should be submitted by May 17, 2000.

For the Commission by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.[13]

Margaret M. McFarland,

Deputy Secretary.

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[10] 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

[11] 17 CFR 240.19b–4(f)(6).

[12] In reviewing this proposal, the Commission has considered its impact on efficiency, competition, and capital formation. 15 U.S.C. 78c(f).

[13] 17 CFR 200.30–3(a)(12).

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Office of the Secretary

Reports, Forms and Recordkeeping Requirements; Agency Information Collection Activity Under OMB Review

AGENCY: Office of the Secretary, DOT.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.), this notice announces that the Information Collection Request, ICR abstracted below has been forwarded to the Office of Management and Budget, OMB for renewal and comment. The ICR describes the nature of the information collection and its expected cost and burden. The **Federal Register** Notice with a 60-day comment period soliciting comments on the following collection of information was published on February 3, 2000 (66 FR 5386) and there were no responses to the initial Notice.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before May 26, 2000.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Charlotte Hackley; M–61, U.S. Department of Transportation, 400 Seventh Street SW., Washington, DC 20590, telephone (202) 366–4267 or email to charlotte.hackley@ost.dot.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Office of the Secretary, OST

Title: Extension of information collection authority under Transportation Acquisition Regulation TAR.

OMB Control Number: 2105–0517.

Affected Public: Individuals or households and business or other for-profit organizations.

Abstract: The requested extension of the approved control number covers the TAR which includes forms DOT F 4220.4, DOT F 4220.7, DOT F 4220.43, DOT F 4220.45, DOT F 4220.46, and Form DD 882.

Annual Estimated Burden: 33,115.*

*The annual estimated burden is increased to 33,115 as a result of Section 101(g)(1) of the Motor Carrier Safety Improvement Act of 1999, which requires the Secretary of Transportation to insert (TAR) 48 CFR 1252.209–70 in all Department of Transportation requests for proposal and contracts for research.

Comments are invited on: whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Department, including whether the information will have practical utility; the accuracy of the Department's estimate of the burden of the proposed information collection; ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and ways to minimize the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Issued in Washington, DC, on the 20th day of April, 2000.

Michael Robinson,

Clearance Officer, United States Department of Transportation.

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