

## VI. Conclusion

For all of the aforementioned reasons, the Commission finds that the proposed rule change is consistent with the requirements of the Act and the rules and regulations thereunder applicable to a national securities exchange.

*It is therefore ordered*, pursuant to section 19(b)(2) of the Act,<sup>11</sup> that the proposed rule change (SR-CBOE-2004-77) is approved.

For the Commission, by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.<sup>12</sup>

**Jill M. Peterson,**

*Assistant Secretary.*

[FR Doc. E5-128 Filed 1-12-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8010-01-P

## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-50981; File No. SR-ISE-2004-38]

### Self-Regulatory Organizations; International Securities Exchange, Inc.; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change Relating to Fee Changes

January 6, 2005.

Pursuant to section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Act"),<sup>1</sup> and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,<sup>2</sup> notice is hereby given that on December 22, 2004, the International Securities Exchange, Inc. (the "Exchange" or the "ISE") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") the proposed rule change as described in items I, II, and III below, which items have been prepared by ISE. The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

#### I. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed Rule Change

The ISE is proposing to amend its Schedule of Fees to adopt a \$.10 per contract surcharge for certain transactions in options based on the Morgan Stanley Technology Index.<sup>3</sup> The text of the proposed rule change is available at the Commission and the ISE.

#### II. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

In its filing with the Commission, the ISE 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 these statements may be examined at the places specified in item IV below. The ISE has prepared summaries, set forth in sections A, B and C below, of the most significant aspects of such statements.

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

###### 1. Purpose

The Exchange is proposing to amend its Schedule of Fees to adopt a \$.10 per contract surcharge for certain transactions in options based on the Morgan Stanley Technology Index ("MSH" or "Index").

The Exchange's Schedule of Fees currently has in place a surcharge fee item that calls for a \$.10 per contract fee for transactions in certain licensed products. The Exchange has entered into a license agreement in connection with the listing and trading of options on the Index. The Exchange is adopting a fee for trading in these options to defray the licensing costs. The Exchange believes that charging the participants that trade these instruments is the most equitable means of recovering the costs of the license. However, because competitive pressures in the industry have resulted in the waiver of transaction fees for customers, the Exchange proposes to exclude Public Customer Orders<sup>4</sup> from this surcharge fee. Accordingly, this surcharge fee will only be charged to Exchange members with respect to non-Public Customer Orders.

###### 2. Basis

The Exchange believes that the basis under the Act for this proposed rule change is the requirement under section 6(b)(4) of the Act<sup>5</sup> that an exchange have an equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees and other charges among its members and other persons using its facilities.

##### 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.

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

The Exchange has not solicited, and does not intend to solicit, comments on this proposed rule change. The Exchange has not received any unsolicited written comments from members or other interested parties.

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

The foregoing rule change has become effective pursuant to section 19(b)(3)(A)(ii) of the Act<sup>6</sup> and Rule 19b-4(f)(2)<sup>7</sup> thereunder because it concerns a fee imposed by the Exchange. At any time within 60 days of the filing of the 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 furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

#### 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 (<http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml>); or
- Send an e-mail to [rule-comments@sec.gov](mailto:rule-comments@sec.gov). Please include File No. SR-ISE-2004-38 on the subject line.

##### Paper Comments

- Send paper comments in triplicate to Jonathan G. Katz, Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 450 Fifth Street, NW., Washington, DC 20549-0609.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-ISE-2004-38. This file number should be included on the subject line if e-mail is used. To help the Commission process and review your

<sup>11</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2).

<sup>12</sup> 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

<sup>1</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

<sup>2</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

<sup>3</sup> See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 49447 (Mar. 18, 2004), 69 FR 16299 (Mar. 29, 2004) (approving the listing and trading of options on the Morgan Stanley Technology Index).

<sup>4</sup> Public Customer Order is defined in Exchange Rule 100(a)(33) as an order for the account of a Public Customer. Public Customer is defined in Exchange Rule 100(a)(32) as a person that is not a broker or dealer in securities.

<sup>5</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(4).

<sup>6</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(ii).

<sup>7</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(2).

comments more efficiently, please use only one method. The Commission will post all comments on the Commission's Internet Web site (<http://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 inspection and copying in the Commission's Public Reference Room. Copies of such filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the ISE. All comments received will be posted without change; the Commission does not edit personal identifying information from submissions. You should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly. All submissions should refer to File Number SR-ISE-2004-38 and should be submitted by February 3, 2005.

For the Commission, by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.<sup>8</sup>

**J. Lynn Taylor,**

*Assistant Secretary.*

[FR Doc. E5-130 Filed 1-12-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8010-01-P

## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-50984; File No. SR-NASD-2004-177]

### Self Regulatory Organizations; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change by the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc. Relating to Fees for Filing Documents Pursuant to NASD Rule 2710 (Corporate Financing Rule—Underwriting Terms and Arrangements)

January 6, 2005.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(3) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (“Act”) <sup>1</sup> and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,<sup>2</sup> notice is hereby given that on December 3, 2004, the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc. (“NASD”) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC” or “Commission”) the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II, and III below, which Items

have been prepared by NASD. NASD has designated the proposed rule change as “establishing or changing a due, fee or other charge” under Section 19(b)(3)(A)(ii) of the Act <sup>3</sup> and Rule 19b-4(f)(2) thereunder,<sup>4</sup> which renders the proposal effective upon receipt of this filing by the Commission. The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

#### I. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed Rule Change

NASD is proposing to amend Section 7 of Schedule A to the NASD By-Laws (“Section 7”) to adjust fees for filing documents pursuant to NASD Rule 2710 (Corporate Financing Rule—Underwriting Terms and Arrangements). Below is the text of the proposed rule change. Proposed new language is *italicized*; proposed deletions are in [brackets].

\* \* \* \* \*

#### SCHEDULE A TO NASD BY-LAWS

\* \* \* \* \*

##### *Section 7—Fees for Filing Documents Pursuant to the Corporate Financing Rule*

(a) There shall be a fee imposed for the filing of initial documents relating to any offering filed with NASD pursuant to the Corporate Financing Rule equal to \$500 plus .01% of the proposed maximum aggregate offering price or other applicable value of all securities registered on an SEC registration statement or included on any other type of offering document (where not filed with the SEC), but shall not exceed [\$30,500] *\$75,500*. The amount of filing fee may be rounded to the nearest dollar.

(b) There shall be an additional fee imposed for the filing of any amendment or other change to the documents initially filed with NASD pursuant to the Corporate Financing Rule equal to .01% of the net increase in the maximum aggregate offering price or other applicable value of all securities registered on an SEC registration statement, or any related Rule 462(b) registration statement, or reflected on any Rule 430A prospectus, or included on any other type of offering document. However, the aggregate of all filing fees paid in connection with an SEC registration statement or other type of offering document shall not exceed [\$30,500] *\$75,500*.

\* \* \* \* \*

#### II. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

In its filing with the Commission, NASD 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 these statements may be examined at the places specified in Item IV below. NASD has prepared summaries, set forth in sections A, B, and C below, of the most significant aspects of such statements.

##### *A. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change*

###### 1. Purpose

According to NASD, the purpose of the proposed rule change is to amend Section 7 to raise the maximum fee that may be charged for the filing of initial documents and amendments pursuant to the Corporate Financing Rule from \$30,500 to \$75,500. NASD's Corporate Financing Department (the “Department”) is responsible for reviewing the proposed underwriting terms and arrangements of proposed public offerings of securities for compliance with the requirements of NASD Rule 2710. According to NASD, the purpose of the Department's review is to provide members with, among other things, regulatory guidance as to what constitutes fair and reasonable underwriting terms and arrangements. Pursuant to NASD Rule 2710, the managing underwriter of the offering is required to file certain documentation with the Department for review.

Under Section 7, the current fee for filings pursuant to NASD Rule 2710 is equal to \$500 plus .01 percent of the proposed maximum aggregate offering price or other applicable value of all securities registered on an SEC registration statement or included on any other type of offering document (where not filed with the SEC), but shall not exceed \$30,500. Thus, under Section 7, fees are currently capped with respect to offerings with an aggregate offering price of \$300 million or more.

In 1989, when the current fee structure was adopted, the \$500 minimum fee ensured that at least \$500 would be charged for the smallest offerings.<sup>5</sup> For larger offerings, a \$30,500

<sup>5</sup> NASD supplemented the language included in this paragraph to reflect the historical purpose behind the fee structure. Telephone conversation and e-mail correspondence between Shirley Weiss, Associate General Counsel, NASD and Bradley

<sup>8</sup> 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

<sup>1</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3).

<sup>2</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

<sup>3</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(ii).

<sup>4</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(2).