

Proposed ISE Rule 2117 (Settlement Through Clearing Corporations) adds provisions governing the settlement and clearing of equities.

Proposed ISE Rules 2113 (Long and Short Sales) and 2114 (Doing Business With the Public) have been filed separately.<sup>41</sup>

The following Rules have been incorporated from the Exchange's options rules: ISE Rule 100 (Definitions) is being expanded to include equities in the following definitions: bid, clearing corporation, offer and order; ISE Rule 500 (Designation of Securities) is being amended to accommodate for the newly adopted rules in Chapter 21; ISE Rules 702 and 703 (Trading Halts and Trading Halts Due to Extraordinary Market Volatility, respectively) are being amended to account for halting trading in equity securities. In addition, the Exchange proposes to apply certain of its options rules to the trading of equity securities on the ISE Stock Exchange, as set forth in Appendix A to proposed Chapter 21 of the ISE Rules.

## 2. Statutory Basis

ISE believes the proposal is consistent with the requirements of the Act and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder that are applicable to a national securities exchange, and in particular, with Section 6(b) of the Act.<sup>42</sup> ISE believes that the proposal is consistent with Section 6(b)(5) of the Act,<sup>43</sup> in that it is designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism for a free and open market and a national market system, and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest. In particular, the ISE believes that the proposal is designed to enable it to promote competition in the trading of equity securities through establishing a new marketplace.

### *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 on this proposal from members, participants, or others.

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

Within 35 days of the date of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register** or within such longer period (i) as the Commission may designate up to 90 days of such date if it finds such longer period to be appropriate and publishes its reasons for so finding, or (ii) as to which the Exchange consents, the Commission will:

A. By order approve the proposed rule change; or

B. Institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule change should be disapproved.

### **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 Number SR-ISE-2006-48 on the subject line.

#### *Paper Comments*

- Send paper comments in triplicate to Nancy M. Morris, Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street, NE., Washington, DC 20549-1090.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-ISE-2006-48. This file number should be included on the subject line if e-mail is used. To help the Commission process and review your 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 the filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the Exchange. 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-2006-48 and should be submitted on or before September 5, 2006.

For the Commission, by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.<sup>44</sup>

Nancy M. Morris,  
Secretary.

[FR Doc. E6-13335 Filed 8-14-06; 8:45 am]

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## **SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

[Release No. 34-54285; File No. SR-NASDAQ-2006-023]

### **Self-Regulatory Organizations; The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change Regarding Technical and Conforming Changes to Nasdaq Rule 7018**

August 8, 2006.

Pursuant to section 19(b)(1) 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 July 31, 2006, The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC ("Nasdaq") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II, and III below, which Items have been prepared by Nasdaq. Nasdaq filed the proposed rule change pursuant to 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 filing with the Commission. The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

<sup>41</sup> See File Nos. SR-ISE-2006-42 (filed on July 25, 2006) and SR-ISE-2006-41 (filed on July 25, 2006), respectively.

<sup>42</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

<sup>43</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

<sup>44</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> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(ii).

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

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

Nasdaq proposes to conform Nasdaq Rule 7018 to changes made to Rule 7010(i) of the rules of the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc. ("NASD") since approval of Nasdaq's rules by the Commission in January 2006, and to make changes to the rule to reflect Nasdaq's operation as an exchange for Nasdaq-listed securities in advance of its operation for other securities. Nasdaq proposes to implement the proposed rule change on August 1, 2006. The text of the proposed rule change is available on Nasdaq's Web site at <http://www.nasdaq.com>, at the principal office of Nasdaq, and at the Commission's Public Reference Room.

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

In its filing with the Commission, Nasdaq 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. Nasdaq 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**

Nasdaq is filing this proposed rule change to conform Nasdaq rule 7018 to changes made to NASD rule 7010(i) since approval of Nasdaq's rules by the Commission in January 2006, and to make changes to the rule to reflect Nasdaq's operation as an exchange for Nasdaq-listed securities in advance of its operation for other securities. Specifically, Nasdaq is amending Nasdaq Rule 7018 to reflect changes made to NASD rule 7010(i) by SR-NASD-2005-141, SR-NASD-2006-013, SR-NASD-2006-023, SR-NASD-2005-057, and SR-NASD-2006-061.<sup>5</sup> Nasdaq is also adding language to the rule to clarify that until Nasdaq begins to

operate as an exchange for non-Nasdaq stocks, the charges or credits for transactions in non-Nasdaq securities through the ITS/CAES System operated by The Nasdaq Stock Market, Inc. and Brut and Inet are set forth in NASD Rule 7010(i). Finally, because the fee schedule for Nasdaq-listed stocks traded on Nasdaq is based directly on the predecessor fee schedule of The Nasdaq Stock Market, Inc., which in turn has based the level of certain fees and credits on a market participants' combined volume in all securities traded through The Nasdaq Stock Market, Inc., Nasdaq is adding language to provide that its fees and credits will be based on volume in all securities traded through both Nasdaq exchange systems and systems operated by The Nasdaq Stock Market, Inc. for trading non-Nasdaq-listed securities. Nasdaq believes the effect of this language is to ensure that Nasdaq's fees and credits remain consistent with the fees and credits previously in effect.

#### **2. Statutory Basis**

Nasdaq believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the provisions of section 6 of the Act,<sup>6</sup> in general, and with section 6(b)(4) of the Act,<sup>7</sup> in particular, in that it provides for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees and other charges among members and issuers and other persons using any facility or system which the Nasdaq operates or controls. Nasdaq believes the proposed rule change conforms Nasdaq Rule 7018 to changes made to NASD Rule 7010(i) since approval of Nasdaq's rules by the Commission in January 2006, and makes changes to the rule to reflect Nasdaq's operation as an exchange for Nasdaq-listed securities in advance of its operation for other securities.

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

Nasdaq does not believe that the proposed rule change 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**

Written comments were neither solicited nor received.

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

The foregoing rule change is subject to section 19(b)(3)(A)(ii) of the Act<sup>8</sup> and subparagraph (f)(2) of Rule 19b-4 thereunder<sup>9</sup> because it establishes or changes a due, fee, or other charge applicable only to a member imposed by the self-regulatory organization. Accordingly, the proposal is effective upon Commission receipt of the filing. 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-NASDAQ-2006-023 on the subject line.

### **Paper Comments**

- Send paper comments in triplicate to Nancy M. Morris, Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, Station Place, 100 F Street, NE., Washington, DC 20549-1090.

All submissions should refer to File No. SR-NASDAQ-2006-023. This file number should be included on the subject line if e-mail is used. To help the Commission process and review your 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

<sup>5</sup> Securities Exchange Act Release Nos. 52978 (December 19, 2005), 70 FR 76842 (December 27, 2005) (SR-NASD-2005-141); 53256 (February 8, 2006), 71 FR 8020 (February 15, 2006) (SR-NASD-2006-013); 53320 (February 15, 2006), 71 FR 9395 (February 23, 2006) (SR-NASD-2006-023); 54160 (July 17, 2006), 71 FR 42696 (July 27, 2006) (SR-NASD-2006-057); and 53931 (June 1, 2006), 71 FR 33325 (June 8, 2006) (SR-NASD-2006-061).

<sup>6</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f.

<sup>7</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(4).

<sup>8</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(ii).

<sup>9</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(2).

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 Nasdaq. 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 No. SR-NASDAQ-2006-023 and should be submitted on or before September 5, 2006.

For the Commission, by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.<sup>10</sup>

Nancy M. Morris,  
Secretary.

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## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-54284; File No. SR-NASDAQ-2006-016]

### Self-Regulatory Organizations; The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC; Notice of Filing of Proposed Rule Change To Eliminate Registration of Foreign Associates Under Nasdaq Membership Rules

August 8, 2006.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) 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 July 21, 2006, The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC ("Nasdaq") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II, and III below, which Items have been prepared by Nasdaq. 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

Nasdaq proposes to eliminate the requirement for "foreign associates" to register with Nasdaq. Nasdaq will implement the proposed rule change immediately upon approval by the Commission. The text of the proposed rule change is below. Proposed new language is in *italics*; proposed deletions are in [brackets].

#### 1060. Persons Exempt from Registration.

(a) The following persons associated with a member are not required to be registered with Nasdaq:

(1)-(4) No change.

(5) *Persons associated with a member that are not citizens, nationals, or residents of the United States or any of its territories or possessions and that will conduct all of their securities activities in areas outside the jurisdiction of the United States and will not engage in any securities activities with or for any citizen, national or resident of the United States.*

For purposes of Rule 1060(a)(4), the terms "option" and "direct participation program" shall have the meanings assigned to such terms by NASD Rules 2860 and 1022(e)(1)(A), respectively, and the definitions contained in such NASD rules shall apply to Nasdaq members as if such Rules were part of Nasdaq's Rules.

(b) No change.

#### 1100. [Foreign Associates] *Reserved*

[(a) All persons associated with a member who are designated as Foreign Associates shall be required to be registered but shall be exempt from the requirement to pass a Qualification Examination. Persons associated with a member shall be designated as Foreign Associates if they meet the following criteria:]

[(1) They are not citizens, nationals, or residents of the United States or any of its territories or possessions;]

[(2) They will conduct all of their securities activities in areas outside the jurisdiction of the United States and they will not engage in any securities activities with or for any citizen, national or resident of the United States.]

[(b) Prior to the time the exemption provided for in paragraph (a) hereof may become effective, the member desiring to employ any such person must file with Nasdaq a "Uniform Application for Securities Industry Registration or Transfer" for each such person and must certify that such person meets the criteria of paragraph (a), as well as that:]

[(1) Such person is not subject to any of the prohibitions to registration with Nasdaq;]

[(2) Service of process for any proceeding instituted by Nasdaq in respect to such person may be sent to an address designated by the member.]

[(c) In the event of the termination of the employment of a Foreign Associate, the member must notify Nasdaq immediately by filing a notice of termination.]

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

In its filing with the Commission, Nasdaq included statements concerning the purpose of and basis for the proposed rule change and discussed any comments it had received on the proposed rule change. The text of these statements may be examined at the places specified in Item IV below. Nasdaq 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.

Nasdaq proposes to eliminate the "foreign associate" registration category under Nasdaq Rule 1100 and add an exemption to Nasdaq Rule 1060 for persons formerly covered by this registration category. Nasdaq's rule is based on NASD Rule 1100, which provides that an associated person of a member may be designated as a "foreign associate" if the person (i) is not a citizen, national, or resident of the United States, and (ii) will conduct all of his or her securities activities outside the jurisdiction of the United States and will not engage in any securities activities with or for any citizen, national or resident of the United States. The NASD rule provides that a foreign associate is not required to pass any qualification examinations but must register with NASD.

In its current form, Nasdaq Rule 1100 duplicates the NASD requirement. Nasdaq believes, however, that it does not have a compelling policy reason for duplicating the NASD's registration requirement or extending it to non-NASD members. Nasdaq members that are NASD members will already be required to register their foreign associates with the NASD. The NASD's role as the primary regulator with respect to firms with public customers may be indicative of a need to pursue broad registration of broker-dealer employees even if such employees have no nexus with U.S. securities markets, but a duplicative requirement by Nasdaq would serve no regulatory purpose. With respect to the small number of non-NASD members that become Nasdaq members, Nasdaq has no reason to expect that any would have associated persons categorized as foreign associates and believes that there would be no regulatory benefit

<sup>10</sup> 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

<sup>11</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

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