SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. 34-57730; File No. SR-NYSE-2008-31)

April 28, 2008

Self-Regulatory Organizations; New York Stock Exchange LLC; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change to Reduce Its Routing Fee for Floor Brokers

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act")¹ and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,² notice is hereby given that on April 22, 2008, the New York Stock Exchange LLC ("NYSE" or "Exchange") 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 substantially prepared by the Exchange. The Exchange filed the proposed rule change pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act³ and Rule 19b-4(f)(2) thereunder,⁴ which renders it effective upon filing with the Commission. The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

I. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed</u> Rule Change

The Exchange proposes to reduce the routing fee charged to floor brokers from \$0.0030 per share to \$0.0029 per share. While the change to the Exchange's 2008 Price List pursuant to this proposal will be effective upon filing, the fee change will be implemented on May 1, 2008. The text of the proposed rule change is available at www.nyse.com, the Exchange, and the Commission's Public Reference Room.

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

³ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

⁴ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(2).

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

In its filing with the Commission, NYSE 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. NYSE has prepared summaries, set forth in Sections A, B, and C below, of the most significant aspects of such statements.

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

1. Purpose

The Exchange proposes to reduce the fee charged to floor brokers in connection with the routing of their orders to other markets from \$0.0030 per share to \$0.0029 per share. The routing fee charged to all other market participants will remain at \$0.0030 per share. While the change to the Exchange's 2008 Price List pursuant to this proposal will be effective upon filing, the change will become operative on May 1, 2008.

The Exchange believes that it is justified in charging a slightly lower routing fee to floor brokers because of their importance to the continuation of the floor as an integral part of the Exchange's market model, which integrates the auction market with automated trading.

Essential to this model is the interaction between the specialists, floor brokers and orders in the Display Book system, which creates opportunities for price improvement, provides information

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The Exchange represents that: (i) these routing fees are charged only to Exchange member organizations; and (ii) customers have the ability to submit an order that can only be executed at the Exchange itself and may not be routed to other markets, and therefore the possibility that an order would be routed is within the customer's control. See email from John Carey, Assistant General Counsel, Exchange, to Nathan Saunders, Special Counsel, Division of Trading and Markets, Commission, dated April 28, 2008.

about changing market conditions and serves as a catalyst to trading. The Exchange believes that this decrease in the routing fee will assist floor brokers in remaining competitive.

2. <u>Statutory Basis</u>

The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the provisions of Section 6 of the Act⁶ in general, and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(4) of the Act⁷ in particular, in that it is designed to provide for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees, and other charges among its members and other persons using its facilities. The Exchange believes that the proposed reduction in the routing fee for floor brokers represents an equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees, and other charges because floor brokers are integral to the Exchange's market model and the proposed fee reduction will assist floor brokers in remaining competitive.

B. <u>Self Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition</u>

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 purpose of the Exchange Act.

C. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed</u> <u>Rule Change Received from Members, Participants or Others</u>

Written comments were neither solicited nor received.

III. <u>Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission Action</u>

The foregoing proposed rule change is filed pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(ii) of the

^{6 15} U.S.C. 78f.

⁷ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(4).

Act⁸ and subparagraph (f)(2) of Rule 19b-4 thereunder⁹ because it establishes or changes a due, fee, or other charge applicable only to a member imposed by a 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 <u>rule-comments@sec.gov</u>. Please include File Number SR-NYSE-2008-31 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-NYSE-2008-31. 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

⁸ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(ii).

⁹ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(2).

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, 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549, on official business days between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Copies of such filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of NYSE. 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-NYSE-2008-31 and should be submitted on or before [insert date 21 days from publication in the Federal Register].

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority. ¹⁰

Florence E. Harmon Deputy Secretary

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¹⁰ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).