### SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. 34-53600; File No. SR-NYSEArca-2006-07)

April 4, 2006

Self-Regulatory Organizations; NYSE Acra, Inc.; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change, and Amendment No. 1 thereto, Relating to Exchange Fees and Charges

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 March 21, 2006, NYSE Arca, Inc. ("Exchange") 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 the Exchange. On March 31, 2006, the Exchange filed Amendment No. 1 to the proposed rule change.<sup>3</sup> The Exchange has designated this proposal as one establishing or changing a due, fee, or other charge imposed by the Exchange under Section 19(b)(3)(A)(ii),<sup>4</sup> and Rule 19b-4(f)(2) thereunder,<sup>5</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, as amended, from interested persons.

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

The Exchange proposes to amend its Schedule of Fees and Charges for Exchange Services ("Schedule") in order to assess a royalty fee on options contracts traded on certain Exchange Traded Funds ("ETFs"). The text of the proposed rule change, as amended, is

<sup>4</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(ii).

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

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

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Amendment No. 1 made clarifying changes to the rule text and purpose section of the proposed rule change.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(2).

available on the Exchange's Web site at <u>http://www.nysearca.com</u>, at the Exchange's Office of the Secretary, and at the Commission's Public Reference Room.

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

In its filing with the Commission, the Exchange included statements concerning the purpose of, and basis for, the proposed rule change, as amended, and discussed any comments it received on the proposal. The text of these statements may be examined at the places specified in Item IV below. The Exchange 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 the</u> <u>Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change</u>

1. <u>Purpose</u>

The Exchange proposes to amend its Schedule in order to assess a \$0.10 royalty fee on options contracts traded on the following ETFs: the Russell 1000 Index Fund (IWB), the Russell 1000 Value Index Fund (IWD), the Russell 2000 Index Fund (IWM), the Russell 2000 Value Index Fund (IWN), the Russell 2000 Growth Fund (IWO), and the Russell Midcap Index fund (IWR). The Exchange proposes to charge \$0.10 per contract side on all market maker, firm and broker dealer transactions. According to the Exchange, consistent with the present Schedule, customers will not be assessed the royalty fee.

The Exchange also proposes to add additional language to footnote 6 of the Trade-Related Charges section of the Schedule. According to the Exchange, this language is being added to cross reference an existing section in the Schedule that contains information on how royalty fees associated with Options Strategy Executions are assessed. These fees are explained under the "Limit of Fees on Options Strategy Executions" section of the Schedule. The Exchange notes that the additional language to this footnote simply serves as a reference to the existing explanation.

#### 2. <u>Statutory Basis</u>

The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change, as amended, is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act,<sup>6</sup> in general, and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(4) of the Act,<sup>7</sup> in particular, in that it is designed to provide for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees, and other charges among its members and issuers and other persons using its facilities.

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

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

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

No written comments were solicited or received with respect to the proposed rule change.

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

The foregoing rule change, as amended, has become effective pursuant 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> since it establishes or changes a due, fee or other charge imposed by the Exchange.

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

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

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

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

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

necessary of appropriate in the public interest, for the protection of investors, or otherwise in the furtherance of the purposes of the Act.<sup>10</sup>

### IV. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views, and arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposed rule change, as amended, is consistent with the Act. Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

### Electronic Comments:

- Use the Commission's Internet comment form (<u>http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml</u>); or
- Send an e-mail to <u>rule-comments@sec.gov</u>. Please include File Number SR-NYSEArca-2006-07 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-NYSEArca-2006-07. 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

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> The effective date of the original proposed rule change is March 21, 2006, and the effective date of Amendment No. 1 is March 31, 2006. For purposes of calculating the 60-day period within which the Commission may summarily abrogate the proposed rule change under Section 19(b)(3)(C) of the Act, the Commission considers the period to commence on March 31, 2006, the date on which the Exchange filed Amendment No. 1. <u>See</u> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(C).

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 Section. Copies of such 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 No. SR-NYSEArca-2006-07 and should be submitted on or before [insert date 21 days from date of publication in the Federal Register].

For the Commission, by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.<sup>11</sup>

Nancy M. Morris Secretary

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).