SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. 34-54911; File No. SR-NYSE-2006-108)

December 11, 2006

Self-Regulatory Organizations; New York Stock Exchange LLC; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change to Amend the Linkage Fee

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 December 4, 2006, the New York Stock Exchange LLC ("Exchange" or "NYSE") 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. NYSE has designated this proposal as one establishing or changing a due, fee, or other charge imposed by NYSE under Section 19(b)(3)(A)(ii) of the Act ³ and Rule 19b-4(f)(2) thereunder, ⁴ which renders the proposed rule change 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> <u>Rule Change</u>

The Exchange proposes to increase from \$0.00025 to \$0.000275 per share the fee ("Linkage Order Fee") it charges its member organizations in connection with orders in equities executed in another market pursuant to the Plan for the Purpose of Creating and Operating an Intermarket Communications Linkage ("Linkage Plan").

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

³ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(ii).

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, the Exchange 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 Exchange has prepared summaries, set forth in Sections A, B, and C below, of the most significant aspects of such statements.

The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Exchange's Web site (http://www.nyse.com), at the Exchange's Office of the Secretary, and at the Commission's Public Reference Room.

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

1. <u>Purpose</u>

The Exchange proposes to increase from \$0.00025 to \$0.000275 per share the Linkage Order Fee, which it charges its member organizations in connection with orders in equities executed in another market pursuant to the Linkage Plan. At the time of its adoption, the Linkage Order Fee was established at the same rate as the regular equity transaction fee. The Exchange recently modified its regular equity transaction fee effective December 1, 2006, but did not increase the Linkage Order Fee at that time. The Exchange is increasing the Linkage Order Fee to \$0.000275 so that it will once again be set at the same level as the regular equity transaction fee.

See Exchange Act Release No. 54727 (November 8, 2006); 71 FR 66820 (November 16, 2006) (SR-NYSE-2006-79).

See Exchange Act Release No. 54856 (December 1, 2006); 71 FR 71215 (December 8, 2006) (SR-NYSE-2006-106).

2. **Statutory Basis**

The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the objectives of Section 6 of the Act⁷ in general and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(4)⁸ 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 fee is intended to permit the Exchange to recover fees billed to Archipelago Securities LLC, as a Sponsoring Member, by other markets for orders executed pursuant to the Linkage Plan. In addition, with the exception of the per trade cap applicable to non-Linkage orders, the billing rate is the same for Linkage and non-Linkage orders.

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

Written comments were neither solicited nor received.

III. Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission Action The foregoing proposed rule change has become effective upon filing pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act⁹ and Rule 19b-4(f)(2)¹⁰ thereunder because it establishes or changes a due, fee, or other charge 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

¹⁵ U.S.C. 78f.

¹⁵ U.S.C. 78f(b)(4).

¹⁵ U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

¹⁰ 17 CFR 19b-4(f)(2).

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 No. SR-NYSE-2006-108 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-2006-108. 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 Commissions 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 NYSE.

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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-2006-108 and

should be submitted on or before [insert date 21 days from the date of publication in the Federal

Register].

For the Commission, by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated

authority.11

Florence E. Harmon Deputy Secretary

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