

Formal orders of investigations;  
Institution and settlement of  
injunctive actions;  
Institution and settlement of  
administrative proceedings of an  
enforcement nature;  
Resolution of litigation claims;  
Adjudicatory matters; and  
Other matters related to enforcement  
proceedings.

At times, changes in Commission  
priorities require alterations in the  
scheduling of meeting items.

For further information and to  
ascertain what, if any, matters have been  
added, deleted or postponed, please  
contact:

The Office of the Secretary at (202)  
551-5400.

Dated: June 21, 2007.

**Nancy M. Morris,**  
Secretary.

[FR Doc. E7-12341 Filed 6-26-07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8010-01-P

## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release 34-55920; File No. 600-23]

### Self-Regulatory Organizations; Fixed Income Clearing Corporation; Notice of Filing and Order Approving an Extension of Temporary Registration as a Clearing Agency

June 18, 2007.

The Securities and Exchange  
Commission ("Commission") is  
publishing this notice and order to  
solicit comments from interested  
persons and to extend the Fixed Income  
Clearing Corporation's ("FICC")  
temporary registration as a clearing  
agency through June 30, 2008.<sup>1</sup>

On February 2, 1987, pursuant to  
Sections 17A(b) and 19(a) of the Act<sup>2</sup>  
and Rule 17Ab2-1 promulgated  
thereunder,<sup>3</sup> the Commission granted  
the MBS Clearing Corporation  
("MBSCC") registration as a clearing  
agency on a temporary basis for a period  
of eighteen months.<sup>4</sup> The Commission  
subsequently extended MBSCC's  
registration through June 30, 2003.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup> FICC is the successor to MBS Clearing  
Corporation and Government Securities Clearing  
Corporation.

<sup>2</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78q-1(b) and 78s(a).

<sup>3</sup> 17 CFR 240.17Ab2-1.

<sup>4</sup> Securities Exchange Act Release No. 24046  
(February 2, 1987), 52 FR 4218.

<sup>5</sup> Securities Exchange Act Release Nos. 25957  
(August 2, 1988), 53 FR 29537; 27079 (July 31,  
1989), 54 FR 34212; 28492 (September 28, 1990), 55  
FR 41148; 29751 (September 27, 1991), 56 FR  
50602; 31750 (January 21, 1993), 58 FR 6424; 33348  
(December 15, 1993), 58 FR 68183; 35132  
(December 21, 1994), 59 FR 67743; 37372 (June 26,

On May 24, 1988, pursuant to  
Sections 17A(b) and 19(a) of the Act<sup>6</sup>  
and Rule 17Ab2-1 promulgated  
thereunder,<sup>7</sup> the Commission granted  
the Government Securities Clearing  
Corporation ("GSCC") registration as a  
clearing agency on a temporary basis for  
a period of three years.<sup>8</sup> The  
Commission subsequently extended  
GSCC's registration through June 30,  
2003.<sup>9</sup>

On January 1, 2003, MBSCC was  
merged into GSCC, and GSCC was  
renamed FICC.<sup>10</sup> The Commission  
subsequently extended FICC's  
temporary registration through June 30,  
2007.<sup>11</sup>

On May 17, 2007, FICC requested that  
the Commission grant FICC permanent  
registration as a clearing agency or in  
the alternative extend FICC's temporary  
registration until such time as the  
Commission is prepared to grant FICC  
permanent registration.<sup>12</sup>

Recently FICC announced its  
intention to have its Mortgage-Backed  
Services Division ("MBS Division") act  
as a central counterparty ("CCP").  
Pursuant to this service, FICC would act  
as the CCP for MBS Division members  
and would become the new legal  
counterparty to all original parties for  
eligible mortgage-backed securities  
transactions. Currently, FICC through its  
Government Securities Division acts as  
the CCP for its members' U.S.  
Government securities transactions.

Therefore, the Commission is  
extending FICC's temporary registration

1996), 61 FR 35281; 38784 (June 27, 1997), 62 FR  
36587; 39776 (March 20, 1998), 63 FR 14740; 41211  
(March 24, 1999), 64 FR 15854; 42568 (March 23,  
2000), 65 FR 16980; 44089 (March 21, 2001), 66 FR  
16961; 44831 (September 21, 2001), 66 FR 49728;  
45607 (March 20, 2002), 67 FR 14755; 46136 (June  
27, 2002), 67 FR 44655.

<sup>6</sup> *Supra* note 2.

<sup>7</sup> *Supra* note 3.

<sup>8</sup> Securities Exchange Act Release No. 25740 (May  
24, 1988), 53 FR 19639.

<sup>9</sup> Securities Exchange Act Release Nos. 25740  
(May 24, 1988), 53 FR 19639; 29236 (May 24, 1991),  
56 FR 24852; 32385 (June 3, 1993), 58 FR 32405;  
35787 (May 31, 1995), 60 FR 30324; 36508  
(November 27, 1995), 60 FR 61719; 37983  
(November 25, 1996), 61 FR 64183; 38698 (May 30,  
1997), 62 FR 30911; 39696 (February 24, 1998), 63  
FR 10253; 41104 (February 24, 1999), 64 FR 10510;  
41805 (August 27, 1999), 64 FR 48682; 42335  
(January 12, 2000), 65 FR 3509; 43089 (July 28,  
2000), 65 FR 48032; 43900 (January 29, 2001), 66  
FR 8988; 44553 (July 13, 2001), 66 FR 37714; 45164  
(December 18, 2001), 66 FR 66957; 46135 (June 27,  
2002), 67 FR 44655.

<sup>10</sup> Securities Exchange Act Release No. 47015  
(December 17, 2002), 67 FR 78531 (December 24,  
2002) [File Nos. SR-GSCC-2002-07 and SR-  
MBSCC-2002-01].

<sup>11</sup> Securities Exchange Act Release Nos. 48116  
(July 1, 2003), 68 FR 41031; 49940 (June 29, 2004),  
69 FR 40695; 51911 (June 23, 2005), 70 FR 37878;  
and 54056 (June 28, 2006), 71 FR 38193.

<sup>12</sup> Letter from Nikki Poulos, Managing Director,  
General Counsel, and Chief Privacy Officer, FICC  
(May 16, 2007).

as a clearing agency in order that FICC  
may continue to operate as a registered  
clearing agency and to provide its users  
clearing and settlement services. The  
Commission will consider permanent  
registration of FICC at a future date after  
the Commission has further evaluated  
FICC's plans to have its MBS Division  
act as a CCP and after the Commission  
and FICC have had time to evaluate how  
FICC is functioning with its MBS  
Division acting as a CCP, assuming the  
MBS Division CCP service is  
implemented.

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](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 600-23 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 600-23. 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](http://www.sec.gov/<br/>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  
Section, 100 F Street, NE., Washington,  
DC 20549. Copies of such filing also will  
be available for inspection and copying  
at the principal office of FICC and on  
FICC's Web site at <http://www.ficc.com>.  
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 600–23 and should be submitted on or before July 18, 2007.

*It is therefore ordered* that FICC's temporary registration as a clearing agency (File No. 600–23) be and hereby is extended through June 30, 2008.

For the Commission by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.<sup>13</sup>

**Florence E. Harmon,**

*Deputy Secretary.*

[FR Doc. E7–12331 Filed 6–26–07; 8:45 am]

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## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34–55923; File No. SR–Amex–2007–42]

### Self-Regulatory Organizations; American Stock Exchange LLC; Order Granting Approval of Proposed Rule Change as Modified by Amendment No. 1 To Lower the Required Number of Letters of Reference an Applicant Must Provide

June 19, 2007.

#### I. Introduction

On April 26, 2007, the American Stock Exchange LLC (“Amex” or “Exchange”) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“Commission”) 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> a proposed rule change to amend the required number of letters of reference an applicant must provide. On May 3, 2007, Amex submitted Amendment No. 1 to the proposed rule change. The proposed rule change was published for comment in the **Federal Register** on May 18, 2007.<sup>3</sup> The Commission received no comments on the proposal. This order approves the proposed rule change, as amended.

#### II. Description of the Proposal

Amex Rule 353 currently requires a member applicant to provide five letters of reference from any person seeking status as a regular, options principal member or LTP holder.<sup>4</sup> The Exchange

proposes to amend Rule 353 to require member applicants to provide two, as opposed to five, letters of reference from responsible persons.<sup>5</sup> According to the Exchange, requiring five letters of reference has proven burdensome and time-consuming for member applicants and often delays the application process. Furthermore, Amex states that the content of such references is of little consequence in an applicant's ultimate approval. Finally, with the availability of more objective background information provided through other resources, such as WEBCRD, FBI fingerprints, and credit reports, Amex believes that the need for these letters of reference has largely been diminished.

#### III. Discussion and Commission Findings

The Commission has carefully reviewed the proposed rule change and finds that it is consistent with the requirements of the Act and the rules and regulations thereunder applicable to a national securities exchange.<sup>6</sup> In particular, the Commission finds that the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 6(b)(5) of the Act,<sup>7</sup> which, among other things, requires that the rules of a national securities exchange be designed to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to foster cooperation and coordination with persons engaged in regulating transactions in securities, to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest.

The Commission believes that amending Amex's rules to require two, instead of five, letters of reference is reasonable and consistent with the Act. This amendment should help expedite the application process without significantly diminishing Amex's standards of review with respect to the applicants. Applicants will still need to provide two references, and as Amex noted, there is now more objective background information available through other sources.

<sup>5</sup> The Exchange represented that it intends to reduce the requirement for associate membership applicants from five to two letters of reference to correspond with the proposed change affecting regular, options principal members and LTP holders.

<sup>6</sup> In approving this proposed rule change, the Commission has considered the proposed rule's impact on efficiency, competition, and capital formation. *See* 15 U.S.C. 78c(f).

<sup>7</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

#### IV. Conclusion

*It is therefore ordered*, pursuant to Section 19(b)(2) of the Act,<sup>8</sup> that the proposed rule change (SR–Amex–2007–42), be, and hereby is, approved.

For the Commission, by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.<sup>9</sup>

**Florence E. Harmon,**

*Deputy Secretary.*

[FR Doc. E7–12340 Filed 6–26–07; 8:45 am]

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## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34–55925; File No. SR–Amex–2007–44]

### Self-Regulatory Organizations; American Stock Exchange LLC; Notice of Filing and Order Granting Accelerated Approval of Proposed Rule Change, as Modified by Amendment Nos. 1 and 2 Thereto, to Amend Section 107D of the *Company Guide*

June 20, 2007.

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 May 1, 2007, the American Stock Exchange LLC (“Exchange” or “Amex”) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“Commission”) the proposed rule change as described in Items I and II below, which Items have been substantially prepared by the Exchange. On May 21, 2007, the Exchange filed Amendment No. 1 to the proposed rule change. On June 14, 2007, the Exchange filed Amendment No. 2 to the proposed rule change. This order provides notice of the proposed rule change and approves the proposed rule change, as amended, on an accelerated basis.

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

The Exchange proposes to amend Section 107D(g) of the Amex *Company Guide* to expand the eligibility of foreign securities and American Depository Receipts (“ADRs”) that may be components of an underlying index in connection with index-linked securities (“Index-Linked Securities”).<sup>3</sup>

<sup>8</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2).

<sup>9</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* Section 107D of the Amex *Company Guide* (defining Index-Linked Securities as securities that provide for the payment at maturity of a cash