SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. 34-57375; File No. SR-ISE-2008-14)

February 22, 2008

Self-Regulatory Organizations; International Securities Exchange, LLC; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change Relating to Solicitation of Interest Orders

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 February 19, 2008, the International Securities Exchange, LLC ("ISE" or "Exchange") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") the proposed rule change as described in Items I and II below, which Items have been prepared substantially by ISE. ISE filed the proposed rule change pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act³ and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) 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 ISE is proposing to amend the parameters governing Solicitation of Interest orders ("SOIs"). The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Exchange's Web site (www.ise.com), at the Exchange, and at the Commission's Public Reference Room.

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, ISE included statements concerning the purpose of and basis for the proposed rule change and discussed any comments it received on the proposed rule

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)(6).

change. The text of these statements may be examined at the places specified in Item IV below. ISE has prepared summaries, set forth in Sections A, B, and C below, of the most significant aspects of such statements.

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

1. Purpose

The purpose of this filing is to amend the parameters governing SOIs that are entered into MidPoint Match ("MPM"). When an SOI order is entered, the System sends Equity Electronic Access Members ("Equity EAMs") a solicitation notice containing the name of the equity security for which the order was entered. Currently, an SOI order must be at least 2,000 shares and cannot be canceled or changed for five seconds. An immediate-or-cancel ("IOC") SOI that is not executed within the five second no-cancellation period is automatically canceled.⁶

The Exchange proposes to reduce the no cancellation parameter to one second. The no cancellation parameter, currently set at five seconds, requires that Equity EAMs using SOIs relinquish the right to cancel or change an SOI order for five seconds. In the current market environment, many potential SOI users are reluctant to commit to a time period of that duration. Instead, Equity EAMs prefer a one second timeout, enabling them to cancel or revise the order in a timeframe that is more consistent with algorithmic trading patterns. Accordingly, an IOC SOI will also time out in one second.

Additionally, the Exchange proposes to reduce the minimum order size to 500 shares. The current minimum order size of 2,000 shares is larger than the typical order size generated by

See ISE Rule 2129 (MidPoint Match).

A regular SOI is converted to a Standard Order in MPM if it is not executed or canceled within 10 seconds; see ISE Rule 2129(d)(2).

algorithms. The Exchange proposes to revise the minimum order size to 500 shares, which is more consistent with algorithmic trading patterns.

2. <u>Statutory Basis</u>

The basis under the Act for this proposed rule change is found in Section 6(b) of the Act.⁷ Specifically, the Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 6(b)(5) of the Act⁸ requirements that the rules of an exchange be designed to promote just and equitable principles of trade, serve 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, this filing will provide investors with more flexibility in entering orders and receiving executions of such orders.

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

The proposed rule change does not 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 Proposed 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>Because the foregoing proposed rule change does not:
 - (i) significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest;
 - (ii) impose any significant burden on competition; and
- (iii) become operative for 30 days from the date on which it was filed, or such shorter time as the Commission may designate, if consistent with the protection of investors and the

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⁷ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

⁸ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

public interest, it has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act⁹ and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder.¹⁰

A proposed rule change filed pursuant to Rule 19b-4(f)(6) may not become operative prior to 30 days after the date of filing unless the Commission designates a shorter time if such action is consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest. The Exchange has requested that the Commission waive the 30-day operative delay set forth in Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii) under the Act. The Commission believes that the earlier operative date is consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest because it will allow the Exchange to implement the changes to the parameters governing SOIs without delay. For these reasons, the Commission designates the proposal to be operative upon filing with the Commission. The commission of the commission of the commission to the proposal to be operative upon filing with the Commission.

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.

⁹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

¹⁷ CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6). In addition, Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii) requires that a self-regulatory organization submit to the Commission written notice of its intent to file the proposed rule change, along with a brief description and text of the proposed rule change, at least five business days prior to the date of filing of the proposed rule change, or such shorter time as designated by the Commission. The Commission notes that ISE has satisfied the five-day pre-filing notice requirement.

¹¹ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6)(iii).

¹² 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6)(iii).

For purposes only of accelerating the 30-day operative delay of this proposal, the Commission has considered the proposed rule's impact on efficiency, competition, and capital formation. 15 U.S.C. 78c(f).

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. Please include File Number SR-ISE-2008 14 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-2008-14. 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, 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549, on official business days between the hours of 10:00 am and 3:00 pm. Copies of such filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office

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of ISE. 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-2008-14 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.¹⁴

Florence E. Harmon Deputy Secretary

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