SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. 34-57550; File No. SR-ISE-2008-30)

March 24, 2008

Self-Regulatory Organizations; International Securities Exchange, LLC; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change Regarding Responses to Special 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 March 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 substantially prepared by ISE. The Exchange filed the proposal as a "non-controversial" proposed rule change pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(iii) of the Act³ and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder, ⁴ which renders it effective upon filing with the Commission. ⁵ 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 Rule Change</u>

The ISE proposes to amend its rules regarding responses to special orders. The text of the proposed rule change is available at ISE, the Commission's Public Reference Room, and www.iseoptions.com.

¹⁵ U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

³ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(iii).

⁴ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

The Exchange has asked the Commission to waive the 30-day operative delay required by Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii), 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6)(iii). See discussion infra Section III.

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

In its filing with the Commission, the ISE 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 ISE 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 purpose of this proposed rule change is to amend the Exchange's rules regarding responses to special orders. Currently, when members enter orders into the options trading system's Block Mechanism, Facilitation Mechanism, and Solicited Order Mechanism, the orders are exposed to all market participants for three seconds.

However, the Exchange's rules restrict on whose behalf a member may respond. In the case of the Block, Facilitation and Solicited Order Mechanisms, members may not enter responses on behalf of options market makers on other exchanges.

Many of ISE's members operate as market makers on other exchanges that do not have this same type of restrictions in their rules. Accordingly, the Exchange proposes to eliminate the restriction on the entry of orders for the account of market makers of another options exchange. The Exchange does not believe that this proposed rule change will have a material effect on the current participation in trades entered into the mechanisms. Further, this proposed rule change will bring ISE's rules into conformance

with those of the other exchanges who, as noted above, do not have this restriction in their rules.

2. <u>Statutory Basis</u>

The Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act and the rules and regulations under the Act applicable to a national securities exchange and, in particular, the requirements of Section 6(b) of the Act. Specifically, the Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 6(b)(5) of the Act requirements that the rules of a national securities exchange be designed to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest. In particular, the proposed rule change will strengthen the Exchange's competitive position while allowing a greater number of market participants to respond to special orders on the Exchange.

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</u> <u>Rule Change Received from Members, Participants or Others</u>

The Exchange has not solicited, and does not intend to solicit, comments on this proposed rule change. The Exchange has not received any unsolicited written comments from members or other interested parties.

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^{6 15} U.S.C. 78f(b).

⁷ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

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

Because the foregoing proposed rule change does not (1) significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest; (2) impose any significant burden on competition; and (3) become operative for thirty 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 public interest, it has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act⁸ and Rule $19b-4(f)(6)^9$ thereunder. ¹⁰

A proposed rule change filed under Commission Rule 19b-4(f)(6)¹¹ normally does not become operative prior to thirty days after the date of filing. The Exchange requests that the Commission waive the 30-day operative delay, as specified in Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii), and designate the proposed rule change to become operative immediately. The Commission believes that waiving the 30-day operative delay is consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest because such waiver will enable a greater number of market participants to respond to special orders on the Exchange. For these reasons, the Commission designates the proposed rule change as effective upon filing.¹²

^{8 15} U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

^{9 17} CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

Pursuant to Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii), the Exchange gave 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 on which the Exchange filed the proposed rule change. See 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6)(iii).

¹¹ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

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

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 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-ISE-2008-30 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-2008-30. 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 the filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the

principal office of the 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-2008-30 and should be submitted on or

before [insert date 21 days after publication in the Federal Register].

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to

delegated authority. 13

Florence E. Harmon Deputy Secretary

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17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

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