SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. 34-58277; File No. SR-Amex-2008-59)

July 31, 2008

Self-Regulatory Organizations; American Stock Exchange LLC; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change to Delete Outdated Sections of Its Delisting Rules

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 July 24, 2008, the American Stock Exchange LLC ("Amex" 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 by Amex. Amex filed the proposal as a "non-controversial" proposed rule change pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(iii) of the Act<sup>3</sup> and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder,<sup>4</sup> 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> <u>Rule Change</u>

Amex proposes to delete certain outdated sections of its rules related to delisting procedures that became inapplicable by their terms on April 24, 2006. On that date, amendments to Amex Rule 18 and Sections 1010, 1011, 1201, 1202, 1203, 1204, 1205 and 1206 of the Amex Company Guide became effective for the purpose of conforming the Exchange's rules to certain requirements of Rule 12d2-2 under the Act.<sup>5</sup> The rule text adopted in connection with these amendments specifically provided that the portion of each rule that was effective only through

<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> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

April 23, 2006 would be rescinded after that date, and the purpose of this proposed rule change is to delete this language that is no longer applicable. The text of the proposed rule change is available at Amex, the Commission's Public Reference Room, and <a href="https://www.amex.com">www.amex.com</a>.

# 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, Amex 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. Amex 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 Basis</u> for, the Proposed Rule Change

#### 1. <u>Purpose</u>

On April 17, 2006, the Commission approved a change to the Exchange's delisting procedures to conform them to new procedural requirements for delisting as mandated by amendments to Rule 12d2-2 under the Act. Rule 12d2-2 required all national securities exchanges, including the Exchange, to amend their delisting rules to conform to these new requirements. Consequently, on April 24, 2006, amendments to Rule 18 and Sections 1010, 1011, 1201, 1202, 1203, 1204, 1205 and 1206 of the Amex Company Guide became effective for the foregoing purpose, and other sections of these rules became inapplicable by their terms on that date. The rule text adopted in connection with these amendments specifically provided that the portion of each rule that was effective only through April 23, 2006 would be rescinded after that date, and the purpose of this proposed rule change is to delete this language that is no longer

See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 53666 (April 17, 2006), 71 FR 21056 (April 24, 2006) (SR-Amex-2005-107).

applicable.

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

The Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 6(b)<sup>7</sup> of the Act in general, and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(5)<sup>8</sup> in particular, in that it is designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable principles of trade, 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 Exchange believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest because its elimination of obsolete rule text will make the Amex's currently effective rules more transparent to investors and other interested parties, thereby eliminating potential confusion regarding the meaning of those rules that might otherwise result.

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

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. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the 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

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

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

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

as the Commission may designate, if consistent with the protection of investors and public interest, it has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act<sup>9</sup> and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder. <sup>10</sup>

A proposed rule change filed under Commission Rule 19b-4(f)(6) may not become operative prior to 30 days after the date of filing. However, Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii)<sup>11</sup> permits the Commission to designate 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.<sup>12</sup> The Commission believes that waiving the 30-day operative delay is consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest because the proposed rule change would allow the proposed non-substantive revisions to Amex's rules to be effective immediately. Deleting the outdated rule text will eliminate potential confusion and accurately reflect the rules currently in effect. For this reason, the Commission designates the proposal to be operative upon filing with the Commission.<sup>13</sup>

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

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

<sup>17</sup> 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 Amex has satisfied this requirement.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6)(iii).

For purposes only of waiving 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).

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 (<a href="http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml">http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml</a>); or
- Send an e-mail to <u>rule-comments@sec.gov</u>. Please include File Number SR-Amex-2008-59 on the subject line.

#### Paper comments

 Send paper comments in triplicate to Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549-1090.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-Amex-2008-59. 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 (<a href="http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml">http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml</a>). 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 of Amex. 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-Amex-2008-59 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 Acting Secretary

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).