SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. 34-59201; File No. SR-ISE-2008-101)

January 6, 2009

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change by International Securities Exchange, LLC Relating to Amending the Fee Schedule

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Act"), and Rule 19b-4 thereunder, notice is hereby given that on December 31, 2008, the International Securities Exchange, LLC (the "Exchange" or the "ISE") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II, and III below, which items have been prepared by the self-regulatory organization. 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 Exchange is proposing to amend its Schedule of Fees with respect to equity transactions. The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Exchange's Internet Web site at <a href="http://www.ise.com">http://www.ise.com</a>.

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 self-regulatory organization 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 self-

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

regulatory organization 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> Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

<u>Purpose</u> – Currently, the Exchange's Schedule of Fees for equity transactions consists of a tiered rebate structure for securities priced at or above \$1.00 across all Tapes, averaged across an entire month, where the first five million maker shares executed on an average daily volume (ADV) basis receive a rebate of \$0.0032 per share, with an increase in the rebate to \$0.0035 for each maker share executed above five million ADV.

The Exchange now proposes to rescind the tiered rebate structure and implement a flat rebate, irrespective of ADV. The Exchange is amending the fee schedule in an effort to increase order flow in securities that are reported to Tape B. Accordingly, the Exchange proposes to adopt a fee structure for transactions in securities priced at or above \$1.00 (excluding both order delivery and MidPoint Match orders) whereby the maker receives a per share rebate of \$0.0035 for transactions in securities that are reported to Tape B and a per share rebate of \$0.0029 for transactions in securities that are reported to Tape A and Tape C. The aforementioned fee changes will become operative on January 2, 2009.

The execution fee for orders that remove liquidity for securities, across all tapes, that trade at or above \$1.00 will remain unchanged at \$0.003. The execution fee for orders that remove liquidity for securities, across all tapes, priced under \$1.00 remains unchanged, at 0.3% of trade value with no rebates for adding liquidity in such securities.

<u>Basis</u> – The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the objectives of Section 6 of the Act,<sup>3</sup> in general, and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(4),<sup>4</sup> 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. In particular, raising the rebate in Tape B securities may provide incentive to members to send order flow to the ISE for securities reported to Tape B.

### 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.

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

The foregoing rule change has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act<sup>5</sup> and Rule 19b-4(f)(2)<sup>6</sup> thereunder. 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

<sup>4</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(4).

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> 17 CFR 19b-4(f)(2).

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-2008-101 on the subject line.

### Paper Comments:

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

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-ISE-2008-101. 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 on official business days between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Copies of such filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the Exchange. 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-2008-101 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.<sup>7</sup>

Florence E. Harmon Deputy Secretary

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).