

## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-51155; File No. PCAOB-2004-02]

### Public Company Accounting Oversight Board; Order Approving Proposed Rule and Amendment No. 1 Amending Bylaws

February 8, 2005.

#### I. Introduction

On November 12, 2004, the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (the "Board" or the "PCAOB") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") proposed amendments to its bylaws, as modified by Amendment No. 1 to the proposed amendments, (PCAOB-2004-02) pursuant to Sections 101 and 107 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 (the "Act"), which clarify existing bylaw provisions and address certain internal operational and administrative matters. Notice of the proposed bylaw amendments was published in the **Federal Register** on January 4, 2005. The Commission received no comment letters relating to the proposed bylaw amendments. For the reasons discussed below, the Commission is granting approval of the proposed bylaw amendments.

#### II. Description

Section 101(g)(1) of the Act directs the PCAOB to adopt rules to provide for the operation and administration of the Board, the exercise of its authority, and the performance of its responsibilities under the Act. Pursuant to its organizational and rulemaking authority under the Act, the Board adopted a set of bylaws on January 3, 2003 to establish rules, standards and procedures for the conduct of the PCAOB's business affairs. On April 25, 2003, the Board amended the bylaws to specify the powers of the PCAOB's Chair. The Commission approved the Board's bylaws, as amended, on July 23, 2003. The Board adopted additional amendments to its bylaws on March 9, 2004 to clarify existing provisions and to cause the bylaws to address certain internal operational and administrative PCAOB matters, and submitted the proposed bylaw amendments to the Commission on March 18, 2004. On October 26, 2004, the PCAOB adopted modifications to the proposed amendments, and submitted the proposed amendments, as modified, for Commission approval on November 12, 2004. Pursuant to the requirements of Section 107(b) of the Act and Section 19(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of

1934 (the "Exchange Act"), the Commission published the proposed amendments, as modified, for public comment on January 4, 2005.

#### III. Discussion

The Commission received no public comments relating to the PCAOB's proposed amendments to its bylaws. The proposed amendments are intended to revise the PCAOB's bylaws to clarify existing provisions and to cause the bylaws to address certain internal operational and administrative PCAOB matters. The proposed amendments also are generally intended to make the bylaw provisions more consistent with District of Columbia and Internal Revenue Service provisions for nonprofit corporations and to make the Board's operations more transparent.

#### IV. Conclusion

On the basis of the foregoing, the Commission finds that the proposed amendments to the Board's bylaws are consistent with the requirements of the Act and the securities laws and are necessary and appropriate in the public interest and for the protection of investors.

*It is therefore ordered*, pursuant to Section 107 of the Act and Section 19(b)(2) of the Exchange Act, that the proposed bylaw amendments (File No. PCAOB-2004-02) be and hereby are approved.

By the Commission.

**Margaret H. McFarland,**

*Deputy Secretary.*

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## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-51150; File No. SR-Amex-2005-017]

### Self-Regulatory Organizations; American Stock Exchange LLC; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change To Extend the Suspension of the Specialist's and Registered Traders' Transaction Charges for the Trading of Nasdaq-100 Index Tracking Stock®

February 8, 2005.

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 February 2, 2005, 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, II, III below, which Items have been prepared by the Exchange. The Amex has designated the proposed rule change as "establishing or changing a due, fee, or other charge" under Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act,<sup>3</sup> and Rule 19b-4(f)(2) thereunder,<sup>4</sup> which renders the proposal effective upon filing with the Commission. The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

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

The Amex proposes to amend the Amex Equity and Exchange Traded Funds and Trust Issued Receipts Fee Schedules ("Amex Fee Schedules") to extend the temporary suspension of the specialist's and registered traders' transaction charges for the trading of Nasdaq-100 Index Tracking Stock® (Symbol: QQQQ) pursuant to the Nasdaq Unlisted Trading Privileges Plan. The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Amex's Web site ([www.amex.com](http://www.amex.com)), at the Amex's Office of the Secretary, and at the Commission's Public Reference Room.

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

In its filing with the Commission, the Exchange 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 Amex has prepared summaries, set forth in Sections A, B, and C below, of the most significant aspects of such statements.

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

###### 1. Purpose

Effective December 1, 2004, the Nasdaq-100 Index Tracking Stock® listed on the Nasdaq Stock Market, Inc. It trades on Nasdaq under the symbol QQQQ. The Amex trades the QQQQ on an unlisted trading privileges basis. The transaction charges for the specialist and registered traders are \$0.0037 (\$0.37 per 100 shares) and \$0.0038 (\$0.38 per 100 shares) respectively. These

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

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

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

<sup>4</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(2).

transaction charges are also subject to a \$300 per trade maximum. The Amex, however, has suspended these charges through January 31, 2005.<sup>5</sup> The Amex now proposes to amend the Amex Fee Schedules to suspend the transaction charges for the specialist and registered traders until February 28, 2005. The Exchange believes that this fee suspension would encourage competition among markets trading QQQQ and enhance the Amex's competitiveness in trading this security.

## 2. Statutory Basis

The Amex believes the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act,<sup>6</sup> in general, and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(4) of the Act,<sup>7</sup> in particular, in that it is intended to provide for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees and other charges among its members and issuers and other persons using its facilities.

### B. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on competition.

### C. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed Rule Change Received From Members, Participants, or Others

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

The foregoing rule change establishes or changes a due, fee, or other charge imposed by the Exchange, and, therefore, has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(ii) of the Act<sup>8</sup> and subparagraph (f)(2) of Rule 19b-4 thereunder.<sup>9</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 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 [rule-comments@sec.gov](mailto:rule-comments@sec.gov). Please include File Number SR-Amex-2005-017 on the subject line.

### Paper Comments

- Send paper comments in triplicate to Jonathan G. Katz, Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 450 Fifth Street, NW., Washington, DC 20549-0609.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-Amex-2005-017. 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, 450 Fifth Street, NW., Washington, DC 20549. Copies of such filing will also be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the 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-2005-017 and should be submitted on or before March 8, 2005.

For the Commission, by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.<sup>10</sup>

**Margaret H. McFarland,**

*Deputy Secretary.*

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<sup>10</sup> 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-51152; File No. SR-Amex-2005-016]

### Self-Regulatory Organizations; American Stock Exchange LLC; Notice of Filing and Order Granting Accelerated Approval to a Proposed Rule Change Relating to the Extension of the Suspension of Customer Transaction Charges for the Trading of Nasdaq-100 Index Tracking Stock®

February 8, 2005.

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 February 2, 2005, 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, II, and III below, which Items have been prepared by the Exchange. The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons. In addition, the Commission is granting accelerated approval of the proposed rule change.

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

The Amex proposes to amend the Amex Equity and Exchange Traded Funds and Trust Issued Receipts Fee Schedules ("Amex Fee Schedules") to extend the suspension of customer transactions charges for the trading of Nasdaq-100 Index Tracking Stock® (Symbol: QQQQ) pursuant to the Nasdaq Unlisted Trading Privileges Plan until February 28, 2005.<sup>3</sup> The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Amex's Web site (<http://www.amex.com>), at the Amex's Office of the Secretary, and at the Commission's Public Reference Room.

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

In its filing with the Commission, the Exchange included statements concerning the purpose of, and basis for, the proposed rule change and discussed any comments it had received on the proposed rule change. The text of these

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

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

<sup>3</sup> The Exchange also submitted a proposed rule change extending the suspension of the specialist's and registered traders' transaction charges for the trading of QQQQ. See File No. SR-Amex-2005-017.

<sup>5</sup> See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 50970 (January 6, 2005), 70 FR 2193 (January 12, 2005) (SR-Amex-2004-110).

<sup>6</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

<sup>7</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(4).

<sup>8</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(ii).

<sup>9</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(2).