

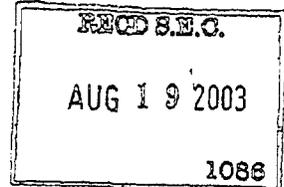
Aug-19-03 11:35am From-  
raras m...  
Manager  
Securities Operations

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New York, NY 10005

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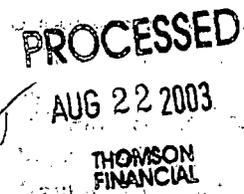


1-15284



August 19, 2003

Mr. Brian Johnson  
Branch Chief  
Securities and Exchange Commission  
Branch of Filer Support 2  
Room 1004 -- STOP/1-4  
450 Fifth Street, NW  
Judiciary Plaza  
Washington, DC 20549



Dear Mr. Johnson:

The New York Stock Exchange certifies approval for listing and registration under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc., Floating Rate Notes due 2006 and requests immediate acceleration of registration. Adequate distribution assured. Form 8-A received on August 19, 2003. Tentative listing date - August 20, 2003.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "David L. ...".