

Paras Madho
Manager
Securities Operations

FROM-NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE

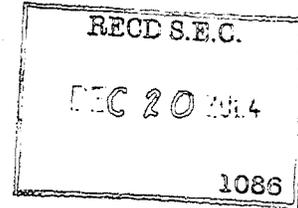
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December 20, 2004

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

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Dear Mr. Johnson:

The New York Stock Exchange certifies approval for listing and registration under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, SYNTHETIC FIXED-INCOME SECURITIES, INC. ON BEHALF OF STRATS(SM) TRUST FOR MORGAN STANLEY SECURITIES, SERIES 2004-16, 15,000 STRATS(SM) Certificates, Series 2004-16 and requests immediate acceleration of registration. Adequate distribution assured. Form 8-A received on December 20, 2004. Tentative listing date - December 22, 2004.

Sincerely,