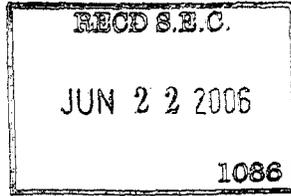




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*Cert NYS*



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June 22, 2006

Mr. Brian Johnson  
Branch Chief  
Securities and Exchange Commission  
Branch of Filer Support 2  
Room 2531  
100 F Street, NE  
Washington, DC 20549

Dear Mr. Johnson:

The New York Stock Exchange certifies approval for listing and registration under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, HSBC USA INC., Depositary Shares (Each representing one-fortieth of a share of 6.50% Non-Cumulative Preferred Stock, Series H) and requests immediate acceleration of registration. Adequate distribution assured. Form 8-A received on June 22, 2006. Tentative listing date - June 26, 2006.

Sincerely,

*Paras Mehta*

PROCESSED  
JUN 23 2006  
THOMSON  
FINANCIAL