# SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. 34-66786; File No. SR-CME-2012-10)

April 11, 2012

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Chicago Mercantile Exchange Inc.; Notice of Filing and Order Granting Accelerated Approval of Proposed Rule Change Regarding Acceptance of Additional Interest Rate Swaps and Related Interbank Rates for Clearing

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 March 30, 2012, the Chicago Mercantile Exchange Inc. ("CME") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") the proposed rule change described in Items I and II below, which items have been prepared primarily by CME. The Commission is publishing this Notice and Order to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons and to approve the proposed rule change on an accelerated basis.

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

CME proposes to amend its rules related to its business as a derivatives clearing organization offering interest rate swap ("IRS") clearing services. More specifically, the proposed rule changes would facilitate the acceptance of Japanese Yen ("JPY"), Swiss Franc ("ZHF"), and Australian Dollar ("AUD") denominated interest rate swaps and related interbank rates for clearing. The proposed rule change also contains the corresponding fee changes. The text of the proposed rule change is available at CME's website at

http://www.cmegroup.com/market-regulation/rule-filings.html.

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

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

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

In its filing with the Commission, CME included statements concerning the purpose 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 III below. CME 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 Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the</u> <u>Proposed Rule Change</u>

CME is registered as a derivatives clearing organization with the Commodity Futures Trading Commission and currently offers clearing services for IRS. The changes that are the subject of this filing are proposed rules that would facilitate CME's acceptance of JPY, ZHF, and AUD IRS and related interbank rates for clearing beginning April 16, 2012.

The proposed changes would be made to current CME Rule 90102.E. The proposed changes would simply add the following line items: AUD-BBR-BBSW; AUD-LIBOR-BBA; and AUD-AONIA-OIS-COMP.

In connection with the acceptance of such swaps, CME is also amending its fee schedules for OTC IRS to reflect the fees for JPY, ZHF and AUD denominated IRS. The proposed rule change features a new fee schedule that would be applicable to IRS Clearing Members clearing OTC IRS transactions and, separately, a new fee schedule that would be applicable to customers of IRS Clearing Members clearing OTC IRS transactions.

In addition, CME also proposes to make corresponding changes to its Manual of Operations for CME Cleared Interest Rate Swaps ("IRS Manual"). These changes would update the IRS Manual to reflect the new denominations and rate options and certain other associated operational changes.

CME believes the proposed rule change is consistent with the requirements of the Act and particularly with Section 17A of the Act because it involves clearing of swaps and futures contracts and thus relate solely to CME's swaps and futures clearing activities pursuant to its registration as a derivatives clearing organization under the Commodity Exchange Act ("CEA") and does not significantly affect any securities clearing operations of the clearing agency or any related rights or obligations of the clearing agency or persons using such service. CME further notes that the policies of the CEA with respect to clearing are comparable to a number of the policies underlying the Act, such as promoting market transparency for over-the-counter derivatives and futures markets, promoting the prompt and accurate clearance of transactions, and protecting investors and the public interest. The proposed rule changes accomplish those objectives by offering investors clearing for an expanded range of IRS products at CME.

B. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition</u>

CME does not believe that the proposed rule change will have any impact or impose any burden on competition.

#### C. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed Rule</u> <u>Change Received from Members, Participants, or Others</u>

CME has not solicited and does not intend to solicit comments regarding this proposed rule change. CME has not received any unsolicited written comments from interested parties.

III. 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:

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- Electronic comments may be submitted by using the Commission's Internet comment form (http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml), or send an e-mail to <u>rule-</u> <u>comments@sec.gov</u>. Please include File No. SR-CME-2012-10 on the subject line.
- Paper comments should be sent in triplicate to Elizabeth M. Murphy, Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street, NE, Washington, D.C., 20549-1090.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-CME-2012-10. 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 website (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 website viewing and printing in the Commission's Public Reference Room, 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549 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 CME and on CME's website at http://www.cmegroup.com/market-regulation/rule-filings.html. 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-CME-2012-10 and should be submitted on or before [insert date 21 days from publication in the Federal Register].

## IV. <u>Commission's Findings and Order Granting Accelerated Approval of Proposed Rule</u> <u>Change</u>

Section 19(b) of the Act<sup>3</sup> directs the Commission to approve a proposed rule change of a self-regulatory organization if it finds that such proposed rule change is consistent with the requirements of the Act and the rules and regulations thereunder applicable to such organization. The Commission finds that the proposed rule change is consistent with the requirements of the Act, in particular with the requirements of Section 17A of the Act,<sup>4</sup> and the rules and regulations thereunder applicable to CME. Specifically, the Commission finds that the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 17A(b)(3)(F) of the Act, which requires, among other things, that the rules of a clearing agency be designed to promote the prompt and accurate clearance and settlement of derivative agreements, contracts, and transactions because it will allow CME to offer its services in clearing IRS products to a broader category of IRS products and thereby, should promote the prompt and accurate clearance and settlement of derivative agreements, contracts, and transactions.<sup>5</sup>

In its filing, CME requested that the Commission approve this proposed rule change prior to the thirtieth day after the date of publication of the notice of the filing. CME has articulated three reasons for so granting approval. One, the products covered by this filing and CME's operations as a derivatives clearing organization for such products are regulated by the CFTC under the CEA. Two, the proposed rule change relates solely to IRS products and therefore relate solely to CME's swaps clearing activities and do not significantly relate to CME's

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

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78q-1. In approving this proposed rule change, the Commission has considered the proposed rule's impact on efficiency, competition, and capital formation. 15 U.S.C. 78c(f).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78q-1(b)(3)(F).

functions as a clearing agency for security-based swaps. Three, not approving this request on an accelerated basis will have a significant impact on the swap clearing business of CME as a designated clearing organization.

The Commission finds good cause for granting approval of the proposed rule change prior to the thirtieth day after publication of the notice of its filing because: (i) the proposed rule change does not significantly affect any securities clearing operations of the clearing agency (whether in existence or contemplated by its rules) or any related rights or obligations of the clearing agency or persons using such service; (ii) the clearing agency has indicated that not providing accelerated approval would have a significant impact on its IRS clearing business as a designated clearing organization; and (iii) the activity relating to the non-security clearing operations of the clearing agency for which the clearing agency is seeking approval is subject to regulation by another federal regulator.

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# V. <u>Conclusion</u>

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED, pursuant to Section 19(b)(2) of the Act, that the proposed rule change (SR-CME-2012-10) is approved on an accelerated basis.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.<sup>6</sup>

Kevin M. O'Neill Deputy Secretary

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).