SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. 34-53910; File No. SR-ISE-2006-22)

May 31, 2006

Self-Regulatory Organizations; International Securities Exchange, Inc.; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change and Amendment No. 1 Thereto **Relating to Fee Changes** 

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Act"), and Rule 19b-4 thereunder, 2 notice is hereby given that on April 26, 2006, the International Securities Exchange, Inc. ("ISE" 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 ISE. On May 18, 2006, ISE filed Amendment No. 1 to the proposed rule change.<sup>3</sup> The ISE has designated this proposal as one establishing or changing a due, fee, or other charge imposed by the ISE under Section 19(b)(3)(A)(ii) of the Act.<sup>4</sup> and Rule 19b-4(f)(2) thereunder, <sup>5</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, as amended, from interested persons.

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

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

Amendment No. 1 made certain clarifying changes to the purpose section regarding fees charged to non-ISE market makers for transactions in options on the Premium Products that are the subject of this filing. These changes did not affect the fees covered by this filing.

<sup>4</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(ii).

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

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

The ISE is proposing to amend its Schedule of Fees to establish fees for transactions in options on two Premium Products.<sup>6</sup> The text of the proposed rule change, as amended, is available on the ISE's Web site (<a href="http://www.iseoptions.com/legal/proposed\_rule\_changes.asp">http://www.iseoptions.com/legal/proposed\_rule\_changes.asp</a>), at the principal office of the ISE, and at the Commission's Public Reference Room.

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

In its filing with the Commission, the ISE 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 ISE 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 the Purpose of, and Statutory</u> <u>Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change</u>

### 1. Purpose

The Exchange is proposing to amend its Schedule of Fees to establish fees for transactions in options on the following two Premium Products: iShares S&P 500 Index Fund

2

<sup>&</sup>quot;Premium Products" is defined in the ISE's Schedule of Fees as the products enumerated therein. The Exchange represents that the Premium Products that are the subject of this proposed rule change, iShares S&P 500 Index Fund and iShares MSCI Hong Kong Index Fund, constitute "Fund Shares," as defined by ISE Rule 502(h).

("IVV")<sup>7</sup> and iShares MSCI Hong Kong Index Fund ("EWH").<sup>8</sup> Specifically, the Exchange is proposing to adopt an execution fee and a comparison fee for all transactions in options on IVV and EWH.<sup>9</sup> The amount of the execution fee and comparison fee for products covered by this filing shall be \$0.15 and \$0.03 per contract, respectively, for all Public Customer Orders<sup>10</sup> and Firm Proprietary orders. The amount of the execution fee and comparison fee for all ISE Market

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The Exchange represents that these fees will be charged only to Exchange members. Under a pilot program that is set to expire on July 31, 2006, these fees will also be charged to Linkage Orders (as defined in ISE Rule 1900).

Public Customer Order is defined in ISE Rule 100(a)(33) as an order for the account of a Public Customer. Public Customer is defined in ISE Rule 100(a)(32) as a person that is not a broker or dealer in securities.

Maker transactions and all non-ISE Market Maker transactions shall be equal to the execution fee and comparison fee currently charged by the Exchange for ISE Market Maker transactions and non-ISE Market Maker transactions in equity options. All of the applicable fees covered by this filing are identical to fees charged by the Exchange for all other Premium Products. The Exchange believes the proposed rule change will further the Exchange's goal of introducing new products to the marketplace that are competitively priced.

Additionally, the Exchange proposes to remove SWH (Software HOLDRS) from the list of Premium Products on the Schedule of Fees. SWH has been delisted from ISE and no longer trades on the Exchange.

### 2. <u>Statutory Basis</u>

The Exchanges believes that the basis under the Act for this proposed rule change is the requirement under Section 6(b)(4) of the Act<sup>12</sup> that an exchange have an equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees and other charges among its members and other persons using its facilities.

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

The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change, as amended, does not impose any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

4

Telephone conversation between Samir Patel, Assistant General Counsel, ISE, and Richard Holley III, Special Counsel, Division of Market Regulation, Commission, on May 31, 2006.

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

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

The Exchange has not solicited, and does not intend to solicit, comments on this proposed rule change. The Exchange has not received any unsolicited written comments from members or other interested parties.

## III. <u>Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission Action</u>

Because the foregoing rule change, as amended, establishes or changes a due, fee, or other charge imposed by the Exchange, it has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3) of the Act<sup>13</sup> and Rule 19b-4(f)(2)<sup>14</sup> thereunder. At any time within 60 days of the filing of such amended 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.<sup>15</sup>

## IV. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views, and arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposed rule change, as amended, is consistent with the Act. Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

### Electronic comments:

• Use the Commission's Internet comment form (<a href="http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml">http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml</a>); or

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

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> 17 CFR 19b-4(f)(2).

The effective date of the original proposed rule is April 26, 2006. The effective date of Amendment No. 1 is May 18, 2006. For purposes of calculating the 60-day period within which the Commission may summarily abrogate the proposed rule change under Section 19(b)(3)(C) of the Act, the Commission considers the period to commence on May 18, 2006, the date on which the ISE submitted Amendment No. 1. See 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(C).

• Send an e-mail to <u>rule-comments@sec.gov</u>. Please include File No. SR-ISE-2006-22 on the subject line.

### Paper comments:

• Send paper comments in triplicate to Nancy M. Morris, Secretary, Securities and
Exchange Commission, Station Place, 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549-1090.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-ISE-2006-22. 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 (<a href="http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml">http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml</a>). 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. Copies of such filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the ISE.

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-ISE-2006-22 and should be submitted on or before [insert date 21 days from the date of publication in the <u>Federal Register</u>].

For the Commission, by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.  $^{16}$ 

Nancy M. Morris Secretary

7

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