SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. 34-54896; File No. SR-ISE-2006-74)

December 8, 2006

Self-Regulatory Organizations; International Securities Exchange, LLC; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change and Amendment No. 1 Thereto Relating to Prefatory Language in Chapter 21 (ISE Stock Exchange LLC Trading Rules)

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act")¹ and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,² notice is hereby given that on December 5, 2006, the International Securities Exchange, LLC ("ISE" or "Exchange") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") the proposed rule change as described in Items I and II below, which Items have been prepared by the Exchange. On December 6, 2006, the Exchange filed Amendment No. 1 to the proposed rule change.³ The Exchange filed the proposed rule change as a "non-controversial" rule change under Rule 19b-4(f)(6) under the Act,⁴ which rendered 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.

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

The Exchange proposes to remove the lead-in paragraph to Chapter 21 of the ISE Rules (ISE Stock Exchange LLC Trading Rules). The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Exchange's Web site, http://www.iseoptions.com, at the Exchange's Office of the Secretary, and at the Commission's Public Reference Room.

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

Amendment No. 1 clarified that the Exchange proposes to delete the prefatory language in Chapter 21 of the ISE Rules.

⁴ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

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

In its filing with the Commission, the Exchange included statements concerning the purpose of and basis for the proposed rule change and discussed any comments it received on the proposal. The text of these statements may be examined at the places specified in Item IV below. The Exchange 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 the Statutory</u> Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

1. <u>Purpose</u>

On September 8, 2006, the ISE launched trading in equity securities through its Midpoint Match system pursuant to Form PILOT.⁵ On September 28, 2006, the Commission approved a full set of rules (Chapter 21 ISE Stock Exchange LLC Trading Rules) related to the trading of equity securities on the ISE Stock Exchange, including rules governing both the operating Midpoint Match system and a displayed market that was not yet operational.⁶ To address the fact that the ISE would be launching the displayed market sometime in the future, the Exchange included prefatory language in Chapter 21 stating that the rules governing trading in Midpoint Match were operative, while the rules governing trading in the displayed market were approved, but would not become operative until trading commenced in the displayed market. The ISE proposes to delete this prefatory language effective December 8, 2006, the date on which trading will commence in the displayed market.

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⁵ See File No. PILOT-ISE-2006-01 (July 28, 2006).

See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 54528, 71 FR 58650 (October 4, 2006) (SR-ISE-2006-48).

2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 6(b)(5) of the Act,⁷ in that it is designed to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system, and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest.

B. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition

The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change would impose no burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

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

The Exchange did not solicit or receive any written comments with respect to the proposal.

III. Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission Action

Because the proposed rule change: (i) does not significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest; (ii) does not impose any significant burden on competition; and (iii) by its terms, does not become operative for 30 days after the date of filing, or such shorter time as the Commission may designate, if consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest, the proposed rule change has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act⁸ and subparagraph (f)(6) of Rule 19b-4 thereunder.⁹

As required under Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii), ¹⁰ the Exchange provided the Commission with written notice of its intent to file the proposed rule change, along with a brief description and text

⁸ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

⁷ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

⁹ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

¹⁰ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6)(iii).

of the proposed rule change, at least five business days prior to the date of the filing of the proposed rule change. The Exchange has requested that the Commission waive the 30-day operative delay. The Commission believes that waiver of the 30-day operative delay is consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest, because this filing will enable previously approved rules to become operative. For this reason, the Commission designates the proposal to be operative on December 8, 2006.¹¹

At any time within 60 days of the filing of the 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 the furtherance of the purposes of the Act.¹²

IV. 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:

Electronic comments:

- Use the Commission's Internet comment form (http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml);
 or
- Send an e-mail to <u>rule-comments@sec.gov</u>. Please include File Number SR-ISE-2006-74 on the subject line.

For the purposes only of accelerating the operative date of this proposal, the Commission has considered the proposed rule's impact on efficiency, competition and capital formation. 15 U.S.C. 78c(f).

¹² See 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(C).

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-2006-74. 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 (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 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 Exchange. All comments received will be posted without change; the Commission does not edit personal identifying information from submissions. You should submit only information that

6

you wish to make available publicly. All submissions should refer to File Number SR-ISE-2006-74 and should be submitted on or before [insert date 21 days from publication in the

Federal Register].

For the Commission, by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated

 $authority.^{13} \\$

Florence E. Harmon Deputy Secretary

13