SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. 34-56127; File No. SR-Amex-2007-63)

July 24, 2007

Self-Regulatory Organizations; American Stock Exchange LLC; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change Relating to the Options Order Cancellation Fee

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 June 27, 2007, the American Stock Exchange LLC ("Amex" 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 substantially prepared by the Exchange. The Amex has filed the proposed rule change as one establishing or changing a due, fee, or other charge imposed by the Exchange under Section 19(b)(3)(A)(ii) of the Act<sup>3</sup> and Rule 19b-4(f)(2) thereunder, <sup>4</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 from interested persons.

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

The Exchange proposes to revise the options order cancellation fee. The text of the proposed rule change is available at Amex, the Commission's Public Reference Room, and <a href="http://www.amex.com">http://www.amex.com</a>.

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

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

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

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

# 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, Amex 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. Amex 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 proposes to revise the existing options order cancellation fee set forth in the Options Fee Schedule. The proposed revision would change the manner in which the fee is determined or calculated so that the cancellation fee of \$1.00 is assessed to the executing Clearing Member for each order cancelled through the Amex Order File ("AOF") in excess of the number of orders that the executing Clearing Member executes through AOF in a given month.<sup>5</sup>

The current options order cancellation fee set forth in the Options Fee Schedule differs in how the fee is assessed against executing Clearing Members. The fee of \$1.00 is currently charged against an executing Clearing Member for every order that it cancels through the AOF in a given month when the total number of orders the executing Clearing Member canceled through AOF in that month exceeds the total number of orders that same Clearing Member executed through AOF in that same month. The fee does not apply to executing Clearing Members that cancel fewer than 500 orders through

2

The operative date of the proposal was designated by Amex as July 1, 2007.

AOF in a given month. Accordingly, an executing Clearing Member is charged \$1.00 for each cancelled order in a given month when such cancelled orders exceed executed orders through AOF unless the executing Clearing Member cancels fewer than 500 orders in such given month. The proposal seeks to change how the executing Clearing Member is assessed the order cancellation fee so that the fee pertains only to the excess of order cancellations versus order executions.

The Exchange believes that the proposal will simplify the application of the options order cancellation fee and provide greater clarity to market participants. In addition, the Exchange submits that the proposal is similar to the order cancellation fee of other options exchanges.

The Exchange believes that charging an options order cancellation fee, where applicable, for excess order cancellations is reasonable given the increase in costs to the Exchange that may occur as a result of a large volume of order cancellations.

Accordingly, the Exchange seeks, through this proposal, to better manage the application of its options order cancellation fee.

## 2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange asserts that the proposal is equitable as required by Section 6(b)(4) of the Act.<sup>6</sup> In addition, the Exchange believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act,<sup>7</sup> in general, and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(5),<sup>8</sup> in particular, in that it is designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts

Section 6(b)(4) states that the rules of a national securities exchange provide for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees, and other charges among its members and issuers and other persons using its facilities.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

and practices, to promote just and equitable principles of trade, and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest.

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

The proposed rule change does not impose any 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</u> <u>Rule Change Received from Members, Participants or Others</u>

No written comments were solicited or received by the Exchange on this proposal.

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

Because the foregoing proposed rule change establishes or changes a due, fee, or other charged imposed by the Exchange, it has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act<sup>9</sup> and Rule 19b-4(f)(2)<sup>10</sup> thereunder. At any time within 60 days of the filing of the proposed rule change the Commission may summarily abrogate such proposed 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.

## 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:

4

<sup>9 15</sup> U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> 17 CFR 19b-4(f)(2).

#### 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-Amex-2007-63 on the subject line.

### <u>Paper comments</u>:

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

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-Amex-2007-63. 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, 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549, on official business days between the hours of 10:00 am and 3:00 pm. Copies of such filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of Amex. 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-Amex-2007-63 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.  $^{11}$ 

Florence E. Harmon Deputy Secretary

6

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).