

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
(Release No. 34-56554; File No. SR-NYSE-2007-84)

September 27, 2007

Self-Regulatory Organizations; New York Stock Exchange LLC; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change Relating to NYSE Rule 104.10(6) (Dealings with Specialists)

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the “Act”),¹ and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,² notice is hereby given that on September 25, 2007, the New York Stock Exchange LLC (“NYSE” 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 substantially prepared by the NYSE. The NYSE has designated the proposed rule change as a “non-controversial” rule change pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act³ and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder,⁴ which renders the proposed rule change effective upon filing with the Commission. The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

I. Self-Regulatory Organization’s Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed Rule Change

The NYSE is proposing to extend for three (3) months the current pilot related to specialist stabilization requirements operating pursuant to NYSE Rule 104.10(6) (Specialist Transactions in Active Securities that Establish or Increase the Specialist’s Position) (“Stabilization Pilot”),⁵ that is scheduled to terminate on September 30, 2007. The text of the

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

³ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

⁴ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

⁵ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 54860 (December 1, 2006), 71 FR 71221 (December 8, 2006) (SR-NYSE 2006-76).

proposed rule change is available on NYSE's Web site at <http://www.nyse.com>, at NYSE's principal office, and at the Commission's Public Reference Room.

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

In its filing with the Commission, the NYSE 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 NYSE has prepared summaries, set forth in Sections A, B, and C below, of the most significant aspects of such statements.

A. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

1. Purpose

The Exchange is proposing to extend the operation of the Stabilization Pilot pursuant to NYSE Rule 104.10(6) from September 30, 2007 to the earlier of December 31, 2007 or such time as the Commission approves a proposal by the Exchange to modify the current Pilot.⁶

a. Stabilization Pilot

On December 1, 2006, the Commission approved changes to NYSE Rules 104.10(5) and 104.10(6) governing specialist stabilization requirements.⁷ The amendments to the Rule moved away from defining stabilization in terms of the last sale to focus on market conditions, the type

⁶ On September 14, 2007, the Exchange filed SR-NYSE-2007-83 in order to amend NYSE Rule 104.10 to (i) extend the duration of the Stabilization Pilot to March 31, 2008; (ii) remove the "active securities" limitation on Conditional Transactions that establish or increase a specialist's position and reach across the market to transact with the Exchange's published quote; and (iii) make certain conforming changes to NYSE Rule 104.10(5). See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 56455 (September 18, 2007), 72 FR 54499 (September 25, 2007) (SR-NYSE-2007-83).

⁷ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 54860, supra note 5.

of trade in question and the specialist's existing position. The amendments to NYSE Rule 104.10(6) govern Conditional Transactions (as defined below) in active securities ("Stabilization Pilot").⁸

Pursuant to the Stabilization Pilot, specialists can trade in active securities that establish or increase a position by reaching across the market to trade in the Exchange published bid (in the case of a specialist's sale) or offer (in the case of a specialist's purchase) when such bid (offer) is priced below (above) the last differently priced published bid (offer) ("Conditional Transaction"). A specialist is allowed to execute Conditional Transactions without restriction as to price provided the specialist follows said transaction with an appropriate transaction on the opposite side of the market commensurate with the size of the specialist's transaction, which is referred to as "appropriate re-entry."⁹

The Exchange states that the Stabilization Pilot provides the specialist with the ability to effect transactions for its dealer account to provide support to the Hybrid Market. The Exchange believes that the specialists have a greater ability to position themselves to provide more liquidity against market trend and thus moderate volatility. The Exchange, therefore, requests that the Stabilization Pilot be extended for three (3) months to continue to afford specialists this needed flexibility to continue their adaptation to the new challenges of the Hybrid Market.

The Exchange believes that extension of the Stabilization Pilot will continue to allow

⁸ "Active" securities are: (a) securities comprising the S&P 500[®] Stock Index; (b) securities trading on the Exchange during the first five trading days following their initial public offering of such securities; and (c) securities that have been designated as "active" by a Floor Official subject to the provisions of the Rule.

⁹ "Appropriate re-entry" for Conditional Transactions shall mean the specialist's stabilization obligation to re-enter a transaction on the opposite side of the market at or before the price participation point ("PPP"). The PPP is an Exchange-issued minimum guideline that identifies the price at or before which a specialist is expected to re-enter the

specialists to effectively manage their inventory in order to provide liquidity during times of market volatility. As such, the Exchange requests that the Commission extend the Stabilization Pilot to December 31, 2007, or such earlier time that the Commission approves the expansion of the Stabilization Pilot as discussed above.

2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the requirement under Section 6(b)(5)¹⁰ of the Act that an Exchange have rules that are 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. The Exchange also believes that the proposed rule change also is designed to support the principles of Section 11A(a)(1)¹¹ in that it seeks to assure economically efficient execution of securities transactions.

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

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

B. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed Rule Change Received from Members, Participants or Others

The Exchange has neither solicited nor received written comments on the proposed rule change.

market after effecting a Conditional Transaction. PPPs are only minimum guidelines and compliance with them does not guarantee a specialist is meeting his or her obligation.

¹⁰ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

¹¹ 15 U.S.C. 78k-1(a)(1).

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

Because the foregoing proposed rule change: (1) does not significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest; (2) does not impose any significant burden on competition; and (3) by its terms does not become operative for 30 days after the date of this 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)¹² of the Act and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder.¹³ As required under Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii),¹⁴ the Exchange provided the Commission with written notice of its intent to file the proposed rule change, along with a brief description and text of the proposed rule change, at least five business days prior to the date of the filing of the proposed rule change.

A proposed rule change filed under Rule 19b-4(f)(6) normally may not become operative prior to 30 days after the date of filing. However, Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii) permits the Commission to designate a shorter time if such action is consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest. The NYSE requests that the Commission waive the 30-day operative delay, as specified in Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii), which would make the rule change effective and operative upon filing. The Commission believes that waiving the 30-day operative delay is consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest because such waiver would allow the Stabilization Pilot to continue without interruption through the earlier of (i) December 30, 2007 or (ii) when the Commission acts on a corresponding proposed rule

¹² 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

¹³ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

¹⁴ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6)(iii).

change,¹⁵ and provide the Exchange and the Commission additional time to evaluate the pilot.¹⁶ Accordingly, the Commission designates that the proposed rule change effective and operative upon filing with the Commission.

At any time within 60 days of the filing of such 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.

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 rule-comments@sec.gov. Please include File Number SR-NYSE-2007-84 on the subject line.

Paper comments:

- 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-NYSE-2007-84. This file number should be

¹⁵ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 56455, supra note 6.

¹⁶ For purposes only of waiving the operative delay for this proposal, the Commission has considered the proposed rule's impact on efficiency, competition, and capital formation. See 15 U.S.C. 78c(f).

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 the NYSE. 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-NYSE-2007-84 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.¹⁷

Florence E. Harmon
Deputy Secretary

¹⁷ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).