

Option Trading Rights ("OTRs") that were separated from full New York Stock Exchange, Inc.<sup>82</sup> seats ("Separated OTRs"). All New York Stock Exchange seat ownership (with or without OTRs) was extinguished in the 2006 demutualization of New York Stock Exchange, Inc.<sup>83</sup> Although the commenter takes no position on the merits of the Combination, the commenter opposes the Combination on the grounds that the Exchange does not fully own all of the assets being transferred. Specifically, the commenter contends that the owners of Separated OTRs retained their Separated OTRs, even after the New York Stock Exchange, Inc. exited the options business in 1997, with the expectation that their ownership of the Separated OTRs would afford them full rights to trade options under the auspices of New York Stock Exchange, Inc. or its successor entity. The commenter contends that such ownership gives a right to trade options on NYSE Market and NYSE Arca, and after the Combination, Euronext. The commenter refers to its comment letters in connection with the demutualization of New York Stock Exchange, Inc. in its merger with Archipelago as well as the combination of NYSE Group and Euronext N.V.<sup>84</sup> The commenter asked that reserves be put aside for the Exchange to meet its obligations to Separated OTR holders. The NYSE Response to Comments states that the issue of the rights of owners of Separated OTRs is not before the Commission in the context of the NYSE Exchanges' proposed rule filings and notes that the NYSE Exchanges are not proposing in their respective filings a change in the trading rights on the Exchange, NYSE Amex or NYSE Arca, respectively.<sup>85</sup>

The issue of the rights of owners of Separated OTRs is not before the Commission in the context of this rule filing. Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Act,<sup>86</sup> an SRO (such as NYSE) is required to file with the Commission any proposed rule or any proposed

change in, addition to, or deletion from the rules of such SRO. Further, pursuant to Section 19(b)(2) of the Act,<sup>87</sup> the Commission shall approve a proposed rule change filed by an SRO if the Commission finds that such proposed rule change is consistent with the requirements of the Act and the rules and regulations thereunder applicable to the SRO.

### III. Conclusion

For the foregoing reasons, the Commission finds that the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act and the rules and regulations thereunder applicable to a national securities exchange.

*It is therefore ordered*, pursuant to Section 19(b)(2) of the Act<sup>88</sup> that the proposed rule changes (SR-EDGA-2011-34; SR-EDGX-2011-33; SR-ISE-2011-69; SR-NYSE-2011-51; SR-NYSEAmex-2011-78; SR-NYSEArca-2011-72), are approved.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.<sup>89</sup>

**Kevin M. O'Neill,**

*Deputy Secretary.*

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## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-66170; File No. SR-ISE-2012-02]

### Self-Regulatory Organizations; International Securities Exchange, LLC; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change Relating to Fees and Rebates for Adding and Removing Liquidity

January 17, 2012.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Act")<sup>1</sup> and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,<sup>2</sup> notice is hereby given that, on January 3, 2012, the International Securities Exchange, LLC (the "Exchange" or the "ISE") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") the proposed rule change as described in Items I and II below, which Items have been prepared by the Exchange. The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

<sup>87</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2).

<sup>88</sup> *Id.*

<sup>89</sup> 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

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

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

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

The ISE is proposing to amend its transaction fees and rebates for adding and removing liquidity. The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Exchange's Web site (<http://www.ise.com>), at the principal office of the Exchange, 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 self-regulatory organization 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 self-regulatory organization 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 currently assesses per contract transaction fees and rebates to market participants that add or remove liquidity from the Exchange ("maker/taker fees") in 103 options classes (the "Select Symbols").<sup>3</sup> The purpose of this proposed rule change is to amend the list of Select Symbols on the Exchange's Schedule of Fees, titled "Rebates and Fees for Adding and Removing Liquidity in Select Symbols and Complex Order Maker/Taker fees for symbols that are in the Penny Pilot Program" in order to attract additional order flow to the Exchange. The Exchange is proposing to delete Market Vectors Semiconductor ETF ("SMH") from the list of Select Symbols. With this proposed rule change, SMH will no longer be subject to the Exchange's maker/taker fees.

##### 2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that its proposal to amend its Fee Schedule is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act<sup>4</sup> in general, and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(4) of the Act<sup>5</sup> in particular,

<sup>3</sup> Options classes subject to maker/taker fees are identified by their ticker symbol on the Exchange's Schedule of Fees.

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

<sup>5</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(4).

<sup>82</sup> New York Stock Exchange, Inc. is the predecessor entity to NYSE. See NYSE Inc.-Archipelago Merger Order, *supra* note 27.

<sup>83</sup> See NYSE Inc.-Archipelago Merger Order, *supra* note 27.

<sup>84</sup> See Rothlein Letters, *supra* note 5. The Commission notes that the commenter reiterated these points in its rebuttal to the NYSE Response to Comments, continuing to argue, in part, that it still retains an interest in certain trading rights and that the proposed rule changes do not comport with fair and equitable principles of trade. See Rothlein Rebuttal Letters, *supra* note 6.

<sup>85</sup> See NYSE Response to Comments, *supra* note 6.

<sup>86</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

in that it is an equitable allocation of reasonable fees and other charges among Exchange members and other persons using its facilities.

The Exchange believes that it is reasonable to remove SMH from its list of Select Symbols to attract additional order flow to the Exchange. The Exchange believes that applying non-maker/taker fees to SMH, including the opportunity to receive payment for order flow, will attract order flow in SMH to the Exchange.

The Exchange believes that it is equitable and not unfairly discriminatory to amend its list of Select Symbols to remove SMH because the list of Select Symbols would apply uniformly to all categories of participants in the same manner. All market participants who trade the Select Symbols would be subject to the maker/taker fees and rebates, which would not include SMH. Also, all market participants would be uniformly subject to the non-maker/taker fees, which would include SMH.

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

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. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed 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. Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission Action**

The foregoing rule change has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(ii) of the Act.<sup>6</sup> At any time within 60 days of the filing of such proposed rule change, the Commission summarily may temporarily suspend 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. If the Commission takes such action, the Commission shall institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule should be approved or disapproved.

### **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 email to [rule-comments@sec.gov](mailto:rule-comments@sec.gov). Please include File Number SR-ISE-2012-02 on the subject line.

#### *Paper Comments*

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

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-ISE-2012-02. This file number should be included on the subject line if email 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 Web site 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 a.m. and 3 p.m. Copies of the 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 you wish to make available publicly. All submissions should refer to File Number SR-ISE-2012-02 and should be submitted on or before February 13, 2012.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.<sup>7</sup>

**Kevin M. O'Neill,**

*Deputy Secretary.*

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## **SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

[Release No. 34-66172; File No. SR-ISE-2012-03]

### **Self-Regulatory Organizations; International Securities Exchange, LLC; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change Relating to Fees and Rebates for Adding and Removing Liquidity**

January 18, 2012.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Act")<sup>1</sup> and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,<sup>2</sup> notice is hereby given that, on January 5, 2012, the International Securities Exchange, LLC (the "Exchange" or the "ISE") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") the proposed rule change as described in Items I and II below, which Items have been prepared by the Exchange. 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 ISE is proposing to amend its transaction fees and rebates for adding and removing liquidity. The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Exchange's Web site (<http://www.ise.com>), at the principal office of the Exchange, 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 self-regulatory organization 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 self-regulatory organization has prepared summaries, set forth in sections A, B and C below, of the most significant aspects of such statements.

<sup>6</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(ii).

<sup>7</sup> 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

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

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