

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 4th day of August, 2006.

For the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission,

**James T. Wiggins,**

*Deputy Director, Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research.*

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## OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

### Executive Office of the President; Acquisition Advisory Panel; Notification of Upcoming Meetings of the Acquisition Advisory Panel

**AGENCY:** Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President.

**ACTION:** Notice of Federal Advisory Committee Meetings.

**SUMMARY:** The Office of Management and Budget announces one meeting of the Acquisition Advisory Panel (AAP or "Panel") established in accordance with the Services Acquisition Reform Act of 2003.

**DATES:** There is one *conditional* meeting announced in this **Federal Register** Notice. A Public meeting of the Panel will be held on August 29, 2006 if the Panel does not complete its work at the previously published public meeting on August 10, 2006. If held, the meeting will begin at 9 a.m. Eastern Time and end no later than 5 p.m. The public is urged to call (202) 208-7279 after 5 p.m. the workday before this meeting for a pre-recorded message to learn if the meeting is cancelled. The public may also visit the Panel's Web site for cancellation messages (<http://acquisition.gov/comp/aap/index.html>).

**ADDRESSES:** The August 29, 2006 meeting, if held, will be at the new FDIC Building, 3501 N. Fairfax Drive, Arlington, VA in Room A2062. This facility is ¼ block off of the orange line Metro stop for Virginia Square. The public is asked to pre-register one week in advance of the meeting due to security and/or seating limitations (see below for information on pre-registration).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:** Members of the public wishing further information concerning this meeting or the Panel itself, or to pre-register for the meeting, should contact Ms. Laura Auletta, Designated Federal Officer (DFO), at: [laura.auletta@gsa.gov](mailto:laura.auletta@gsa.gov), phone/voice mail (202) 208-7279, or mail at: General Services Administration, 1800 F Street, NW., Room 4006, Washington, DC 20405.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

a. *Background:* The purpose of the Panel is to provide independent advice and recommendations to the Office of Federal Procurement Policy and Congress pursuant to Section 1423 of the Services Acquisition Reform Act of 2003. The Panel's statutory charter is to review Federal contracting laws, regulations, and governmentwide policies, including the use of commercial practices, performance-based contracting, performance of acquisition functions across agency lines of responsibility, and governmentwide contracts. Interested parties are invited to attend the meeting.

*Meeting*—The focus of this meeting will be discussions of and voting on working group findings and recommendations from selected working groups, established at the February 28, 2005 and May 17, 2005 public meetings of the AAP (see <http://acquisition.gov/comp/aap/index.html> for a list of working groups).

b. *Posting of Draft Reports:* Members of the public are encouraged to regularly visit the Panel's Web site for draft reports. Currently, the working groups are staggering the posting of various sections of their draft reports at <http://acquisition.gov/comp/aap/index.html> under the link for "Working Group Reports." The most recent posting is from the Commercial Practices Working Group. The public is encouraged to submit written comments on any and all draft reports.

c. *Adopted Recommendations:* The Panel has adopted recommendations presented by the Small Business, Interagency Contracting, Performance-Based Acquisition, Acquisition Workforce and Commercial Practices Working Groups. While additional recommendations from some of these working groups are likely, the public is encouraged to review and comment on the recommendations adopted by the Panel to date by going to <http://acquisition.gov/comp/aap/index.html> and selecting the link for "Recommendations to Date."

d. *Availability of Meeting Materials:* Please see the Panel's Web site for any available materials, including draft agendas and minutes. Questions/issues of particular interest to the Panel are also available to the public on this Web site on its front page, including "Questions for Government Buying Agencies," "Questions for Contractors that Sell Commercial Goods or Services to the Government," "Questions for Commercial Organizations," and an issue raised by one Panel member regarding the rules of interpretation and performance of contracts and liabilities

of the parties entitled "Revised Commercial Practices Proposal for Public Comment." The Panel encourages the public to address any of these questions/issues in written statements to the Panel.

e. *Procedures for Providing Public Comments:* It is the policy of the Panel to accept written public comments of any length, and to accommodate oral public comments whenever possible. The Panel Staff expects that public statements presented orally or in writing will be focused on the Panel's statutory charter and working group topics, and not be repetitive of previously submitted oral or written statements, and that comments will be relevant to the issues under discussion.

*Written Comments:* Written comments should be supplied to the DFO at the address/contact information given in this FR Notice in one of the following formats (Adobe Acrobat, WordPerfect, Word, or Rich Text files, in IBM-PC/Windows 98/2000/XP format). *Please note:* Because the Panel operates under the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended, all public presentations will be treated as public documents and will be made available for public inspection, up to and including being posted on the Panel's Web site.

f. *Meeting Accommodations:* Individuals requiring special accommodation to access the public meetings listed above should contact Ms. Auletta at least five business days prior to the meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

**Laura Auletta,**

*Designated Federal Officer (Executive Director), Acquisition Advisory Panel.*

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## OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

### Request for Public Comment With Respect to the Annual National Trade Estimate Report on Foreign Trade Barriers

**AGENCY:** Office of the United States Trade Representative.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to section 303 of the Trade and Tariff Act of 1984, as amended, USTR is required to publish annually the National Trade Estimate Report on Foreign Trade Barriers (NTE). With this notice, the Trade Policy Staff Committee (TPSC) is requesting interested parties to assist it in

identifying significant barriers to U.S. exports of goods, services and overseas direct investment for inclusion in the NTE. Particularly important are impediments materially affecting the actual and potential financial performance of an industry sector. The TPSC invites written comments that provide views relevant to the issues to be examined in preparing the NTE.

**DATES:** Public comments are due not later than Wednesday, November 8, 2006.

**ADDRESSES:** *Submissions by electronic mail:* FR0626@USTR.EOP.GOV.

*Submissions by facsimile:* Gloria Blue, Executive Secretary, Trade Policy Staff Committee, Office of the United States Trade Representative, (202–395–6143). The public is strongly encouraged to submit documents electronically rather than by facsimile. (See requirements for submissions below.)

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Questions regarding the report, its subject matter or procedural questions concerning submissions should be directed to Ms. Gloria Blue, Office of Policy Coordination, Office of the United States Trade Representative (202–395–3475).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Last year's report may be found on USTR's Internet Home Page ([www.ustr.gov](http://www.ustr.gov)) in the Document Library under the section on Reports. In order to ensure compliance with the statutory mandate for reporting foreign trade barriers that are significant, we will focus particularly on those restrictions where there has been active private sector interest.

The information submitted should relate to one or more of the following ten categories of foreign trade barriers:

(1) Import policies (e.g., tariffs and other import charges, quantitative restrictions, import licensing, and customs barriers);

(2) Standards, testing, labeling, and certification (including unnecessarily restrictive application of phytosanitary standards, refusal to accept U.S. manufacturers' self-certification of conformance to foreign product standards, and environmental restrictions);

(3) Government procurement (e.g., "buy national" policies and closed bidding);

(4) Export subsidies (e.g., export financing on preferential terms and agricultural export subsidies that displace U.S. exports in third country markets);

(5) Lack of intellectual property protection (e.g., inadequate patent, copyright, and trademark regimes);

(6) Services barriers (e.g., limits on the range of financial services offered by foreign financial institutions, regulation of international data flows, restrictions on the use of data processing, quotas on imports of foreign films, and barriers to the provision of services by professionals (e.g., lawyers, doctors, accountants, engineers, nurses, etc.);

(7) Investment barriers (e.g., limitations on foreign equity participation and on access to foreign government-funded R&D consortia, local content, technology transfer and export performance requirements, and restrictions on repatriation of earnings, capital, fees and royalties);

(8) Anticompetitive practices with trade effects tolerated by foreign governments (including anticompetitive activities of both state-owned and private firms that apply to services or to goods and that restrict the sale of U.S. products to any firm, not just to foreign firms, that perpetuate the practices);

(9) Trade restrictions affecting electronic commerce (e.g., tariff and non-tariff measures, burdensome and discriminatory regulations and standards, and discriminatory taxation); and

(10) Other barriers (i.e., barriers that encompass more than one category, e.g., bribery and corruption, or that affect a single sector).

As in the case of last year's NTE, we are asking that particular emphasis be placed on any practices that may violate U.S. trade agreements. We are also interested in receiving any new or updated information pertinent to the barriers covered in last year's report as well as new information. Please note that the information not used in the NTE will be maintained for use in future negotiations.

It is most important that your submission contain estimates of the potential increase in exports that would result from the removal of the barrier, as well as a clear discussion of the method(s) by which the estimates were computed. Estimates should fall within the following value ranges: Less than \$5 million; \$5 to \$25 million; \$25 million to \$50 million; \$50 million to \$100 million; \$100 million to \$500 million; or over \$500 million. Such assessments enhance USTR's ability to conduct meaningful comparative analyses of a barrier's effect over a range of industries.

Please note that interested parties discussing barriers in more than one country should provide a separate submission (i.e., one that is self-contained) for each country.

**Requirements For Submissions:** In order to facilitate prompt processing of

submissions, USTR strongly urge and prefers electronic (e-mail) submissions in response to this notice. In the event an e-mail submission is impossible, submissions should be made by facsimile. Facsimile submissions should not exceed a maximum of 20 pages.

E-mail submissions should be single copy transmissions in English. Submissions should use the following subject line: "2007 National Trade Estimate Report—Submission by (sector, company, association) Documents must be submitted as either WordPerfect ("WPD"), MSWord ("DOC"), or text ("TXT") file. Documents should not be submitted as electronic image files or contain imbedded images (for example, "JPG", "PDF", "BMP", or "GIF"), as these type of files are generally excessively large. Supporting Documentation submitted as spreadsheets are acceptable as Quattro Pro or Excel, pre-formatted for printing on 8½ x 11 inch paper. To the extent possible, any data attachments to the submission should be included in the same file as the submission itself, and not as separate files.

Petitions will be available for public inspection by appointment with the staff of the USTR Public Reading Room, except for information granted "business confidential" status pursuant to 15 CFR 2003.6. If the submission contains business confidential information, a non-confidential version of the submission must also be submitted that indicates where confidential information was redacted by inserting asterisks where material was deleted. In addition, the confidential submission must be clearly marked "Business Confidential" in large, bold letters at the top and bottom of every page of the documents. The public version that does not contain business confidential information must be clearly marked either "Public Version" or "Non-Confidential" in large, bold letters at the top and bottom of every page. The file name of any documents containing business confidential information attached to an e-mail transmission should begin with the characters "BC-", and the file name of the public version should begin with the characters "P-". The "P-" or "BC-" should be followed by the name of the person or party submitting the petition. Submissions by e-mail should not include separate cover letters or messages in the message area of the e-mail; information that might appear in any cover letter should be included directly in the submission. The e-mail address for submissions is FR0626@ustr.eop.gov. Public versions of all documents relating to this review

will be available for review shortly after the due date by appointment in the USTR Public Reading Room, 1724 F Street, NW., Washington, DC. Availability of documents may be ascertained and appointments may be made from 9:30 a.m. to noon and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, by calling (202-395-6186).

**Carmen Suro-Bredie,**

*Chair, Trade Policy Staff Committee.*

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## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-54277; File No. SR-NASD-2006-091]

### Self-Regulatory Organizations; National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc.; Notice of Filing of Proposed Rule Change and Amendment No. 2 Thereto To Align NASD Rules With Regulation NMS

August 4, 2006.

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 July 28, 2006, the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc. ("NASD") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC" or "Commission") the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II, and III below, which Items have been prepared by NASD. NASD filed Amendment No. 1 to the proposed rule change on August 4, 2006 but subsequently withdrew it. NASD filed Amendment No. 2 to the proposed rule change on August 4, 2006.<sup>3</sup> The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change, as amended, from interested persons.

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

NASD is proposing to amend its rules, including the rules governing the Alternative Display Facility ("ADF"), to align them with Regulation NMS.<sup>4</sup> In addition, NASD is proposing to amend rules that govern quoting, trade

reporting, and clearing through the ADF to extend this functionality to all NMS stocks, as defined in Commission Rule 600(b)(47), including stocks listed on the New York Stock Exchange ("NYSE"), American Stock Exchange ("Amex"), and certain other exchanges. Further, this rule proposal would reorganize ADF trade reporting rules and make changes to the ADF rules to enhance the clarity of the rules.

The text of the proposed rule change is available on NASD's Web site ([www.nasd.com](http://www.nasd.com)), at NASD's principal office, and at the Commission's Public Reference Room. The text of Exhibits 3 and 5 to the proposed rule change are also available on the Commission's Web site ([www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml](http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml)).<sup>5</sup>

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

In its filing with the Commission, NASD 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. NASD 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 ADF is a quotation collection, trade comparison, and trade reporting facility developed by NASD in accordance with the Commission's SuperMontage Approval Order<sup>6</sup> and in conjunction with Nasdaq's registration as a national securities exchange. The ADF, which currently is operating on a pilot basis, provides ADF market participants (market makers and Electronic Communications Networks ("ECNs"))<sup>7</sup> the ability to post quotations in Nasdaq securities and provides all

members that participate in the ADF the ability to view quotations and report transactions in Nasdaq securities to the exclusive securities information processor ("SIP") for Nasdaq-listed issues for consolidation and dissemination of data to vendors and ADF market participants. The facility provides for trade comparison through the Trade Reporting and Comparison Service ("TRACS") and further provides for real-time data delivery to NASD for regulatory purposes, including enforcement of firm quote and related rules.

On June 29, 2005, the Commission published its release adopting Regulation NMS.<sup>8</sup> Regulation NMS established new substantive rules designed to modernize and strengthen the regulatory structure of the U.S. equities markets. Among other things, Regulation NMS adopted an Order Protection Rule (SEC Rule 611) that requires trading centers to establish, maintain, and enforce written policies and procedures reasonably designed to prevent the execution of trades at prices inferior to protected quotations displayed by automated trading centers, subject to applicable exceptions. To be protected, a quotation must be immediately and automatically accessible. Regulation NMS also adopted an Access Rule (SEC Rule 610), which requires fair and non-discriminatory access to quotations, establishes a limit on access fees to harmonize the pricing of quotations across different trading centers, and requires NASD and the exchanges to adopt, maintain, and enforce written rules that prohibit their members from engaging in a pattern or practice of displaying any quotation that locks or crosses a protected quotation, or a manual quotation that locks or crosses a quotation disseminated pursuant to an effective National Market System Plan ("NMS Plan").<sup>9</sup>

The primary purpose of this filing is two-fold: (1) To amend NASD rules

<sup>8</sup> See *supra* note 4.

<sup>9</sup> In addition, Regulation NMS adopted a sub-penny rule that, in general, prohibits market participants from accepting, ranking, or displaying orders, quotations, or indications of interest in a pricing increment smaller than a penny, except for orders, quotations, or indications of interest that are priced at less than \$1.00 per share. Further, Regulation NMS adopted amendments to the market data rules to update the requirements for consolidating, distributing, and displaying market information, as well as amendments to the joint industry plans for disseminating market information that modify the formulas for allocating plan revenue and broadening participation in plan governance. This rule proposal primarily addresses implementation of the Order Protection Rule and the Access Rule. It does not address Regulation NMS issues related to the sub-penny rule or market data rules.

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

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

<sup>3</sup> In Amendment No. 2, NASD made certain revisions to its proposed rules and Certification Record for ADF Trading Centers. NASD also clarified certain sections of its Form 19b-4 description of the proposal.

<sup>4</sup> 17 CFR 242.600 *et seq.* See also Securities Exchange Act Release No. 51808 (June 9, 2005), 70 FR 37496 (June 29, 2005) ("Regulation NMS Approval Order").

<sup>5</sup> The Commission recently approved SR-NASD-2005-087, which establishes the Trade Reporting Facility ("TRF"). See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 54084 (June 30, 2006), 71 FR 38935 (July 10, 2006). Here, NASD proposes to amend NASD rules to implement Regulation NMS and amend certain ADF rules to reflect that all NMS stocks can be quoted and trade reported through the ADF. Any amendments that are needed to implement Regulation NMS for the TRF will be addressed in a separate filing.

<sup>6</sup> Securities Exchange Act Release No. 43863 (January 19, 2001), 66 FR 8020 (January 26, 2001) (File No. SR-NASD-99-53).

<sup>7</sup> ECNs are defined under Regulation NMS in SEC Rule 600(b)(23).