

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Proposed Collection; Comment Request

Upon Written Request, Copies Available From: Securities and Exchange Commission, Office of Filings and Information Services, Washington, DC 20549-0007.

Extension: Form 13F; SEC File No. 270-22; OMB Control No. 3235-0006.

Notice is hereby given that, pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501-3520), the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") is soliciting comments on the collection of information summarized below. The Commission plans to submit this collection of information to the Office of Management and Budget ("OMB") for extension and approval.

Section 13(f)¹ of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934² (the "Exchange Act") empowers the Commission to: (1) Adopt rules that create a reporting and disclosure system to collect specific information; and (2) disseminate such information to the public. Rule 13f-1³ under the Exchange Act requires institutional investment managers that exercise investment discretion over accounts—having in the aggregate a fair market value of at least \$100,000,000 of exchange-traded or NASDAQ-quoted equity securities—to file quarterly reports with the Commission on Form 13F.⁴

The information collection requirements apply to institutional investment managers that meet the \$100 million reporting threshold. Section 13(f)(5) of the Exchange Act defines an "institutional investment manager" as any person, other than a natural person, investing in or buying and selling securities for its own account, and any person exercising investment discretion with respect to the account of any other person. Form 13F under the Exchange Act defines "investment discretion" for purposes of Form 13F reporting.

The reporting system required by Section 13(f) of the Exchange Act is intended, among other things, to create in the Commission a central repository of historical and current data about the investment activities of institutional investment managers, and to improve the body of factual data available to regulators and the public.

The Commission staff estimates that 3,378 respondents make approximately 13,512 responses under the rule each year. The staff estimates that on average, Form 13F filers spend 98.8 hours/year to prepare and submit the report. In addition, the staff estimates that 336 respondents file approximately 1,344 amendments each year. The staff estimates that on average, Form 13F filers spend 4 hours/year to prepare and submit amendments to Form 13F. The total annual burden of the rule's requirements for all respondents therefore is estimated to be 335,090 hours ((3,378 filers × 98.8 hours) + (336 filers × 4 hours)).

The estimate of average burden hours is made solely for the purposes of the Paperwork Reduction Act. The estimate is not derived from a comprehensive or even a representative survey or study of the costs of Commission rules. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid control number.

Written comments are invited on: (a) Whether the collections of information are necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Commission, including whether the information has practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the Commission's estimate of the burdens of the collections of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burdens of the collections of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Consideration will be given to comments and suggestions submitted in writing within 60 days of this publication.

Please direct your written comments to R. Corey Booth, Director/Chief Information Officer, Securities and Exchange Commission, C/O Shirley Martinson 6432 General Green Way, Alexandria, Virginia 22312; or send an e-mail to: PRA_Mailbox@sec.gov.

Dated: June 20, 2006.

J. Lynn Taylor,
Assistant Secretary.

[FR Doc. E6-11497 Filed 7-19-06; 8:45 am]

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

Upon Written Request, Copies Available From: Securities and Exchange

Commission, Office of Filings and Information Services, Washington, DC 20549.

Extension: Rule 17Ac2-2; SEC File No. 270-298; OMB Control No. 3235-0337; Form TA-2; SEC File No. 270-298; OMB Control No. 3235-0337.

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget a request for extension of the previously approved collection of information discussed below.

Rule 17Ac2-2 and Form TA-2; OMB Control No. 3235-0337; SEC File No. 270-298

Rule 17Ac2-2 (17 CFR 240.17Ac2-2) and Form TA-2 (15 CFR 249b.102) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (17 U.S.C. 78a *et seq.*) require transfer agents to file an annual report of their business activities with the Commission. The amount of time needed to comply with the requirements of Rule 17Ac2-2 and Form TA-2 varies. From the total 786 registered transfer agents, approximately 197 registrants would be required to complete only Questions 1 through 4 and the signature section of amended Form TA-2, which we estimate would take each registrant about 30 minutes, for a total burden of 99 hours (197 × .5 hours). Approximately 262 registrants would be required to answer Questions 1 through 5, 10, and 11 and the signature section, which we estimate would take about 1 hour and 30 minutes, for a total of 393 hours (262 × 1.5 hours). The remaining registrants, approximately 327, would be required to complete the entire Form TA-2, which we estimate would take about 6 hours, for a total of 1,962 hours (327 × 6 hours). We estimate that the total burden would be 2,454 hours (99 hours + 393 hours + 1,962 hours).

We estimate that the total cost of reviewing and entering the information reported on the Forms TA-2 for respondents is \$31.50 per hour. The Commission estimates that the total cost would be \$77,301.00 annually (\$31.50 × 2,454).

Rule 17Ac2-2 does not involve the collection of confidential information. Please note that an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid control number.

General comments regarding the estimated burden hours should be directed to the following persons: (i) David Rostker, Desk Officer for the

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78m(f).

² 15 U.S.C. 78a *et seq.*

³ 17 CFR 240.13f-1.

⁴ 17 CFR 249.325.

Securities and Exchange Commission, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Room 10102, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503 or by sending an e-mail to: *David_Rostker@omb.eop.gov*; and (ii) R. Corey Booth, Director/Chief Information Officer, Securities and Exchange Commission, C/O Shirley Martinson, 6432 General Green Way, Alexandria, Virginia 22312; or by sending an e-mail to: *PRA_Mailbox@sec.gov*. Comments must be submitted to OMB within 30 days of this notice.

Dated: June 29, 2006

J. Lynn Taylor,

Assistant Secretary.

[FR Doc. E6-11498 Filed 7-19-06; 8:45 am]

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Submission for OMB Review, Comment Request

Upon Written Request, Copies Available From: Securities and Exchange Commission Office of Filings and Information Services, Washington, DC 20549.

Extension: Rule 17a-8; SEC File No. 270-53; OMB Control No. 3235-0092.

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget requests for extension of the previously approved collection of information discussed below.

Rule 17a-8—Financial Recordkeeping and Reporting of Currency and Foreign Transactions

Rule 17a-8 (17 CFR 240.17a-8) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78a *et seq.*) (the "Act") requires brokers and dealers to make and keep certain reports and records concerning their currency and monetary instrument transactions. The requirements allow the Commission to ensure that brokers and dealers are in compliance with the Currency and Foreign Transactions Reporting Act of 1970 ("Bank Secrecy Act") and with the Department of the Treasury regulations under that Act.

The reports and records required under this rule initially are required under Department of the Treasury regulations, and additional burden hours and costs are not imposed by this rule.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid control number.

Comments should be directed to (1) Desk Officer for the Securities and Exchange Commission, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Room 10102, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC, 20503 or by sending an e-mail to: *David_Rostker@omb.eop.gov*; and (2) R. Corey Booth, Director/Chief Information Officer, Securities and Exchange Commission, C/O Shirley Martinson, 6432 General Green Way, Alexandria, Virginia 22312 or send an e-mail to: *PRA_Mailbox@sec.gov*. Comments must be submitted to OMB within 30 days of this notice.

Dated: June 29, 2006.

J. Lynn Taylor,

Assistant Secretary.

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-54137; File No. SR-Amex-2006-67]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; American Stock Exchange LLC; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change To Permit the Listing and Trading of Quarterly Options Series

July 12, 2006.

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 July 11, 2006, the American Stock Exchange LLC ("Exchange" or "Amex") 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 Exchange. The Exchange has designated this proposal as non-controversial under Section 19(b)(3)(A)(iii) 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.

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

³ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(iii).

⁴ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

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

The Exchange proposes to amend its rules to permit the listing and trading of quarterly options series.⁵ The text of the proposed rule change is set forth below. Proposed new language is in *italics*; language proposed to be deleted is in [brackets].

* * * * *

Rule 900—Applicability, Definitions and References

(a) No change.

(b) Definitions—The following terms as used in the Rules in this Chapter shall, unless the context otherwise indicates, have the meanings herein specified:

(1)–(44) No change.

(45) *Quarterly Options Series*—The term "Quarterly Options Series" means a series in an options class that is approved for listing and trading on the Exchange in which the series is opened for trading on any business day and that expires at the close of business on the last business day of a calendar quarter:

(c)–(d) No change.

* * * Commentary

.01 No change.

* * * * *

Rule 903—Series of Options Open for Trading

(a) After a particular class of options (call option contracts or put option contracts relating to a specific underlying security or calculated index) has been approved for listing and trading on the Exchange, the Exchange shall from time to time open for trading series of options therein. Prior to the opening of trading in any series of options, the Exchange shall fix the expiration month, expiration year (if the options series has more than one year remaining to expiration), and exercise price of option contracts included in each such series. For Short Term Options Series, the Exchange will fix a specific expiration date and exercise price, as provided in paragraph (h). *For Quarterly Options Series, the Exchange will fix a specific expiration date and exercise price, as provided in Commentary .09.*

(b)–(h) No change.

⁵ This proposal is substantially identical to a recently approved proposal by the International Securities Exchange ("ISE") to list Quarterly Options Series on a pilot basis. See Securities Exchange Act Releases No. 53857 (May 24, 2006), 71 FR 31246 (June 1, 2006) (notice of filing); and 54113 (July 7, 2006) (approval order).