

registered on the exchange. Under Rule 12d2-1, an exchange is permitted to suspend from trading a listed security in accordance with its rules, and must promptly notify the Commission of any such suspension, along with the effective date and the reasons for the suspension.

Any such suspension may be continued until such time as the Commission may determine that the suspension is designed to evade the provisions of Section 12(d) of the Act and Rule 12d2-2 thereunder.<sup>1</sup> During the continuance of such suspension under Rule 12d2-1, the exchange is required to notify the Commission promptly of any change in the reasons for the suspension. Upon the restoration to trading of any security suspended under Rule 12d2-1, the exchange must notify the Commission promptly of the effective date of such restoration.

The trading suspension notices serve a number of purposes. First, they inform the Commission that an exchange has suspended from trading a listed security or reintroduced trading in a previously suspended security. They also provide the Commission with information necessary for it to determine that the suspension has been accomplished in accordance with the rules of the exchange, and to verify that the exchange has not evaded the requirements of Section 12(d) of the Act and Rule 12d2-2 thereunder by improperly employing a trading suspension. Without Rule 12d2-1, the Commission would be unable to fully implement these statutory responsibilities.

There are nine national securities exchanges that are subject to Rule 12d2-1. The burden of complying with Rule 12d2-1 is not evenly distributed among the exchanges, however, since there are many more securities listed on the New York Stock Exchange, Inc. ("NYSE") and the American Stock Exchange LLC ("Amex") than on the other exchanges.<sup>2</sup> However, for purposes of this filing, it is assumed that the number of responses is evenly divided among the exchanges. Since approximately 104 responses under Rule 12d2-1 are received annually by the Commission from the national securities exchanges, the resultant aggregate annual reporting hour burden would be, assuming on average one-half reporting hour per response, 52 annual burden hours for all

exchanges. The related costs associated with these burden hours are \$2886.00.

Rule 12d2-2 and Form 25 were adopted in 1935 and 1952, respectively, pursuant to Sections 12 and 23 of the Act. Rule 12d2-2 sets forth the conditions and procedures under which a security may be delisted from an exchange and withdrawn from registration under Section 12(b) of the Act. The Commission has recently adopted amendments to Rule 12d2-2 and Form 25.<sup>3</sup> The amendments will become effective on August 22, 2005 and the compliance date of the amendments is April 24, 2006. Under the amended Rule 12d2-2, all issuers and national securities exchanges seeking to delist and deregister a security in accordance with the rules of an exchange will file the newly adopted version of Form 25 with the Commission. The Commission has also adopted amendments to Rule 19d-1 under the Act to require exchanges to file the newly adopted version of Form 25 as notice to the Commission under Section 19(d) of the Act. Finally, the Commission has adopted amendments to exempt options and security futures from Section 12(d) of the Act. These amendments are intended to simplify the paperwork and procedure associated with a delisting and to unify general rules and procedures relating to the delisting process.

The Form 25 is useful because it informs the Commission that a security previously traded on an exchange is no longer traded. In addition, the Form 25 enables the Commission to verify that the delisting has occurred in accordance with the rules of the exchange. Further, the Form 25 helps to focus the attention of delisting issuers to make sure that they abide by the proper procedural and notice requirements associated with a delisting. Without Rule 12d2-2 and the Form 25, as applicable, the Commission would be unable to fulfill its statutory responsibilities.

There are seven national securities exchanges that trade equity securities that will be respondents subject to Rule 12d2-2 and Form 25.<sup>4</sup> The burden of complying with Rule 12d2-2 and Form 25 is not evenly distributed among the exchanges, however, since there are many more securities listed on the NYSE and the Amex than on the other exchanges. However, for purposes of this filing, the staff has assumed that the number of responses is evenly divided

among the exchanges. Since approximately 648 responses under Rule 12d2-2 and Form 25 for the purpose of delisting equity securities are received annually by the Commission from the national securities exchanges, the resultant aggregate annual reporting hour burden would be, assuming on average one hour per response, 648 annual burden hours for all exchanges. In addition, since approximately 57 responses are received by the Commission annually from issuers wishing to remove their securities from listing and registration on exchanges, the Commission staff estimates that the aggregate annual reporting hour burden on issuers would be, assuming on average one reporting hour per response, 57 annual burden hours for all issuers. Accordingly, the total annual hour burden for all respondents to comply with Rule 12d2-2 is 705 hours. The related costs associated with these burden hours are \$37,830.00.

The collection of information obligations imposed by Rule 12d2-1, Rule 12d2-2 and Form 25 are mandatory. The response will be available to the public and will not be kept confidential. 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 above information should be directed to the following persons: (i) Desk Officer for the Securities and Exchange Commission, by sending an e-mail to: [David\\_Rostker@omb.eop.gov](mailto:David_Rostker@omb.eop.gov); and (ii) R. Corey Booth, Director/Chief Information Officer, Office of Information Technology, Securities and Exchange Commission, Station Place, 100 F Street, NE., Washington, DC 20549. Comments must be submitted to OMB within 30 days of this notice.

Dated: October 10, 2005.

**J. Lynn Taylor,**

*Assistant Secretary.*

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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 15c1-5, SEC File No. 270-422 OMB, OMB Control No. 3235-0471.

<sup>1</sup> Rule 12d2-2 prescribes the circumstances under which a security may be delisted from an exchange and withdrawn from registration under Section 12(b) of the Act, and provides the procedures for taking such action.

<sup>2</sup> In fact, some exchanges do not file any trading suspension reports in a given year.

<sup>3</sup> See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 52029 (July 14, 2005), 70 FR 42456 (July 22, 2005).

<sup>4</sup> We note that there are two additional national securities exchanges that only trade standardized options which, as noted above, are exempt from Rule 12d2-2.

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 on the previously approved collection of information discussed below.

Rule 15c1-5 states that any broker-dealer controlled by, controlling, or under common control with the issuer of a security that the broker-dealer is trying to sell to or buy from a customer must give the customer written notification disclosing the control relationship at or before completion of the transaction. The Commission estimates that 360 respondents collect information annually under Rule 15c1-5 and that approximately 3,600 hours would be required annually for these collections.

There is no retention period requirement under Rule 15c1-5. This Rule 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.

Written comments regarding the information above should be directed to the following persons: (i) the Desk Officer for the Securities and Exchange Commission, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Room 10102, New Executive Building, Washington, DC 20503 or by sending an e-mail to: [David\\_Rostker@omb.eop.gov](mailto:David_Rostker@omb.eop.gov); and (ii) R. Corey Booth, Director/Chief Information Officer, Office of Information Technology, Securities and Exchange Commission, Station Place, 100 F Street, NE., Washington, DC 20549. Comments must be submitted to OMB within 30 days of this notice.

Dated: October 11, 2005.

**J. Lynn Taylor,**

*Assistant Secretary.*

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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 15c1-6, SEC File No. 270-423, OMB Control No. 3235-0472

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 request for approval of extension on the following rule:

Rule 15c1-6 states that any broker-dealer trying to sell to or buy from a customer a security in a primary or secondary distribution in which the broker-dealer is participating or is otherwise financially interested must give the customer written notification of the broker-dealer's participation or interest at or before completion of the transaction. The Commission estimates that 725 respondents collect information annually under Rule 15c1-6 and that approximately 7,250 hours would be required annually for these collections.

There is no retention period requirement under Rule 15c1-6. This Rule 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.

Written comments regarding the estimated burden hours should be directed to: (i) the 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 send an e-mail to: [David\\_Rostker@omb.eop.gov](mailto:David_Rostker@omb.eop.gov); and (ii) R. Corey Booth, Director/Chief Information Officer, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street, NE., Washington, DC 20549. Comments must be submitted to OMB within 30 days of this notice.

Dated: October 11, 2005.

**J. Lynn Taylor,**

*Assistant Secretary.*

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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 20549-0004.

Extension:

Rule 32a-4; SEC File No. 270-473; OMB Control No. 3235-0530.

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 collections of information discussed below.

Section 32(a)(2) of the Investment Company Act requires that shareholders of a registered investment management or face-amount certificate company ("fund") ratify or reject the selection of a fund's independent public accountant. Rule 32a-4 exempts a fund from this requirement if (i) the fund's board of directors establishes an audit committee composed solely of independent directors with responsibility for overseeing the fund's accounting and auditing processes,<sup>1</sup> (ii) the fund's board of directors adopts an audit committee charter setting forth the committee's structure, duties, powers and methods of operation, or sets out similar provisions in the fund's charter or bylaws,<sup>2</sup> and (iii) the fund maintains a copy of such an audit committee charter permanently in an easily accessible place.<sup>3</sup>

Each fund that chooses to rely on rule 32a-4 incurs two collection of information burdens. The first, related to the board of directors' adoption of the audit committee charter, occurs once, when the committee is established. The second, related to the fund's maintenance and preservation of a copy of the charter in an easily accessible place, is an ongoing annual burden. The information collection requirement in rule 32a-4 enables the Commission to monitor the duties and responsibilities of an independent audit committee formed by a fund relying on the rule.

Commission staff estimates that, on average, the board of directors takes 15 minutes to adopt the audit committee charter. Commission staff has estimated that with an average of 8 directors on the board,<sup>4</sup> total director time to adopt the charter is 2 hours. Combined with an estimated 1 hour of paralegal time to prepare the charter for board review, the staff estimates a total one-time collection of information burden of 3 hours for each fund. Once a board adopts an audit committee charter, a fund generally maintains it in a file cabinet or as a computer file. Commission staff has estimated that

<sup>1</sup> Rule 32a-4(a).

<sup>2</sup> Rule 32a-4(b).

<sup>3</sup> Rule 32a-4(c).

<sup>4</sup> See Management Practice Inc. Bulletin: Fund directors pay increases 17% in smaller complexes, 8% in larger (2003) available at <http://www.mfgovern.com>.