

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. Copies of such 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-Amex-2006-61 and should be submitted on or before August 17, 2006.

For the Commission, by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.<sup>18</sup>

**Jill M. Peterson,**

*Assistant Secretary.*

[FR Doc. E6-11986 Filed 7-26-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8010-01-P

## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Release No. 34-54183; File No. SR-Amex-2006-68]

### Self-Regulatory Organizations; American Stock Exchange LLC; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change Applying the Allocation Algorithm in Rule 935(a)(4)—ANTE to Supplemental Registered Options Traders

July 20, 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 13, 2006, the American Stock Exchange LLC ("Amex" or "Exchange") submitted to 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 Amex. The Exchange filed the proposal as a "non-controversial" proposed rule change pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(iii) of the Act<sup>3</sup> and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder,<sup>4</sup> which renders it 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

Amex seeks to apply the allocation algorithm in Amex Rule 935(a)(4)—ANTE to a Supplemental Registered Options Trader ("SROT") interacting with its own firm's orders. The text of the proposed rule change is available on Amex's Web site (<http://www.amex.com>), at Amex's Office of the Secretary, 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, Amex 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 Exchange 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

On March 14, 2006, the Exchange submitted a proposal to amend Amex Rule 935—ANTE to revise the manner in which executed contracts are allocated when more than one market participant is either quoting, or has orders, at the Amex best bid or offer at the time the execution occurs. However, by the time this filing was approved on May 12, 2006,<sup>5</sup> other changes to Amex Rule 935—ANTE were approved.<sup>6</sup>

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

<sup>4</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

<sup>5</sup> See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 53798 (May 12, 2006), 71 FR 29193 (May 19, 2006) (SR-Amex-2006-25).

<sup>6</sup> See Securities Exchange Act Release Nos. 53635 (April 12, 2006), 71 FR 20144 (April 19, 2006) (SR-Amex-2005-075) (establishing a new class of registered options trader called an SROT) and 53652 (April 13, 2006), 71 FR 20422 (April 20, 2006) (SR-Amex-2005-100) (establishing a new

The Exchange seeks to apply the allocation algorithm set forth in Amex Rule 935—ANTE to an SROT interacting with its own firm's orders. The Exchange proposes that after non-broker dealer customer orders are executed, the ANTE system would allocate to SROT's the greater of either 40% of the contracts, or the amount the SROT would be entitled to receive pursuant to the allocation algorithm set forth in Amex Rule 935(a)(4)—ANTE. The balance of the contracts would be allocated to the specialist, registered options traders, RROT's, or other SROT's, pursuant to Amex Rule 935(a)(4)—ANTE.

If the SROT receives contracts pursuant to proposed paragraph (a)(7)(i) of Amex Rule 935—ANTE, then the specialist, registered options trader, RROT, or any other SROT would receive contracts pursuant to the allocation algorithm in Amex Rule 935(a)(4)—ANTE. In particular, whenever an SROT interacts with its own firm's orders, the specialist would not be entitled to the specialist guarantee set forth in Amex Rule 935(a)(5)—ANTE.

###### 2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act,<sup>7</sup> in general, and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(5) of the Act,<sup>8</sup> in particular, in that it is designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to foster cooperation and coordination with persons engaged in regulating, clearing, settling, processing information with respect to, and facilitating transactions in securities, 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; and is not designed to permit unfair discrimination between customers, issuers, brokers, or dealers.

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

The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change will impose no burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

class of registered options trader called a Remote Registered Options Trader ("RROT").

<sup>7</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

<sup>8</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

<sup>18</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.

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

No written comments were either solicited or received by the Exchange on this proposal.

**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)(iii) of the Act<sup>9</sup> and subparagraph (f)(6) of Rule 19b-4<sup>10</sup> thereunder because it does not: (i) Significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest; (ii) impose any significant burden on competition; and (iii) become operative for 30 days from the date on which it was filed, or such shorter time as the Commission may designate; and the Exchange has given the Commission written notice of its intention to file the proposed rule change at least five business days prior to filing. 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.

Under Rule 19b-4(f)(6) of the Act,<sup>11</sup> the proposal does not become operative for 30 days after the date of its filing, or such shorter time as the Commission may designate if consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest. Amex has requested that the Commission waive the five-day pre-filing requirement<sup>12</sup> and the 30-day operative delay to allow for the expeditious and accurate publication of the rule change. The Commission believes that because the proposal would extend the current allocation algorithm to the Exchange's new class of market participants, SROs, the proposal raises no new regulatory concerns. Therefore, the Commission, consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest, has determined to waive the five-day pre-filing requirement and the 30-day operative date so that the proposal may take effect upon filing.<sup>13</sup>

<sup>9</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(iii).

<sup>10</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

<sup>11</sup> *Id.*

<sup>12</sup> Amex provided the Commission with written notice of its intent to file the proposed rule change three days prior to the filing date.

<sup>13</sup> For purposes only of waiving the operative delay for this proposal, the Commission has

**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](mailto:rule-comments@sec.gov). Please include File Number SR-Amex-2006-68 on the subject line.

*Paper Comments*

- Send paper comments in triplicate to Nancy M. Morris, Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, Station Place, 100 F Street, NE., Washington, DC 20549-1090.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-Amex-2006-68. This file number should be 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. Copies of such filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the Amex. 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-Amex-2006-68 and should be submitted on or before August 17, 2006.

considered the proposed rule's impact on efficiency, competition, and capital formation. 15 U.S.C. 78c(f).

For the Commission, by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.<sup>14</sup>

**Jill M. Peterson,**

*Assistant Secretary.*

[FR Doc. E6-11988 Filed 7-26-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8010-01-P

**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

[Release No. 34-54184; File No. SR-CBOE-2006-66]

**Self-Regulatory Organizations; Chicago Board Options Exchange, Incorporated; Notice of Filing of a Proposed Rule Change Regarding Market-Maker Appointments**

July 20, 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 11, 2006, the Chicago Board Options Exchange, Incorporated ("CBOE" or "Exchange") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II, and III 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**

CBOE proposes to amend CBOE Rule 8.3 relating to Market-Maker appointments. The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Exchange's Web site (<http://www.cboe.com>), at the CBOE's Office of the Secretary, 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 Exchange 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 those statements may be examined at the places specified in Item IV below. The Exchange has prepared summaries, set forth in sections A, B, and C below, of the most significant parts of such statements.

<sup>14</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.