

Commission finds that the proposal, as amended, is consistent with the objectives of Section 6(b)(5) of the Act,²² which requires, among other things, that the Exchange's rules be designed to promote just and equitable principles of trade, 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.

A. Surveillance

The Commission finds that the Exchange's surveillance procedures are reasonably designed to monitor for trading abuses in connection with the Notes.

NYSE Rule 476 requires Exchange specialists in the Notes, upon the Exchange's request, to provide NYSE Regulation with information that the specialist uses in connection with pricing the Notes on the Exchange, including specialist proprietary or other information regarding securities, options on securities or other derivative instruments. Furthermore, the Exchange believes it also has authority to request any other information from its members—including floor brokers, specialists and “upstairs” firms—to fulfill its regulatory obligations. The Commission also notes that the Exchange represents that it will delist the Notes if a new component is added to the Index (or pricing information is used for a new or existing component), unless otherwise approved for continued trading by the Commission. The Commission believes that these requirements provide the NYSE with the tools necessary to adequately surveil trading in the Notes.

B. Dissemination of Information

The Commission believes that sufficient venues exist for obtaining reliable information so that holders of the Notes can monitor the value of their investment relative to the underlying Index.

Information about the Index (and its components) is widely available through public Web sites and professional subscription services, including Reuters and Bloomberg. Likewise, real-time information about the trading of the Index components and their daily closing values is available through major market data vendors. The Index Sponsor calculates the Index continuously. The Exchange has represented that the daily closing value will be disseminated during the time the Notes trade on the Exchange. Further, while the Index is calculated by a

broker-dealer, a number of independent sources verify both the intraday and closing Index values. The composition and calculation methodology for the Index is public and transparent.

An Indicative Value for the Notes will be calculated and disseminated at least every 15 seconds throughout the NYSE trading day on each day on which the Notes are traded on the Exchange. In addition, Barclays or an affiliate will calculate and publish the closing Indicative Value of the Notes on each trading day at <http://www.ipathetn.com>.

If the closing level of Index or Indicative Value is not disseminated as described in its proposal, the Exchange may halt trading on which the interruption to the dissemination of the Index Value or the Indicative Value first occurs. If the interruption to the dissemination of the Index Value or the Indicative Value persists past the trading day in which it occurred, the Exchange will halt trading no later than the beginning of the trading day following the interruption.

C. Listing and Trading

The Commission finds that the Exchange's proposed rules and procedures for the listing and trading of the proposed Notes are consistent with the Act. The Notes will trade as equity securities subject to NYSE rules including, among others, rules governing equity margins, specialist responsibilities, account opening, and customer suitability requirements.

The Commission believes that the listing and delisting criteria for the Notes should help to maintain a minimum level of liquidity and therefore minimize the potential for manipulation of the Notes. The Exchange represents that it would file a proposed rule change pursuant to Rule 19b-4 under the Act,²³ which must be approved for continued trading of the Notes, if (a) a successor or substitute index is used in connection with the Notes, (b) at any time, the most heavily weighted component stock in the Index exceeds 25 percent of the weight of the Index or the top five most heavily weighted stocks exceed 60 percent of the weight of the Index, or (c) the Index Sponsor (MSCI) substantially changes the index methodology.

Finally, the Commission notes that the Information Memorandum that the Exchange will distribute will inform members and member organizations about the terms, characteristics and risks in trading the Notes, including their prospectus delivery obligations.

D. Accelerated Approval

The Commission finds good cause to approve the proposed rule change, as amended, prior to the thirtieth day after publication for comment in the **Federal Register**. Accelerating approval of this proposal should benefit investors who desire to participate, through the Notes, in the designated Index by enabling them to begin trading the Notes promptly. Therefore, the Commission finds good cause, consistent with Section 19(b)(2) of the Act,²⁴ to approve the proposed rule change on an accelerated basis.

V. Conclusion

It is therefore ordered, pursuant to Section 19(b)(2) of the Act²⁵ that the proposed rule change (SR-NYSE-2006-69), be, and hereby is, approved on an accelerated basis.

For the Commission, by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.²⁶

Nancy M. Morris,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. E6-22005 Filed 12-22-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8011-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice 5653]

Bureau of Economic and Business Affairs; List of November 20, 2006, of Participating Countries and Entities (Hereinafter Known as “Participants”) Under the Clean Diamond Trade Act of 2003 (Pub. L. 108-19) and Section 2 of Executive Order 13312 of July 29, 2003

AGENCY: Bureau of Economic and Business Affairs, Department of State.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with Sections 3 and 6 of the Clean Diamond Trade Act of 2003 (Pub. L. 108-19) and Section 2 of Executive Order 13312 of July 29, 2003, the Department of State is identifying all the Participants eligible for trade in rough diamonds under the Act, and their respective Importing and Exporting Authorities, and revising the previously published list of October 25, 2006 (Volume 71, Number 206, page 62501) to include Bangladesh.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Sue Saarnio, Special Advisor for Conflict Diamonds, Bureau of Economic and Business Affairs, Department of State, (202) 647-1713.

²⁴ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2).

²⁵ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2).

²⁶ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

²² 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

²³ 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 4 of the Clean Diamond Trade Act (the “Act”) requires the President to prohibit the importation into, or the exportation from, the United States of any rough diamond, from whatever source, that has not been controlled through the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme (KPCS). Under Section 3(2) of the Act, “controlled through the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme” means an importation from the territory of a Participant or exportation to the territory of a Participant of rough diamonds that is either (i) carried out in accordance with the KPCS, as set forth in regulations promulgated by the President, or (ii) controlled under a system determined by the President to meet substantially the standards, practices, and procedures of the KPCS. The referenced regulations are contained at 31 CFR Part 592 (“Rough Diamonds Control Regulations”) (69 FR 56936, September 23, 2004).

Section 6(b) of the Act requires the President to publish in the **Federal Register** a list of all Participants, and all Importing and Exporting Authorities of Participants, and to update the list as necessary. Section 2 of Executive Order 13312 of July 29, 2003 delegates this function to the Secretary of State. Section 3(7) of the Act defines “Participant” as a state, customs territory, or regional economic integration organization identified by the Secretary of State. Section 3(3) of the Act defines “Exporting Authority” as one or more entities designated by a Participant from whose territory a shipment of rough diamonds is being exported as having the authority to validate a Kimberley Process Certificate. Section 3(4) of the Act defines “Importing Authority” as one or more entities designated by a Participant into whose territory a shipment of rough diamonds is imported as having the authority to enforce the laws and regulations of the Participant regarding imports, including the verification of the Kimberley Process Certificate accompanying the shipment.

List of Participants

Pursuant to Section 3 of the Clean Diamond Trade Act (the Act), Section 2 of Executive Order 13312 of July 29, 2003, and Delegation of Authority No. 294 (July 6, 2006), I hereby identify the following entities as of November 20, 2006, as Participants under section 6(b) of the Act. Included in this list are the Importing and Exporting Authorities for Participants, as required by Section 6(b) of the Act. This list revises the previously published list of October 25, 2006 (Volume 71, Number 206 62501).

Angola—Ministry of Geology and Mines.
 Armenia—Ministry of Trade and Economic Development.
 Australia—Exporting Authority—Department of Industry, Tourism and Resources; Importing Authority—Australian Customs Service.
 Bangladesh—Ministry of Commerce.
 Belarus—Department of Finance.
 Botswana—Ministry of Minerals, Energy and Water Resources.
 Brazil—Ministry of Mines and Energy.
 Bulgaria—Ministry of Finance.
 Canada—Natural Resources Canada.
 Central African Republic—Ministry of Energy and Mining.
 China—General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine.
 Democratic Republic of the Congo—Ministry of Mines.
 Croatia—Ministry of Economy.
 European Community—DG/External Relations/A.2.
 Ghana—Precious Minerals and Marketing Company Ltd.
 Guinea—Ministry of Mines and Geology.
 Guyana—Geology and Mines Commission.
 India—The Gem and Jewellery Export Promotion Council.
 Indonesia—Directorate General of Foreign Trade of the Ministry of Trade.
 Israel—The Diamond Controller.
 Ivory Coast—Ministry of Mines and Energy.
 Japan—Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry.
 Republic of Korea—Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Energy.
 Laos—Ministry of Finance.
 Lebanon—Ministry of Economy and Trade.
 Lesotho—Commissioner of Mines and Geology.
 Malaysia—Ministry of International Trade and Industry.
 Mauritius—Ministry of Commerce.
 Namibia—Ministry of Mines and Energy.
 New Zealand—Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade.
 Norway—The Norwegian Goldsmiths’ Association.
 Romania—National Authority for Consumer Protection.
 Russia—Gokhran, Ministry of Finance.
 Sierra Leone—Government Gold and Diamond Office.
 Singapore—Singapore Customs.
 South Africa—South African Diamond Board.
 Sri Lanka—National Gem and Jewellery Authority.
 Switzerland—State Secretariat for Economic Affairs.

Taiwan—Bureau of Foreign Trade.
 Tanzania—Commissioner for Minerals.
 Thailand—Ministry of Commerce.
 Togo—Ministry of Mines and Geology.
 Ukraine—State Gemological Centre of Ukraine.
 United Arab Emirates—Dubai Metals and Commodities Center.
 United States of America—Importing Authority—United States Bureau of Customs and Border Protection; Exporting Authority—Bureau of the Census.

Venezuela—Ministry of Energy and Mines.

Vietnam—Ministry of Trade.

Zimbabwe—Ministry of Mines and Mining Development.

This notice shall be published in the **Federal Register**.

Nicholas R. Burns,

*Under Secretary for Political Affairs,
 Department of State.*

[FR Doc. E6–22068 Filed 12–22–06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4710–07–P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

[Docket No. NHTSA–2006–26656; Notice 1]

Continental Tire North America, Receipt of Petition for Decision of Inconsequential Noncompliance

Continental Tire North America (Continental) has determined that certain tires it produced in 2006 do not comply with S5.5(f) of 49 CFR 571.139, Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) No. 139, “New pneumatic radial tires for light vehicles.” Continental has filed an appropriate report pursuant to 49 CFR Part 573, “Defect and Noncompliance Reports.”

Pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 30118(d) and 30120(h), Continental has petitioned for an exemption from the notification and remedy requirements of 49 U.S.C. Chapter 301 on the basis that this noncompliance is inconsequential to motor vehicle safety.

This notice of receipt of Continental’s petition is published under 49 U.S.C. 30118 and 30120 and does not represent any agency decision or other exercise of judgment concerning the merits of the petition.

Affected are a total of approximately 1,369 model 225/70R16 103S Continental and General replacement tires manufactured during October, 2006. S5.5(f) of FMVSS No. 139 requires the actual number of plies in the tread area to be molded on both sidewalls of each tire. The noncompliant tires are