

DEGS00478 Special Assistant to the Director, Office of Scheduling and Advance. Effective July 07, 2005.

DEGS00479 Deputy Assistant Secretary for Environment and Science to the Assistant Secretary for Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs. Effective July 07, 2005.

DEGS00481 Congressional Affairs Officer to the Director of Congressional, Intergovernmental and Public Affairs. Effective July 13, 2005.

DEGS00476 Policy Advisor to the Director Office of Worker and Community Transition. Effective July 14, 2005.

DEGS00480 Senior Policy Advisor for Middle East Affairs to the Assistant Secretary for Policy and International Affairs. Effective July 15, 2005.

DEGS00467 Special Assistant to the Associate Director. Effective July 18, 2005.

DEGS00482 Policy Advisor to the Assistant Secretary for Environment, Safety and Health. Effective July 29, 2005.

DEGS00483 Director, Communications and Speechwriting to the Director, Public Affairs. Effective July 29, 2005.

Section 213.3332 Small Business Administration

SBGS00588 Director, External Affairs to the Associate Administrator for Strategic Alliances. Effective July 12, 2005.

SBGS00589 Legislative Assistant to the Associate Administrator for Congressional and Legislative Affairs. Effective July 20, 2005.

Section 213.3333 Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation

FDOT00012 Director for Public Affairs to the Chairman of the Board of Directors (Director). Effective July 20, 2005.

Section 213.3337 General Services Administration

SGSG00166 Deputy Associate Administrator for Small Business Utilization to the Associate Administrator for Small Business Utilization. Effective July 15, 2005.

SGSG00167 Confidential Assistant to the Chief Acquisition Officer. Effective July 28, 2005.

Section 213.3343 Farm Credit Administration

FLOT00028 Director, Congressional and Public Affairs to the Chairman. Effective July 19, 2005.

Section 213.3379 Commodity Futures Trading Commission

CTOT00030 Chief of Staff to the Chairperson. Effective July 28, 2005.

Section 213.3384 Department of Housing and Urban Development

DUGS60490 Special Policy Advisor to the Assistant Secretary for Community Planning and Development. Effective July 06, 2005.

DUGS60456 Staff Assistant to the Assistant Secretary for Policy Development and Research. Effective July 11, 2005.

DUGS60028 Staff Assistant to the Assistant Deputy Secretary for Field Policy and Management. Effective July 28, 2005.

Section 213.3394 Department of Transportation

DTGS60070 Special Assistant to the Assistant Secretary for Governmental Affairs. Effective July 07, 2005.

DTGS60376 Director, Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization to the Secretary. Effective July 14, 2005.

Section 213.3396 National Transportation Safety Board

TBGS60105 Confidential Assistant to the Vice Chairman. Effective July 12, 2005.

Section 213.33 National Endowment for the Humanities

NHGS00078 Assistant Director for Communications to the Director of Communications. Effective July 18, 2005.

Authority: 5 U.S.C. 3301 and 3302; E.O. 10577, 3 CFR 1954–1958 Comp., P.218.

Linda M. Springer,

Director, Office of Personnel Management.

[FR Doc. 05–16590 Filed 8–19–05; 8:45 am]

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34–52266; File No. 10–136]

Acknowledgment of Receipt of Notice of Registration as a National Securities Exchange Pursuant to Section 6(g) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 by the CBOE Futures Exchange, LLC

August 15, 2005.

Section 6(g) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (“Exchange Act”) ¹ provides that an exchange may register as a national securities exchange for the sole purpose of trading security

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78f(g).

futures products by filing a written notice with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“Commission”) if such exchange is a board of trade, as that term is defined by the Commodity Exchange Act,² that is designated as a contract market by the Commodity Futures Trading Commission or registered as a derivative transaction execution facility under Section 5a of the Commodity Exchange Act.³ Rule 6a-4 under the Exchange Act⁴ requires that such an exchange submit written notice of registration to the Commission on Form 1–N.⁵ An exchange’s registration as a national securities exchange becomes effective contemporaneously with the submission of the written notice on Form 1–N.⁶

On July 26, 2005, the CBOE Futures Exchange, LLC (“CFE”) filed a Form 1–N with the Commission. Pursuant to section 6(g)(3) of the Exchange Act,⁷ the Commission hereby acknowledges receipt of the Form 1–N submitted by CFE. Copies of the Form 1–N, including all exhibits, are available in the Commission’s Public Reference Room, File No. 10–136.

For questions regarding this Release, please contact Ira Brandriss, Special Counsel, at (202) 551–5651, or Nathan Saunders, Special Counsel, at (202) 551–5515; Division of Market Regulation, Securities and Exchange Commission, Station Place, 100 F Street, NE., Washington, DC 20549–6628.

For the Commission, by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.⁸

Margaret H. McFarland,
Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. E5–4553 Filed 8–19–05; 8:45 am]

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Sunshine Act Meeting

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the provisions of the Government in the Sunshine Act, Public Law 94–409, that the Securities and Exchange Commission will hold the following

² 7 U.S.C. 1a(2).

³ 7 U.S.C. 7a.

⁴ 17 CFR 240.6a–4.

⁵ Upon receipt of a Form 1–N, the Division of Market Regulation examines the notice to determine whether all necessary information has been supplied and whether all other required documents have been furnished in proper form. Rule 202.3(b)(3) of the Commission’s Procedural Rules, 17 CFR 202.3(b)(3).

⁶ Exchange Act Section 6(g)(2)(B), 15 U.S.C. 78f(g)(2)(B).

⁷ 15 U.S.C. 78f(g)(3).

⁸ 17 CFR 200.30–3(a)(77).

meeting during the week of August 22, 2005:

A Closed Meeting will be held on Wednesday, August 24, 2005 at 2 p.m.

Commissioners, Counsel to the Commissioners, the Secretary to the Commission, and recording secretaries will attend the Closed Meeting. Certain staff members who have an interest in the matters may also be present.

The General Counsel of the Commission, or his designee, has certified that, in his opinion, one or more of the exemptions set forth in 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(3), (5), (7), (9)(B), and (10) and 17 CFR 200.402(a)(3), (5), (7), 9(ii) and (10) permit consideration of the scheduled matters at the Closed Meeting.

Commissioner Campos, as duty officer, voted to consider the items listed for the closed meeting in closed session.

The subject matters of the Closed Meeting scheduled for Wednesday, August 24, 2005, will be:

Formal orders of investigations;
Institution and settlement of injunctive actions; and
Institution and settlement of administrative proceedings of an enforcement nature.

At times, changes in Commission priorities require alterations in the scheduling of meeting items.

For further information and to ascertain what, if any, matters have been added, deleted or postponed, please contact:

The Office of the Secretary at (202) 551-5400.

Dated: August 17, 2005.

Jonathan G. Katz,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 05-16642 Filed 8-17-05; 4:57 pm]

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-52260; File No. SR-Amex-2005-082]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; American Stock Exchange LLC; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change Relating to the Extension of a Pilot Program That Increases Position and Exercise Limits for Equity Options and Options on the Nasdaq-100 Tracking Stock

August 15, 2005.

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 August 11, 2005, the American Stock Exchange LLC (“Amex” or “Exchange”) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“Commission”) the proposed rule change as described in Items I and II below, which Items have been prepared by the Amex. The Exchange has filed the proposal as a “non-controversial” rule change pursuant to section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act³ and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder,⁴ 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

The Exchange seeks a six month extension of its pilot program increasing the standard position and exercise limits for options on the QQQQ and equity option classes traded on the Exchange (“Pilot Program”). The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Amex's Web site (<http://www.amex.com>), at the Amex's principal office, 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 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

The Exchange is requesting to extend its current Pilot Program increasing the standard position and exercise limits for options on the QQQQ and equity option classes traded on the Exchange for six months, from August 24, 2005, through and including February 23, 2006.

The Exchange previously filed a proposed rule change, which was

effective upon filing with the Commission, that increased standard position and exercise limits for options on the QQQQ and for equity option classes traded on the exchange on a pilot basis for a six month period.⁵ Under the Pilot Program, position and exercise limits for options on the QQQQ and equity options classes traded on the Exchange were increased to the following levels:⁶

Current equity option contract limit	Pilot Program equity option contract limit
13,500 contracts	25,000 contracts.
22,500 contracts	50,000 contracts.
31,500 contracts	75,000 contracts.
60,000 contracts	200,000 contracts.
75,000 contracts	250,000 contracts.
Current QQQQ Option Contract Limit.	Pilot Program QQQQ Option Contract Limit
300,000 contracts	900,000 contracts.

The standard position limits were last increased on December 31, 1998.⁷ Since that time there has been a steady increase in the number of accounts that: (a) Approach the position limit; (b) exceed the position limit; and (c) are granted an exemption to the standard limit. Several member firms have petitioned the options exchanges to either eliminate position limits, or in lieu of total elimination, increase the current levels and expand the available hedge exemptions. A review of available data indicates that the majority of accounts that maintain sizable positions are in those option classes subject to the 60,000 and 75,000 tier limits. There also has been an increase in the number of accounts that maintain sizable positions in the lower three (3) tiers. In addition, overall volume in the options market has continually increased over the past five (5) years. The Exchange believes that the increase in options volume and lack of evidence of market manipulation occurrences over the past twenty years justifies the proposed increases in the position and exercise limits.

The Exchange has not encountered any problems or difficulties relating to the Pilot Program since its inception. The instant proposed rule change makes no substantive change to the Pilot

⁵ The Pilot Program is set to expire on August 23, 2005. See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 51316 (March 3, 2005), 70 FR 12251 (March 11, 2005) (notice of filing and immediate effectiveness of File No. SR-Amex-2005-029).

⁶ Except when the Pilot Program is in effect.

⁷ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 40875 (December 31, 1998), 64 FR 1842 (January 12, 1999) (SR-Amex-98-22) (approval of increase in position limits and exercise limits).

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

³ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

⁴ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).