

collection obtains information needed to determine if a representative payee is handling benefit payments in the best interest of the annuitant.

Changes Proposed: The RRB proposes no changes to Form G-99a. Minor, non-burden impacting editorial changes are proposed to Form G-99c.

The burden estimate for the ICR is as follows:

Estimated Completion Time for Form(s): Completion time for G-99a is estimated at 18 minutes. Completion time for Form G-99c is estimated at 24 to 31 minutes.

Estimated annual number of respondents: 6,000.

Total annual responses: 6,535 (6,000 G-99a's and 535 G-99c's).

Total annual reporting hours: 2,032.

Additional Information or Comments: Copies of the forms and supporting documents can be obtained from Charles Mierzwa, the agency clearance officer (312-751-3363) or Charles.Mierzwa@rrb.gov.

Comments regarding the information collection should be sent to Ronald J. Hodapp, Railroad Retirement Board, 844 North Rush Street, Chicago, Illinois 60611-2092 or Ronald.Hodapp@RRB.GOV, and to the Office of Management Budget at **Attn:** Desk Officer for RRB, Fax: (202) 395-6974 or via e-mail to OIRA_Submission@omb.eop.gov.

Charles Mierzwa,
Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. E7-22582 Filed 11-16-07; 8:45 am]

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Submissions for OMB Review; Comment Request

Upon Written Request, Copies Available From: Securities and Exchange Commission, Office of Investor Education and Advocacy, Washington, DC 20549-0213.

Extensions:

Form 3, OMB Control No. 3235-0104, SEC File No. 270-125.

Form 4, OMB Control No. 3235-0287, SEC File No. 270-126.

Form 5, OMB Control No. 3235-0362, SEC File No. 270-323.

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.

Under the Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78a *et seq.*) Forms 3, 4, and 5 (17 CFR 249.103, 249.104 and 249.105) are filed by insiders of public companies that have a class of securities registered under Section 12 of the Exchange Act (15 U.S.C. 78l). Form 3 is an initial statement of beneficial ownership of securities, Form 4 is a statement of changes in beneficial ownership of securities and Form 5 is an annual statement of beneficial ownership of securities. Approximately 29,000 insiders file Form 3 annually and it takes approximately .5 hours to prepare for a total of 14,500 annual burden hours. Approximately 225,000 insiders file Form 4 annually and it takes approximately .5 hours to prepare for a total of 112,500 annual burden hours. Approximately 9,000 insiders file Form 5 annually and it takes approximately one hour to prepare for a total of 9,000 annual burden hours.

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 above information should be directed to the following persons: (i) 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 Alexander_T._Hunt@omb.eop.gov and (ii) R. Corey Booth, Director/Chief Information Officer, Securities and Exchange Commission, C/O Shirley Martinson, 6423 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: November 7, 2007.

Florence E. Harmon,
Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. E7-22510 Filed 11-16-07; 8:45 am]

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

Upon Written Request, Copies Available From: U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, Office of Investor Education and Advocacy, Washington, DC 20549-0213.

Extension:

Rule 8c-1, SEC File No. 270-455, OMB Control No. 3235-0514.

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 has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget requests for approval of the following rule: Rule 8c-1.

Rule 8c-1 (17 CFR 240.8c-1) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78a *et seq.*) generally prohibits a broker-dealer from using its customers' securities as collateral to finance its own trading, speculating, or underwriting transactions. More specifically, the rule states three main principles: first, that a broker-dealer is prohibited from commingling the securities of different customers as collateral for a loan without the consent of each customer; second, that a broker-dealer cannot commingle customers' securities with its own securities under the same pledge; and third, that a broker-dealer can only pledge its customers' securities to the extent that customers are in debt to the broker-dealer.¹ Pursuant to Rule 8c-1, respondents must collect information necessary to prevent the hypothecation of customer accounts in contravention of the rule, issue and retain copies of notices to the pledgee of hypothecation of customer accounts in accordance with the rule, and collect written consents from customers in accordance with the rule. The information is necessary to ensure compliance with the rule, and to advise customers of the rule's protections.

There are approximately 142 respondents per year (i.e., broker-dealers that conducted business with the public, filed Part II of the FOCUS Report, did not claim an exemption from the Reserve Formula computation and reported that they had a bank loan during at least one quarter of the current year) that require an aggregate total of 3,195 hours to comply with the rule. Each of these approximately 142 registered broker-dealers makes an estimated 45 annual responses, for an aggregate total of 6,390 responses per year. Each response takes approximately 0.5 hours to complete. Thus, the total compliance burden per year is 3,195 burden hours. The approximate cost per hour is \$56, resulting in a total cost of compliance for the respondents of approximately \$178,920 (3,195 hours @ \$56 per hour).

The retention period for the recordkeeping requirement under Rule 8c-1 is three years. The recordkeeping requirement under this rule is mandatory to ensure that broker-dealers

¹ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 2690 (November 15, 1940); Securities Exchange Act Release No. 9428 (December 29, 1971).

do not commingle their securities or use them to finance the broker-dealers' proprietary business. This rule does not involve the collection of confidential information. Persons should be aware 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 current valid control number.

Comments should be directed to (i) 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: Alexander.T.Hunt@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, VA 22312 or send an e-mail to: PRA_Mailbox@sec.gov. Comments must be submitted within 30 days of this notice.

Dated: November 7, 2007.

Florence E. Harmon,

Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. E7-22511 Filed 11-16-07; 8:45 am]

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-56780; File No. 4-429]

Joint Industry Plan; Order Approving Joint Amendment No. 23 to the Plan for the Purpose of Creating and Operating an Intermarket Option Linkage To Permit the Use of Linkage Prior to the Opening of Trading

November 13, 2007.

I. Introduction

On September 14, 2007, September 19, 2007, August 29, 2007, August 30, 2007, August 29, 2007, and September 26, 2007, the American Stock Exchange LLC ("Amex"), the Boston Stock Exchange, Inc. ("BSE"), the Chicago Board Options Exchange, Incorporated ("CBOE"), the International Securities Exchange, LLC ("ISE"), the NYSE Arca, Inc. ("NYSE Arca"), and the Philadelphia Stock Exchange, Inc. ("Phlx") (collectively, "Participants"), respectively, filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") pursuant to section 11A of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act")¹ and Rule 608 thereunder² an amendment ("Joint

Amendment No. 23") to the Plan for the Purpose of Creating and Operating an Intermarket Option Linkage ("Linkage Plan").³ In Joint Amendment No. 23, the Participants propose to modify section 7(a)(i) of the Linkage Plan to permit trading on Linkage prior to the opening of trading. The proposed Joint Amendment No. 23 was published in the **Federal Register** on October 12, 2007.⁴ The Commission received no comments on Joint Amendment No. 23. This order approves Joint Amendment No. 23.

II. Description of the Proposed Amendment

The Linkage Plan currently does not permit use of Linkage before an exchange opens for trading and disseminates a quotation in an option series. In Joint Amendment No. 23, the Participants proposed to amend section 7(a)(i) of the Linkage Plan to permit the use of Linkage prior to the opening of trading. Specifically, Joint Amendment No. 23 would allow Participants to send Linkage P/A Orders⁵ to the Linkage prior to the exchange's opening.

III. Discussion and Commission Findings

After careful consideration of Joint Amendment No. 23, the Commission finds that approving Joint Amendment No. 23 is consistent with the requirements of the Act and the rules and regulations thereunder. Specifically, the Commission finds that Joint Amendment No. 23 is consistent with section 11A of the Act⁶ and Rule 608 thereunder⁷ in that it is appropriate in the public interest, for the protection of investors and the maintenance of fair and orderly markets. The Commission believes that allowing Participants to send Linkage P/A Orders to the Linkage prior to the exchange's opening should facilitate investors' intermarket access to superior prices disseminated by Participants other than the one to which the order was initially sent.

³ On July 28, 2000, the Commission approved a national market system plan for the purpose of creating and operating an intermarket options market linkage proposed by the Amex, CBOE, and ISE. See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 43086 (July 28, 2000), 65 FR 48023 (August 4, 2000). Subsequently, Phlx, Pacific Exchange, Inc. (n/k/a NYSE Arca, Inc.), and BSE joined the Linkage Plan. See Securities Exchange Act Release Nos. 43573 (November 16, 2000), 65 FR 70851 (November 28, 2000); 43574 (November 16, 2000), 65 FR 70850 (November 28, 2000); and 49198 (February 5, 2004), 69 FR 7029 (February 12, 2004).

⁴ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 56605 (October 3, 2007), 72 FR 58134.

⁵ See Section 2(16)(a) of the Linkage Plan.

⁶ 15 U.S.C. 78k-1.

⁷ 17 CFR 242.608.

IV. Conclusion

It is therefore ordered, pursuant to Section 11A of the Act⁸ and Rule 608 thereunder,⁹ that Joint Amendment No. 23 is approved.

For the Commission, by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.¹⁰

Florence E. Harmon,

Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. E7-22533 Filed 11-16-07; 8:45 am]

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-56778; File No. SR-Amex-2007-100]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Chicago Board Options Exchange, Incorporated; Notice of Filing and Order Granting Accelerated Approval of Proposed Rule Change to List and Trade Options on Shares of the iShares MSCI Mexico Index Fund

November 9, 2007.

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 27, 2007, the American Stock Exchange LLC (the "Amex" or the "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 substantially prepared by the Exchange. The Commission is publishing this notice and order to solicit comments on the proposal from interested persons and to approve the proposed rule change on an accelerated basis.

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

The Exchange proposes to list and trade options on shares of the iShares MSCI Mexico Index Fund (the "Fund Options").

The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Amex's Web site at <http://www.amex.com>, the Office of the Secretary, the Amex and at the Commission's Public Reference Room.

⁸ 15 U.S.C. 78k-1.

⁹ 17 CFR 242.608.

¹⁰ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(29).

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78k-1.

² 17 CFR 242.608.