

Room 10230, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503.

Charles Mierzwa,
Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. E6-8050 Filed 5-24-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7905-01-P

RAILROAD RETIREMENT BOARD

Agency Forms Submitted for OMB Review

Summary: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35), the Railroad Retirement Board (RRB) has submitted the following proposal(s) for the collection of information to the Office of Management and Budget for review and approval.

Summary of Proposal(s)

- (1) *Collection title:* Employer's Deemed Service Month Questionnaire.
- (2) *Form(s) submitted:* GL-99.
- (3) *OMB Number:* 3220-0156.
- (4) *Expiration date of current OMB clearance:* 8/31/2006.
- (5) *Type of request:* Extension of a currently approved collection.
- (6) *Respondents:* Business or other for-profit.
- (7) *Estimated annual number of respondents:* 150.
- (8) *Total annual responses:* 4,000.
- (9) *Total annual reporting hours:* 133.
- (10) *Collection description:* Under

Section 3(i) of the Railroad Retirement Act, the Railroad Retirement Board may deem months of service in cases where an employee does not actually work in every month of the year. The collection obtains service and compensation information from railroad employers needed to determine if an employee may be credited with additional months of railroad service.

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 addressed to Ronald J. Hodapp, Railroad Retirement Board, 844 North Rush Street, Chicago, Illinois, 60611-2092 or Ronald.Hodapp@rrb.gov and to the OMB Desk Officer for the RRB, at the Office of Management and Budget, Room 10230, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503.

Charles Mierzwa,
Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. E6-8051 Filed 5-24-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7905-01-P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-53842; File No. SR-Amex-2006-45]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; American Stock Exchange LLC; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change Relating to the Prohibition Against the Entry of Multiple Options Orders

May 19, 2006.

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 May 8, 2006, 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 Exchange. The Exchange has designated the proposed rule change as constituting a "non-controversial" rule change under Section 19(b)(3)(A)(iii) of the Act,³ and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder,⁴ which renders the proposal effective upon filing with the Commission.⁵ 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 proposes to revise Amex Rule 933—ANTE(e) prohibiting the entry via the Amex New Trading Environment system ("ANTE") of multiple orders for any account of the same beneficial owner in the same option within any fifteen (15) second period. The text of the proposed rule change appears below. Proposed deletions are in [brackets].

Rule 933—ANTE

Automatic Matching and Execution of Options Orders

(a)–(d) No change.

(e) The Options Trading Committee shall determine the size parameters of orders eligible for automatic matching and execution. The Committee may determine to set the eligible order size parameter in any option class as the disseminated quote size. [An automatic matching and execution eligible order

for any account in which the same person is directly or indirectly interested may only be entered at intervals of no less than 15 seconds between entry of each such order in a call class and/or a put class for the same option. Members and member organizations are responsible for establishing procedures to prevent orders in a call class and/or a put class for the same option for any account in which the same person is directly or indirectly interested from being entered at intervals of less than 15 seconds.]

(f)–(g) No change.

Commentary * * * No change.

* * * * *

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. 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 proposes to revise Amex Rule 933—ANTE(e) in order to increase the number of orders handled through ANTE. Currently, Amex Rule 933—ANTE(e) prohibits the entry of multiple orders for any account of the same beneficial owner in the same option class within any fifteen (15) second period. The original purpose of the Rule in connection with the Exchange's Automatic Execution System ("Auto-Ex")⁶ was to assist Exchange specialists and Registered Options Traders ("ROTs") in managing their risk of multiple executions of orders delivered in rapid succession. Prior to the introduction of ANTE, specialists and ROTs would find it very difficult to timely revise their quotations. As a result, the Exchange, as well as the other options exchanges, at that time adopted rules to prohibit the entry of multiple orders for any account of the same beneficial owner within fifteen (15) seconds. The purpose of the Rule was to protect investors and other market participants from the potential

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

³ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(iii).

⁴ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

⁵ The Amex has requested that the Commission waive the 30-day operative delay, as specified in Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii). 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6)(iii).

⁶ The Auto-Ex system was established to provide small customer orders with an immediate single price execution.

negative consequences that might result from Order Entry Firms or off-floor broker-dealers “picking off” specialists and/or ROTs. The Exchange believed that if persons were allowed to effectively increase the size of Auto-Ex eligible orders by entering more than one such order at intervals of less than 15 seconds, Amex specialists and ROTs would be unable to make markets with the same liquidity as if there were effective limits on the size and frequency of Auto-Ex eligible orders.

The Amex has substantially improved its electronic trading systems such that the risk associated with multiple orders in the same option delivered for any account of the same or an affiliated beneficial account holder has become more manageable through electronic means. Specifically, ANTE now allows specialists and ROTs to submit proprietary electronic quotes through ANTE and to revise their quotes electronically, which reduces the risk of multiple executions of orders delivered in rapid succession before the specialist or ROT is able to revise its quotation. In addition, a revised and updated version of ANTE has incorporated a risk management tool to allow specialists and ROTs to set criteria for the system to adjust their quotes (the “Quote Risk Manager”) if a certain number of trades are executed within a certain period of time. The Commission recently approved the Exchange’s Quote Risk Manager.⁷ Due to the substantial increase in automated option order handling and risk mitigation tools provided by ANTE, the Amex submits that the fifteen (15) second prohibition currently included in its Amex Rule 933—ANTE(e) is unnecessary.

2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act,⁸ in general, and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(5) of the Act,⁹ 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.

B. Self-Regulatory Organization’s Statement on Burden on Competition

The proposed rule change does not impose any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

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

No written comments were solicited or received with respect to the proposed rule change.

III. Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission Action

Because the proposed rule change: (i) Does not significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest; (ii) does not impose any significant burden on competition; and (iii) by its terms, does not become operative for 30 days after the date of the filing, or such shorter time as the Commission may designate, the proposed rule change has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act¹⁰ and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder.¹¹ As required by Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii) under the Act, the Exchange also provided with the Commission with written notice of its intent to file the proposed rule change, along with a brief description and text of the proposed rule change, at least five business days prior to the date of filing of the proposed rule change.¹²

A proposed rule change filed under Rule 19b-4(f)(6) normally does not become operative for 30 days after the date of filing.¹³ However, Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii) permits the Commission to designate a shorter time if such action is consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest. The Exchange has asked the Commission to waive the 30-day operative delay and allow the proposed rule change to become operative on May 8, 2006, the date that it was filed with the Commission. The Commission hereby grants that request.¹⁴ The Commission believes that waiving the 30-day operative delay is consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest because the Commission has

approved a similar proposed rule change by the Philadelphia Stock Exchange, Inc.,¹⁵ and thus the proposal does not raise any new regulatory issues.

At any time within 60 days of the filing of the 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.

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. Please include File Number SR-Amex-2006-45 on the subject line.

Paper Comments

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

All submissions should refer to File No. SR-Amex-2006-45. 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 the filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the Exchange. All

¹⁰ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

¹¹ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

¹² *Id.*

¹³ *Id.*

¹⁴ For purposes only of waiving the 30-day operative delay, the Commission has considered the proposed rule’s impact on efficiency, competition, and capital formation. See 15 U.S.C. 78c(f).

⁷ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 53148 (January 19, 2006), 71 FR 4386 (January 26, 2006) (SR-Amex-2005-131).

⁸ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

⁹ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

¹⁵ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 51827 (June 13, 2005), 70 FR 35491 (June 20, 2005) (SR-Phlx-2005-20).

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 No. SR-Amex-2006-45 and should be submitted on or before June 15, 2006.

For the Commission, by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.¹⁶

Nancy M. Morris,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. E6-8052 Filed 5-24-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8010-01-P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-53836; File No. SR-BSE-2006-17]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Boston Stock Exchange, Inc.; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change To Change Its Hours of Operation for Trading in Nasdaq Securities

May 18, 2006.

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 May 1, 2006, the Boston Stock Exchange, Inc. ("BSE" 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 Exchange. The BSE filed the proposed 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 BSE proposes to amend Chapter XXXV, Trading in Nasdaq Securities, Section 7, Dealings On Floor—Hours. The text of the proposed rule change is available on the BSE Web site at <http://www.bostonstock.com>, at the

Office of the Secretary, and at the Commission.

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 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 proposes to change its hours of operation for trading in Nasdaq Securities from 7 a.m. until 6:30 p.m., to 7 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. This change would decrease the Exchange's transacting of business in Nasdaq Securities during Nasdaq's after hours trading session by two hours, ending at 4:30 p.m. The BSE believes this change meets the current needs of its members.

2. Statutory Basis

The BSE believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the requirements of Section 6(b) of the Act,⁵ in general, and Section 6(b)(5)⁶ in particular, in that it is designed to promote just and equitable principles of trade, and to protect investors and the public interest.

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

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

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

The Exchange has neither solicited nor received comments on the proposed rule change.

III. Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission Action

Because the foregoing proposed rule change 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, it has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act⁷ and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder. At any time within 60 days of the filing of the 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.

The BSE has asked that the Commission waive the 30-day operative delay contained in Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii) under the Act.⁸ The Commission believes such waiver is consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest, for it will allow BSE to implement a change that meets the current needs of its members. For this reason, the Commission designates the proposal to be effective and operative upon filing with the Commission.⁹

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. Please include File Number SR-BSE-2006-17 on the subject line.

Paper Comments

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

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-BSE-2006-17. This file

¹⁶ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

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). The BSE provided the Commission with written notice of its intention to file the proposed rule change on April 6, 2006. The BSE asked the Commission to waive the 30-day operative delay. See 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

⁵ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

⁶ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

⁷ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

⁸ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6)(iii).

⁹ For purposes only of waiving the 30-day operative delay, the Commission has considered the proposed rule's impact on efficiency, competition, and capital formation. See 15 U.S.C. 78c(f).