SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. 34-53657; File No. SR-Amex-2006-32)

April 14, 2006

Self-Regulatory Organizations; American Stock Exchange LLC; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change Relating to Commentary .10 to Amex Rule 958 and Commentary .09 to Amex Rule 958—ANTE

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 April 11, 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 self-regulatory organization. Amex filed this proposal pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act³ and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder⁴ as non-controversial, and therefore the proposed rule change is effective immediately upon filing. The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

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

The Exchange proposes to revise Commentary .10 of Amex Rule 958 and Commentary .09 to Amex Rule 958—ANTE. 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.

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(l).

² 17 CFR 240. 19b-4.

³ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

⁴ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

II. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change</u>

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. Amex has prepared summaries, set forth in sections A, B, and C below, of the most significant aspects of such statements.

A. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and the Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change</u>

1. <u>Purpose</u>

The purpose of the proposal is to provide that transactions on the Exchange floor in Partnership Units ("Units") pursuant to Amex Rule 1500 et seq. are subject to Commentary .10 of Amex Rule 958 and Commentary .09 to Amex Rule 958—ANTE ("Commentaries").

Currently, the Commentaries provide that transactions in index warrants, currency warrants, securities listed pursuant to Section 107 of the Amex Guide, trust issued receipts listed pursuant to Amex Rules 1200 et seq. ("Trust Issued Receipts"), and derivative products are subject to Amex Rules 958 and 958—ANTE. A "derivative product" is defined in Article I, Section 3(d) of the Amex Constitution to include, in addition to standardized options, securities which are issued by the Options Clearing Corporation or another limited purpose entity or trust, and which are based solely on the performance of an index or portfolio of other publicly traded securities. A derivative product does not include warrants of any type or closed-end management investment companies. Portfolio Depository Receipts or Index Fund Shares are derivative products consistent with Article I, Section 3(d) of the Amex Constitution.

The Commentaries further provide that these transactions may only be effected by registered traders ("Registered Traders") who are regular members of the Exchange. A

Registered Trader who is logged onto Auto-Ex may only sign onto Auto-Ex for Portfolio Depository Receipts, Index Fund Shares, and Trust Issued Receipts (collectively "ETFs") traded on the same or contiguous panels, i.e., ETFs traded by two adjoining Specialists or ETFs traded by the same Specialist for a maximum of three panels. Amex also proposes to include Units as an ETF for the purposes of this contiguous panel requirement. The Exchange solely seeks to provide clarity akin to the trading of ETFs. As a result, the Exchange proposes that Registered Traders may participate in the trading of Units consistent with the Commentaries.

2. Statutory Basis

The proposed rule change is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act,⁵ in general, and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(5) of the Act,⁶ in particular, in that it is designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, promote just and equitable principles of trade, remove impediments to and perfect the mechanisms of a free and open market and a national market system, and, in general, protect investors and the public interest.

B. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition</u>

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. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed Rule Change Received from Members, Participants or Others</u>

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

III. <u>Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission Action</u>The foregoing rule change has become immediately effective pursuant to Section

⁵ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

⁶ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

19(b)(3)(A)⁷ of the Act and Rule 19b-4(f)(6)⁸ thereunder because: (i) it does not significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest; (ii) it does not impose any significant burden on competition; and (iii) by its terms, it does not become operative for 30 days after the date of the filing, or such shorter time as the Commission may designate if consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest; provided that the Exchange has given the Commission 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, or such shorter time as designated by the Commission.

Amex has requested that the Commission waive the 5-day pre-filing notice requirement and the 30-day operative delay of the proposal. The Commission believes that the wavier of the 5-day pre-filing requirement and the 30-day operative delay is consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest, because the waiver would allow Amex to immediately implement trading rules governing Units listed pursuant to Amex Rule 1500 et seq. that are identical to the trading rules for other ETFs traded on the Exchange. For this reason, the Commission designates the proposal effective and operative upon filing with the Commission. 9

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.

⁷ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

⁸ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

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

IV. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views and arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposal 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 <u>rule-comments@sec.gov</u>. Please include File Number SR-Amex-2006-32 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 No. SR-Amex-2006-32. 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 changes 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 will also be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of 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 No. SR-Amex-2006-32 and should be submitted on or before [insert date 21 days from publication in the <u>Federal Register</u>].

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

Nancy M. Morris Secretary

6

¹⁰ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).