OMB APPROVAL

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Page 1	of 11		EXCHANGE C GTON, D.C. 20 Form 19b-4				ent No. 3
Propo	Proposed Rule Change by National Association of Securities Dealers						
Pursuant to Rule 19b-4 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934							
Initial	Amendment <a></a>	Withdrawal	Section 19(b	)(2)	Section 19(b)(3	3)(A)	Section 19(b)(3)(B)
Pilot	Extension of Time Period for Commission Action	Date Expires		<u> </u>	b-4(f)(2)	19b-4(f)(4) 19b-4(f)(5) 19b-4(f)(6)	
Exhibit 2	2 Sent As Paper Document	Exhibit 3 Sent As Pap	per Document				
	ription le a brief description of the p	proposed rule change (lin	mit 250 characte	ers).			
Contact Information  Provide the name, telephone number and e-mail address of the person on the staff of the self-regulatory organization prepared to respond to questions and comments on the proposed rule change.  First Name Mignon  Last Name McLemore							
Title	3 -	ınsel, NASD Dispute R	] [	- INCLUMENT OF C			
E-mai							
Teleph	none (202) 728-8151	Fax (301) 527-475	2				
Signature Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934,  has duly caused this filing to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.  Date 10/07/2005							
Ву	Jean I. Feeney		Vice President	and Chief Co	ounsel, NASD	Dispute	
	(Name)		Resolution			•	
				(Titl	a)		
this form	Clicking the button at right will d m. A digital signature is as legal re, and once signed, this form ca	ly binding as a physical	Jean Fe		eney@nasd.c	om	

#### SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549 For complete Form 19b-4 instructions please refer to the EFFS website. The self-regulatory organization must provide all required information, presented in a Form 19b-4 Information clear and comprehensible manner, to enable the public to provide meaningful comment on the proposal and for the Commission to determine whether the Remove proposal is consistent with the Act and applicable rules and regulations under the Act. The Notice section of this Form 19b-4 must comply with the guidelines for **Exhibit 1 - Notice of Proposed Rule Change** publication in the Federal Register as well as any requirements for electronic filing as published by the Commission (if applicable). The Office of the Federal Register Add Remove (OFR) offers guidance on Federal Register publication requirements in the Federal Register Document Drafting Handbook, October 1998 Revision. For example, all references to the federal securities laws must include the corresponding cite to the United States Code in a footnote. All references to SEC rules must include the corresponding cite to the Code of Federal Regulations in a footnote. All references to Securities Exchange Act Releases must include the release number, release date, Federal Register cite, Federal Register date, and corresponding file number (e.g., SR-[SRO]-xx-xx). A material failure to comply with these guidelines will result in the proposed rule change being deemed not properly filed. See also Rule 0-3 under the Act (17 CFR 240.0-3) Copies of notices, written comments, transcripts, other communications. If such Exhibit 2 - Notices. Written Comments. documents cannot be filed electronically in accordance with Instruction F, they shall **Transcripts, Other Communications** be filed in accordance with Instruction G. Add Remove View Exhibit Sent As Paper Document Exhibit 3 - Form, Report, or Questionnaire Copies of any form, report, or questionnaire that the self-regulatory organization proposes to use to help implement or operate the proposed rule change, or that is Add Remove View referred to by the proposed rule change. Exhibit Sent As Paper Document The full text shall be marked, in any convenient manner, to indicate additions to and **Exhibit 4 - Marked Copies** deletions from the immediately preceding filing. The purpose of Exhibit 4 is to permit the staff to identify immediately the changes made from the text of the rule with which Add Remove View it has been working. The self-regulatory organization may choose to attach as Exhibit 5 proposed **Exhibit 5 - Proposed Rule Text** changes to rule text in place of providing it in Item I and which may otherwise be more easily readable if provided separately from Form 19b-4. Exhibit 5 shall be Add Remove View considered part of the proposed rule change. If the self-regulatory organization is amending only part of the text of a lengthy **Partial Amendment** proposed rule change, it may, with the Commission's permission, file only those portions of the text of the proposed rule change in which changes are being made if Add Remove View the filing (i.e. partial amendment) is clearly understandable on its face. Such partial amendment shall be clearly identified and marked to show deletions and additions.

On January 23, 2004, NASD filed SR-NASD-2004-013 to reorganize and simplify the language of the mediation portion of the NASD Code of Arbitration Procedure (Code). Amendment No. 1 was filed on January 3, 2005. Amendment No. 2 was filed on April 8, 2005. Notice of filing and Amendments Nos. 1 and 2 were published for comment on June 23, 2005. NASD is filing this partial Amendment No. 3 to make the following changes to the rule filing (new language is underlined; deletions are in brackets):

- 1. Current Rules 10401 10407 of the Code are deleted in their entirety and replaced with proposed Rules 14100 14109 of the NASD Code of Mediation Procedure (Mediation Code). The proposed rules have been renumbered to remain consistent with the numbering in the Code. When the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC or Commission) approves revisions to the Customer Code, SR-NASD-2003-158, and to the Industry Code, SR-NASD-2004-011, the Mediation Code will be renumbered in the NASD Manual, using the 14000 Series numbering.
- 2. Proposed Rule 10401(g) of the Mediation Code, definition of NASD Customer Code, was proposed in SR-NASD-2003-013, and has been approved by the Commission, but will not become effective until the revisions of the Customer Code is approved. This paragraph will be reserved until the definition becomes effective; at which time the definition will be reinserted into the Mediation Code.
- 3. Proposed Rule 10401(h) of the Mediation Code, definition of NASD Industry Code, was proposed in SR-NASD-2004-011, and has been approved by the Commission, but will not become effective until the revisions of the Industry Code is approved. This paragraph will be reserved until the definition becomes effective; at which time the definition will be reinserted into the Mediation Code.
- 4. In proposed Rule 10405(b), the phrase "NASD Customer Code or NASD Industry Code" will be substituted for "NASD Code of Arbitration Procedure," upon the Commission's approval of the revisions to the Customer and Industry Codes.
- 5. In proposed Rule 10406(b), the term "postponement" will be substituted for the term "adjournment," upon the Commission's approval of the revisions to the Customer and Industry Codes.
- 6. In proposed Rule 10407(c), the references to "NASD Customer Code Rule 12408 or NASD Industry Code Rule 13408" will replace the references to "Rule 10312(a), (b), and (c) of the NASD Code of Arbitration Procedure," upon the Commission's approval of the revisions to the Customer and Industry Codes.

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#### 10400. [Mediation Rules

10401. Scope and Authority

(a) The NASD Mediation Procedures ("Procedures") set forth in this Rule 10400 Series shall apply to the mediation of any dispute, claim or controversy ("matter") administered by the Association.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> <u>See</u> Securities Exchange Act Rel. No. 51855 (June 15, 2005); 70 FR 36440 (June 23, 2005).

- (b) A Director of Mediation shall be designated by the NASD Dispute Resolution Board to administer mediations under these Procedures. The Director will consult the National Arbitration and Mediation Committee on the administration of mediations and the Committee shall, as necessary, make recommendations to the Director of Arbitration and recommend to the NASD Dispute Resolution Board amendments to the Procedures. The duties and functions of the Director may be delegated by the Director, as appropriate. For purposes of this Rule 10400 Series, the term "Director" refers to the Director of Mediation.
- (c) Neither the Association nor any mediator appointed to mediate a matter pursuant to these Procedures shall have any authority to compel a party to participate in a mediation or to settle a matter.

# 10402. Submission of Eligible Matters

Any matter eligible for arbitration under this Code, any part thereof, or any issue related to the matter, including procedural issues, may be submitted for mediation under these Procedures upon the agreement of all parties. A matter will be deemed submitted when the Director has received an executed Submission Agreement from each party. The Director shall have the sole authority to determine if a matter is eligible to be submitted for mediation.

# 10403. Arbitration Proceedings

- (a) Unless the parties agree otherwise, the submission of a matter for mediation shall not stay or otherwise delay the arbitration of a matter pending under this Code. When all parties agree to stay the arbitration in order to mediate the claim, the arbitration proceeding shall be stayed, notwithstanding any provision to the contrary in this Code.
- (b) If mediation is conducted through NASD Dispute Resolution, Inc., no adjournment fees will be charged for staying the arbitration proceeding in order to mediate.

# 10404. Mediator Selection

- (a) A mediator may be selected: (1) by the parties from a list supplied by the Director; (2) by the parties from a list or other source of their own choosing; or (3) by the Director if the parties do not act to select a mediator after submitting a matter to mediation.
- (b) With respect to any mediator assigned or selected from a list provided by the Association, the parties will be provided with information relating to the mediator's employment, education, and professional background, as well as information on the mediator's experience, training, and credentials as a mediator. Any mediator selected or assigned to mediate a matter shall comply with the provisions of Rule 10312(a), (b) and (c), unless, with respect to a mediator selected from a source other than the Association's lists, the parties elect to waive such disclosure.
- (c) No mediator shall be permitted to serve as an arbitrator of any matter pending in Association arbitration in which he served as a mediator, nor shall the mediator be

permitted to represent any party or participant to the mediation in any subsequent Association arbitration proceeding relating to the subject matter of the mediation.

# 10405. Limitation on Liability

The Association, its employees, and any mediator named to mediate a matter under this Rule 10400 Series, shall not be liable for any act or omission in connection with a mediation administered pursuant to these Procedures.

#### 10406. Mediation Ground Rules

- (a) The following Ground Rules are established to govern the mediation of a matter. The parties to a mediation may agree to amend any or all of the Ground Rules at any time. The Ground Rules are intended to be standards of conduct for the parties and the mediator.
- (b) Mediation is voluntary and any party may withdraw from mediation at any time prior to the execution of a written settlement agreement by giving written notice of withdrawal to the mediator, the other parties, and the Director.
- (c) The mediator shall act as a neutral, impartial, facilitator of the mediation process and shall not have any authority to determine issues, make decisions or otherwise resolve the matter.
- (d) Following the selection of a mediator, the mediator, all parties and their representatives will meet in person or by conference call for all mediation sessions, as determined by the mediator or by mutual agreement of the parties. The mediator shall facilitate, through joint sessions, caucuses and/or other means, discussions between the parties, with the goal of assisting the parties in reaching their own resolution of the matter. The mediator shall determine the procedure for the conduct of the mediation. The parties and their representatives agree to cooperate with the mediator in ensuring that the mediation is conducted expeditiously, to make all reasonable efforts to be available for mediation sessions, and to be represented at all scheduled mediation sessions either in person or through a person with authority to settle the matter.
- (e) The mediator may meet with and communicate separately with each party or their representative. The mediator shall notify all other parties of any such separate meetings or other communications.
- (f) The parties agree to attempt, in good faith, to negotiate a settlement of the matter submitted to mediation. Notwithstanding that a matter is being mediated, the parties may engage in direct settlement discussions and negotiations separate from the mediation process.
- (g)(1) Mediation is intended to be private and confidential. The parties and the mediator agree not to disclose, transmit, introduce, or otherwise use opinions, suggestions, proposals, offers, or admissions obtained or disclosed during the mediation by any party or the mediator as evidence in any action at law, or other proceeding, including a lawsuit or arbitration, unless authorized in writing by all other parties to the mediation or compelled by law, except that the fact that a mediation has occurred shall not be considered confidential.

- (2) Notwithstanding the foregoing, the parties agree and acknowledge that the provisions of this paragraph shall not operate to shield from disclosure to the Association or any other regulatory authority, documentary or other information that the Association or other regulatory authority would be entitled to obtain or examine in the exercise of its regulatory responsibilities.
- (3) The mediator will not transmit or otherwise disclose confidential information provided by one party to any other party unless authorized to do so by the party providing the confidential information.

#### 10407. Mediation Fees

# (a) Filing Fees: Cases Filed Directly in Mediation

Each party to a matter submitted directly to a mediation administered by the Association shall pay an administrative fee to the Association in the amounts indicated in the schedule below, unless such fee is specifically waived by the Director of Mediation.

Amount in Controversy	Customer and Associated Person Fee	Member Fee	Total Fees
\$.01-\$25,000	\$ 50	\$150 \$200	\$200
\$25,000.01-\$100,000 Over \$100,000	\$150 \$300	\$300 \$500	\$450 \$800

# (b) Filing Fees: Cases Initially Filed in Arbitration

When a matter is initially filed in arbitration and subsequently submitted to a mediation administered by the Association, each party shall pay an administrative fee to the Association in the amounts indicated in the schedule below, unless such fee is specifically waived by the Director of Mediation.

Amount in Controversy	Customer and Associated Person Fee	Member Fee	Total Fees
\$.01–\$25,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
\$25,000.01–\$100,000	\$100	\$150	\$250
Over \$100,000	\$250	\$500	\$750

#### (c) Mediator Fees and Expenses

The parties to a mediation administered by the Association shall pay all of the mediator's charges, including the mediator's travel and other expenses. The charges shall be specified in the Submission Agreement and shall be apportioned equally among the parties unless they agree otherwise. Each party shall deposit with the Association its proportional share of the anticipated mediator charges and expenses, as determined by the Director of Mediation, prior to the first mediation session.]

#### NASD CODE OF MEDIATION PROCEDURE

# [14100] <u>10401</u>. Definitions

Unless otherwise defined in the Code, terms used in the Code and interpretive material, if defined in the NASD By-Laws, shall have the meaning as defined in the NASD By-Laws.

#### (a) Board

The term "Board" means the Board of Directors of NASD Dispute Resolution, Inc.

# (b) Code

The term "Code" means the NASD Code of Mediation Procedure.

# (c) Director

The term "Director [of Mediation]" in the Rule 10400 Series refers to the Director of Mediation at NASD Dispute Resolution. Unless the Code or any other NASD rule provides otherwise, the term includes NASD staff to whom the Director of Mediation has delegated authority.

### (d) Matter

The term "matter" means a dispute, claim, or controversy.

### (e) NAMC

The term "NAMC" means the National Arbitration and Mediation Committee of the Board of Directors of NASD Dispute Resolution, Inc.

#### (f) NASD

Unless the Code specifies otherwise, the term "NASD" includes NASD, Inc., and NASD Dispute Resolution, Inc.

# (g) [NASD Customer Code

The term "NASD Customer Code" means the NASD Code of Arbitration Procedure for Customer Disputes.] <u>Reserved.</u>

#### (h) [NASD Industry Code

The term "NASD Industry Code" means the NASD Code of Arbitration Procedure for Industry Disputes.] Reserved.

# (i) Submission Agreement

The term "Submission Agreement" means the NASD Mediation Submission Agreement. The NASD Mediation Submission Agreement is a document that parties must sign at the outset of a mediation in which they agree to submit to mediation under the Code.

# [14101] <u>10402</u>. Applicability of Code

The Code applies to any matter submitted to mediation at NASD.

# [14102] <u>10403</u>. National Arbitration and Mediation Committee

- (a) Pursuant to Part V(C)(1)(b) of the Plan of Allocation and Delegation of Functions by NASD to Subsidiaries ("Delegation Plan"), the Board shall appoint a National Arbitration and Mediation Committee ("NAMC").
  - (1) The NAMC shall consist of no fewer than ten and no more than 25 members. At least 50 percent of the NAMC shall be Non-Industry members.
  - (2) The Chairperson of the Board shall name the Chairperson of the NAMC.
- (b) Pursuant to the Delegation Plan, the NAMC shall have the authority to recommend rules, regulations, procedures and amendments relating to arbitration, mediation, and other dispute resolution matters to the Board. All matters recommended by the NAMC to the Board must have been approved by a quorum, which shall consist of a majority of the NAMC, including at least 50 percent of the Non-Industry committee members. If at least 50 percent of the Non-Industry committee members are either (i) present at or (ii) have filed a waiver of attendance for a meeting after receiving an agenda prior to such meeting, the requirement that at least 50 percent of the Non-Industry committee members be present to constitute the quorum shall be waived. The NAMC has such other power and authority as is necessary to carry out the purposes of this Code.
- (c) The NAMC may meet as frequently as necessary, but must meet at least once a year.

## [14103] 10404. Director of Mediation

- (a) The Board shall appoint a Director of Mediation to administer mediations under the Code. The Director will consult with the NAMC on the administration of mediations, as necessary.
- (b) The Director may delegate his or her duties when appropriate, unless the Code provides otherwise.

# [14104] 10405. Mediation Under the Code

- (a) Mediation under the Code is voluntary, and requires the written agreement of all parties. No party may be compelled to participate in a mediation or to settle a matter by NASD, or by any mediator appointed to mediate a matter pursuant to the Code.
- (b) If all parties agree, any matter that is eligible for arbitration under the [NASD Customer Code or NASD Industry Code] <u>NASD Code of Arbitration Procedure</u>, or any part of any such matter, or any dispute related to such matter, including procedural issues, may be submitted for mediation under the Code.
- (c) A matter is submitted to mediation when the Director receives an executed Submission Agreement from each party.
- (d) The Director shall have the sole authority to determine if a matter is eligible to be submitted for mediation.

# [14105] 10406. Effect of Mediation on Arbitration Proceedings

- (a) Unless the parties agree otherwise, the submission of a matter for mediation will not stay or otherwise delay the arbitration of a matter pending at NASD. If all parties agree to stay an arbitration in order to mediate the matter, the arbitration will be stayed, notwithstanding any provision to the contrary in this Code or any other NASD rule.
- (b) If mediation is conducted through NASD, no [postponement] <u>adjournment</u> fees will be charged for staying the arbitration in order to mediate.

#### [14106] 10407. Mediator Selection

- (a) A mediator may be selected:
  - By the parties from a list supplied by the Director;
  - By the parties from a list or other source of their own choosing; or
  - By the Director if the parties do not select a mediator after submitting a matter to mediation.
- (b) For any mediator assigned or selected from a list provided by NASD, the parties will be provided with information relating to the mediator's employment, education, and professional background, as well as information on the mediator's experience, training, and credentials as a mediator.
- (c) Any mediator selected or assigned to mediate a matter shall comply with the provisions of [NASD Customer Code Rule 12408 or NASD Industry Code Rule 13408] Rule 10312(a), (b), and (c) of the NASD Code of Arbitration Procedure, unless, with respect to a mediator selected from a source other than a list provided by NASD, the parties elect to waive such disclosure.
- (d) No mediator may serve as an arbitrator of any matter pending in NASD arbitration in which he served as a mediator; nor may the mediator represent any party

or participant to the mediation in any subsequent NASD arbitration relating to the subject matter of the mediation.

# [14107] <u>10408</u>. Limitation on Liability

NASD, its employees, and any mediator named to mediate a matter under the Code shall not be liable for any act or omission in connection with a mediation administered under the Code.

# [14108] 10409. Mediation Ground Rules

- (a) The following Ground Rules govern the mediation of a matter. The parties to a mediation may agree to amend any or all of the Ground Rules at any time. The Ground Rules are intended to be standards of conduct for the parties and the mediator.
- (b) Mediation is voluntary and any party may withdraw from mediation at any time prior to the execution of a written settlement agreement by giving written notice of withdrawal to the mediator, the other parties, and the Director.
- (c) The mediator shall act as a neutral, impartial, facilitator of the mediation process and shall not have any authority to determine issues, make decisions or otherwise resolve the matter.
- (d) Following the selection of a mediator, the mediator, all parties and their representatives will meet in person or by conference call for all mediation sessions, as determined by the mediator or by mutual agreement of the parties. The mediator shall facilitate, through joint sessions, caucuses and/or other means, discussions between the parties, with the goal of assisting the parties in reaching their own resolution of the matter. The mediator shall determine the procedure for the conduct of the mediation. The parties and their representatives agree to cooperate with the mediator in ensuring that the mediation is conducted expeditiously, to make all reasonable efforts to be available for mediation sessions, and to be represented at all scheduled mediation sessions either in person or through a person with authority to settle the matter.
- (e) The mediator may meet with and communicate separately with each party or the party's representative. The mediator shall notify all other parties of any such separate meetings or other communications.
- (f) The parties agree to attempt, in good faith, to negotiate a settlement of the matter submitted to mediation. Notwithstanding that a matter is being mediated, the parties may engage in direct settlement discussions and negotiations separate from the mediation process.
  - (g) Mediation is intended to be private and confidential.
  - (1) The parties and the mediator agree not to disclose, transmit, introduce, or otherwise use opinions, suggestions, proposals, offers, or admissions obtained or disclosed during the mediation by any party or the mediator as evidence in any action at law, or other proceeding, including a lawsuit or arbitration, unless authorized in writing by all other parties to the mediation or compelled by law, except that the fact that a mediation has occurred shall not be considered confidential.

- (2) Notwithstanding the foregoing, the parties agree and acknowledge that the provisions of this paragraph shall not operate to shield from disclosure to NASD or any other regulatory authority, documentary or other information that NASD or other regulatory authority would be entitled to obtain or examine in the exercise of its regulatory responsibilities.
- (3) The mediator will not transmit or otherwise disclose confidential information provided by one party to any other party unless authorized to do so by the party providing the confidential information.

# [14109] <u>10410</u>. Mediation Fees

(a) Filing Fees: Cases Filed Directly in Mediation

Each party to a matter submitted directly to a mediation administered under the Code must pay an administrative fee to NASD in the amounts indicated in the schedule below, unless such fee is specifically waived by the Director.

Amount in Controversy	Customer and Associated Person Fee	Member Fee
\$.01-\$25,000	\$ 50	\$150
\$25,000.01-\$100,000	\$150	\$300
Over \$100,000	\$300	\$500

(b) Filing Fees: Cases Initially Filed in Arbitration

When a matter is initially filed in arbitration and subsequently submitted to mediation under the Code, each party must pay an administrative fee to NASD in the amounts indicated in the schedule below, unless such fee is specifically waived by the Director.

Amount in Controversy	Customer and Associated Person Fee	Member Fee
\$.01-\$25,000	\$ 0	\$ 0
\$25,000.01-\$100,000	\$100	\$150
Over \$100,000	\$250	\$500

#### (c) Mediator Fees and Expenses

The parties to a mediation administered under the Code must pay all of the mediator's charges, including the mediator's travel and other expenses. The charges shall be specified in the Submission Agreement and shall be apportioned equally among the parties unless they agree otherwise. Each party shall deposit with NASD its proportional share of the anticipated mediator charges and expenses, as determined by the Director, prior to the first mediation session.