OMB APPROVAL

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Proposed Rule Change by National Association of Securities Dealers  Pursuant to Rule 19b-4 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934										
Initial ✓	Amendment	Withdrawal	Section 19(t		Section 19  Ru	0(b)(3)(A) ule	Section 1	19(b)(3)(B)		
Pilot	Extension of Time Period for Commission Action	Date Expires		1	9b-4(f)(1) 9b-4(f)(2) 9b-4(f)(3)	19b-4(f)(4) 19b-4(f)(5) 19b-4(f)(6)				
Exhibit 2 Sent As Paper Document  Exhibit 3 Sent As Paper Document  Exhibit 3 Sent As Paper Document										
Description  Provide a brief description of the proposed rule change (limit 250 characters).  Proposed rule change to establish a new effective date of February 4, 2008, for amendments to NASD Rules 6951, 6952, and 6955 to expand the Order Audit Trail System (OATS) reporting requirements to over-the-counter equity securities.										
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 Na					Last Name Brown					
Title E-mail		Associate General Counsel  brant.brown@nasd.com								
Telepho		Fax (202) 728-803	4							
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 03/01/2007										
By Stephanie Dumont Vice President and Associate General Counsel										
(Name)										
NOTE: Clicking the button at right will digitally sign and lock this form. A digital signature is as legally binding as a physical signature, and once signed, this form cannot be changed.  (Title)  Stephanie Dumont,										

#### 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 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.

#### 1. Text of Proposed Rule Change

- (a) Pursuant to the provisions of Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act"), the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc. ("NASD") is filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC" or "Commission") a proposed rule change to establish February 4, 2008, as the effective date of the amendments to NASD Rules 6951, 6952, and 6955 that the Commission approved on October 10, 2006. The amendments expand the Order Audit Trail System ("OATS") reporting requirements to over-the-counter ("OTC") equity securities. No changes are being proposed to NASD rule text.
  - (b) Not applicable.
  - (c) Not applicable.

## 2. Procedures of the Self-Regulatory Organization

The proposed rule change was approved by the Board of Directors of NASD Rules without recourse to the membership for approval.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

Securities Exchange Act Rel. No. 54585 (October 10, 2006), 71 FR 61112 (October 17, 2006) (SR-NASD-2005-101). See also Notice to Members 06-70 (December 2006).

NASD has filed the proposed rule change for immediate effectiveness.

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

#### (a) Purpose

NASD is filing the proposed rule change to establish February 4, 2008, as the effective date for the amendments to the OATS rules expanding the OATS reporting requirements to OTC equity securities.

On October 10, 2006, the SEC approved SR-NASD-2005-101, which amended NASD Rules 6951, 6952, and 6955 to expand the OATS reporting requirements to include "OTC equity securities," as defined in NASD Rule 6951.<sup>3</sup> On December 11, 2006, NASD published (1) Notice to Members 06-70 announcing the Commission's approval of the amendments and (2) a new version of the OATS Reporting Technical Specifications. Pursuant to the SEC's approval of SR-NASD-2005-101, the amendments to the OATS rules will go into effect on June 11, 2007, six months following the publication of the revised OATS Reporting Technical Specifications.

Since the publication of the <u>Notice</u> and the <u>OATS Reporting Technical</u>

<u>Specifications</u>, many firms have requested that the effective date for the new reporting requirements be delayed to allow firms sufficient time to make necessary systems updates and changes. As a result of these discussions, NASD seeks to delay the implementation of the new requirements until February 4, 2008, to give firms sufficient time to make necessary changes to their systems to enable them to comply with the

Securities Exchange Act Rel. No. 54585 (October 10, 2006), 71 FR 61112 (October 17, 2006) (SR-NASD-2005-101).

expanded OATS reporting requirements. NASD also seeks to delay the implementation of these provisions until after firms have completed technological and systems changes required by the complete implementation of Regulation NMS, which is scheduled for October 2007.

NASD has filed the proposed rule change for immediate effectiveness.

#### (b) Statutory Basis

NASD believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the provisions of Section 15A(b)(6) of the Act,<sup>4</sup> which requires, among other things, that NASD rules must be designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable principles of trade, and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest. NASD believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the provisions of the Act noted above because extending the effective date will ensure that firms have sufficient time to make the necessary changes to their systems to be able to comply with the new OATS reporting requirements.

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

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

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

Written comments were neither solicited nor received.

#### **Extension of Time Period for Commission Action**

Not applicable.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> 15 U.S.C. 780–3(b)(6).

# 7. <u>Basis for Summary Effectiveness Pursuant to Section 19(b)(3) or for Accelerated Effectiveness Pursuant to Section 19(b)(2)</u>

The proposed rule change is effective upon filing pursuant to Section 19(b)(3) of the Act<sup>5</sup> and paragraph (f)(6) of Rule 19b-4 thereunder,<sup>6</sup> in that the proposed rule change does not significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest; does not impose any significant burden on competition; and does not become operative for 30 days after filing. NASD requests that the Commission waive the five-day pre-filing notice requirement specified in Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii) under the Act.<sup>7</sup>

# 8. <u>Proposed Rule Change Based on Rules of Another Self-Regulatory</u> <u>Organization or of the Commission</u>

Not applicable.

## 9. Exhibits

Exhibit 1. Completed notice of proposed rule change for publication in the Federal Register.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6)(iii).

#### **EXHIBIT 1**

#### SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

(Release No. 34- ; File No. SR-NASD-2007-019)

Self-Regulatory Organizations: National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc.; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change to Revise Effective Date of Amendments to NASD's Order Audit Trail System Rules

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act")<sup>1</sup> and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,<sup>2</sup> notice is hereby given that on , the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc. ("NASD") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC" or "Commission") the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II, and III below, which Items have been prepared by NASD. NASD has designated the proposed rule change as constituting a "non-controversial" rule change under paragraph (f)(6) of Rule 19b-4 under the Act,<sup>3</sup> which renders the proposal effective upon receipt of this filing by the Commission. 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</u> Proposed Rule Change

NASD is filing the proposed rule change to establish February 4, 2008, as the effective date of the amendments to NASD Rules 6951, 6952, and 6955 that the Commission approved on October 10, 2006.<sup>4</sup> The amendments expand the Order Audit

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

Securities Exchange Act Rel. No. 54585 (October 10, 2006), 71 FR 61112
 (October 17, 2006) (SR-NASD-2005-101).

Trail System ("OATS") reporting requirements to over-the-counter ("OTC") equity securities. No changes are being proposed to NASD rule text.

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

In its filing with the Commission, NASD 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. NASD 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 Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change</u>

### 1. Purpose

NASD is filing the proposed rule change to establish February 4, 2008, as the effective date for the amendments to the OATS rules expanding the OATS reporting requirements to OTC equity securities.

On October 10, 2006, the SEC approved SR-NASD-2005-101, which amended NASD Rules 6951, 6952, and 6955 to expand the OATS reporting requirements to include "OTC equity securities," as defined in NASD Rule 6951.<sup>5</sup> On December 11, 2006, NASD published (1) Notice to Members 06-70 announcing the Commission's approval of the amendments and (2) a new version of the OATS Reporting Technical Specifications. Pursuant to the SEC's approval of SR-NASD-2005-101, the amendments to the OATS rules will go into effect on June 11, 2007, six months following the publication of the revised OATS Reporting Technical Specifications.

Id.

Since the publication of the Notice and the OATS Reporting Technical

Specifications, many firms have requested that the effective date for the new reporting requirements be delayed to allow firms sufficient time to make necessary systems updates and changes. As a result of these discussions, NASD seeks to delay the implementation of the new requirements until February 4, 2008, to give firms sufficient time to make necessary changes to their systems to enable them to comply with the expanded OATS reporting requirements. NASD also seeks to delay the implementation of these provisions until after firms have completed technological and systems changes required by the complete implementation of Regulation NMS, which is scheduled for October 2007.

NASD has filed the proposed rule change for immediate effectiveness.

#### 2. Statutory Basis

NASD believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the provisions of Section 15A(b)(6) of the Act,<sup>6</sup> which requires, among other things, that NASD rules must be designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable principles of trade, and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest. NASD believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the provisions of the Act noted above because extending the effective date will ensure that firms have sufficient time to make the necessary changes to their systems to be able to comply with the new OATS reporting requirements.

# B. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition NASD does not believe that the proposed rule change will result in any burden

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> 15 U.S.C. 780–3(b)(6).

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

Written comments were neither solicited nor received.

## III. <u>Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission Action</u>

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 Act and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder.<sup>7</sup>

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:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

- Use the Commission's Internet comment form (<a href="http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml">http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml</a>); or
- Send an e-mail to <a href="mailto:rule-comments@sec.gov">rule-comments@sec.gov</a>. Please include File Number SR-NASD-2007-019 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-NASD-2007-019. 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 (<a href="http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml">http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml</a>). 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 such filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of NASD.

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

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File Number SR-NASD-2007-019 and should be submitted on or before [insert date 21 days from publication in the Federal Register].

For the Commission, by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.  $^{8}$ 

Nancy M. Morris

Secretary

<sup>8 17</sup> CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).