SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. 34-53720; File No. SR-NASD-2006-051)

April 25, 2006

Self-Regulatory Organizations; National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc.; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change to Expand the Maximum Single Order Share Amount in Nasdaq's INET Facility

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 19, 2006, the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc.("NASD"), through its subsidiary, the Nasdaq Stock Market, Inc. ("Nasdaq"), submitted to the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") the proposed rule change as described in Items I and II below, which Items have been prepared by Nasdaq. Nasdaq filed the proposed rule change pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act³ 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. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed</u> <u>Rule Change</u>

Nasdaq proposes to expand the single order maximum share amount in its INET Facility to 999,999 shares. Nasdaq will implement the proposed rule change immediately. The text of the proposed rule change is below. Proposed new language is <u>underlined</u>; deletions are in

[brackets].⁴

³ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

⁴ Changes are marked to the rule text that appears in the electronic NASD Manual found at <u>www.nasd.com</u>. Prior to the date when The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC ("NASDAQ LLC") commences operations, NASDAQ LLC will file a conforming change to the rules of NASDAQ LLC approved in Securities Exchange Act Release No. 53128 (January 13, 2006).

4953. Order Entry Parameters

(a) INET System Orders

(1) - (3) No Change.

(4) Any order in whole shares up to 999,999 shares may be entered into the System for normal execution processing.

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

In its filing with the Commission, Nasdaq 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. Nasdaq 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,</u> <u>the Proposed Rule Change</u>

1. <u>Purpose</u>

Nasdaq's INET Facility currently operates using a 200,000 share maximum single order limit for orders sent to the New York Stock Exchange's DOT system. For all other orders, INET applies a 999,999 share single order maximum share amount. Nasdaq proposes to codify for its INET Facility a maximum single order share amount standard, for all orders, of 999,999 shares, the same share number maximum already in place in the Nasdaq Market Center.⁵ The proposed rule change will ensure that the INET system provides an adequate and uniform capability to accept large-size orders as well as reduce technological complexity for Nasdaq and users of its

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See NASD Rule 4706(d)(1).

systems by enhancing the degree of uniformity among single order share maximums across its systems.⁶

2. <u>Statutory Basis</u>

Nasdaq believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 15A of the Act,⁷ in general, and furthers the objectives of Section 15A(b)(6) of the Act,⁸ in particular, in that it is designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable principles of trade, remove impediments to a free and open market and a national market system, and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest.

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

Nasdaq 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.

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

Written comments were neither solicited nor received.

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

Nasdaq has filed the proposed rule change pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act⁹ and subparagraph (f)(6) of Rule 19b-4 thereunder.¹⁰ Because the foregoing proposed rule change: (1) does not significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest; (2) does not impose any significant burden on competition; and (3) does not become operative for 30

⁹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

⁶ The single order maximum share number limit for Nasdaq's Brut Facility shall remain 1,000,099 shares. <u>See NASD Rule 4903(f)</u>.

⁷ 15 U.S.C. 780-3.

⁸ 15 U.S.C. 780-3(6).

¹⁰ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

days from the date of filing, or such shorter time as the Commission may designate if consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest, the proposed rule change has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder. As required under Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii), Nasdaq provided the Commission with written notice of its intent to file the proposed rule change at least five business days prior to filing the proposal with the Commission or such shorter period as designated by the Commission. Nasdaq has requested that the Commission waive 30-day delayed operational date provisions contained in the above rule, based upon a representation that the proposed rule filing would ensure that INET users have the beneficial capability to enter larger size orders as soon as practicable. For this reason, the Commission designates the proposal to be effective and operative upon filing with the Commission.

At any time within 60 days of the filing of such 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:

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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-NASD-2006-051 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-2006-051. 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 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 Nasdaq. 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 Number SR-NASD-2006-051 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.¹¹

Nancy M. Morris Secretary

¹¹ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).