

office of the secretariat 2010 FEB 26 PM 4 25

February 26, 2010

### VIA E-MAIL

Mr. David A. Stawick Secretary of the Commission Commodity Futures Trading Commission Three Lafayette Centre 1155 21<sup>st</sup> Street, N.W. Washington, DC 20581

Re: Rule Filing SR-OCC-2010-02 Rule Certification

Dear Mr. Stawick:

Attached is a copy of the above-referenced rule filing, which The Options Clearing Corporation ("OCC") is submitting pursuant to the self-certification procedures of Commission Regulation 40.6. This rule filing has been, or is concurrently being, submitted to the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Exchange Act").

In conformity with the requirements of Regulation 40.6(a)(3), OCC states the following: The text of the rule is set forth at Item 1 of the enclosed filing. The date of implementation of the rule is when the proposed rule has been approved by the SEC. No substantive opposing views were expressed to OCC by governing board or committee members, clearing members of OCC, or market participants, that were not incorporated into the rule.

OCC hereby certifies that the rule set forth at Item 1 of the enclosed filing complies with the Commodity Exchange Act and the Commission's regulations thereunder.

IEAN M. CAWLEY



Mr. David A. Stawick Page Two February 26, 2010

Should you have any questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned at (312) 322-6269.

Sincerely,

Jean M. Cawley

### Attachments

cc:

CFTC Central Region (w/ enclosure)

525 West Monroe Street, Suite 1100

Chicago, IL 60661 Attn: Frank Zimmerle

OCC-2010-02 cftc.ltr

# SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

Form 19b-4

Proposed Rule Change by

THE OPTIONS CLEARING CORPORATION

Pursuant to Rule 19b-4 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

### Item 1. Text of the Proposed Rule Change

The Options Clearing Corporation ("OCC") proposes to amend its by-laws as set forth below. Material proposed to be added is marked by underlining.

### ARTICLE I

### **Definitions**

#### **Definitions**

**SECTION 1.** Unless the context requires otherwise (or except as otherwise specified in the By-Laws), the terms defined herein shall, for all purposes of these By-Laws and the Rules of the Corporation, have the meanings herein specified.

A.

(1) [unchanged]

### **Adjustment Increment**

(2) The term "adjustment increment" in respect of options means one-eighth in the case of exercise prices expressed in fractions or one cent in the case of exercise prices expressed in decimals. The term "adjustment increment" in respect of a series of futures other than stock futures means the minimum increment in settlement prices for such series and in respect of a series of stock futures means \$0.0001.

(3)-(15) [unchanged]

B. - Z. [unchanged]

\*

### Item 2. Procedures of the Self-Regulatory Organization

The proposed rule change was approved by the Board of Directors of OCC at a meeting held on December 8, 2009.

Questions regarding the proposed rule change should be addressed to Jean M. Cawley, Senior Vice President and Deputy General Counsel, at (312) 322-6269.

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

The purpose of this rule change is to accommodate a request made by OneChicago LLC ("ONE") to refine the adjustment increment when stock futures are adjusted in response to corporate actions. Currently, the adjustment increment for stock futures is the minimum increment in settlement prices, which is one cent (\$.01). ONE desires to change the adjustment increment for stock futures to one hundredth of a cent (\$.0001). Daily settlement prices and trade prices would continue to be expressed in pennies on a per-contract basis. This change would affect any corporate action for which settlement prices are adjusted, including cash distributions.<sup>1</sup>

As an example of the intended change, suppose a futures contract settlement price needs to be adjusted to reflect a \$0.125 per share cash dividend. If the per-share settlement price is \$50.00, the adjusted settlement price would be \$50.00 - \$0.125 = \$49.8750. If the closing settlement price the following day is \$50.05, a mark-to-market of \$50.05 - \$49.875 = \$0.1750, or \$17.50 per contract, would result. Prior to the change, the adjusted settlement price of

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See Article XII, Section 3(a) for a description of the general rules applicable to adjustments on stock futures.

\$49.875 would be rounded to \$49.88. The resulting next day mark-to-market would be \$50.05 – \$49.88 = \$0.17, or \$17.00 per contract. In that case, \$0.50 in mark-to-market value would be not be accounted for.

\* \* \*

The proposed change is consistent with Section 17A of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), because it facilitates the clearance and settlement of stock futures transactions by providing a more precise calculation of the impact of certain adjustments. The proposed rule change is not inconsistent with the existing rules of OCC, including any other rules proposed to be amended.

### Item 4. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition

OCC does not believe that the proposed rule change would impose any burden on competition.

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

Written comments were not and are not intended to be solicited with respect to the proposed rule change and none have been received.

### Item 6. Extension of Time Period for Commission Action

OCC does not consent to an extension of the time period for Commission action on the proposed rule change.

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

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) and Rule 19b-4(f)(4), the proposed rule change is filed for immediate effectiveness in that it effects a change OCC's existing service of clearing stock futures that does not (i) adversely affect the safeguarding of securities or funds in OCC's custody or control or for which OCC is responsible or (ii) significantly affect the respective rights or obligations of OCC or persons using the service.

# Item 8. Proposed Rule Change Based on Rule of Another Self-Regulatory Organization or of the Commission

Not applicable.

### Item 9. Exhibits

Exhibit 1. Completed Notice of Proposed Rule Change for publication in the Federal Register.

### **SIGNATURE**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, The Options

Clearing Corporation has caused this filing to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

THE OPTIONS CLEARING CORPORATION

Joan M. Carylon

Senior Vice President and Deputy General Counsel

### EXHIBIT 1

### SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

(Release No. 34-\_\_\_\_\_; File No. SR-OCC-2010-02

### SELF-REGULATORY ORGANIZATION

Proposed Rule Change By The Options Clearing Corporation		
Relating to Adjustment Increments Applicable to Stock Futures		
Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1),		
notice is hereby given that on, 2010, The Options Clearing Corporation		
("OCC") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission the proposed rule change as		
described in Items I, II and III below, which Items have been prepared by the self-regulatory		
organization. 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 the Substance of the Proposed Rule Change

The proposed rule change would amend the definition of adjustment increment applicable to stock futures.

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

In its filing with the Commission, the self-regulatory organization 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 self-regulatory organization 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</u> of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

The purpose of this rule change is to accommodate a request made by OneChicago LLC ("ONE") to refine the adjustment increment when stock futures are adjusted in response to corporate actions. Currently, the adjustment increment for stock futures is the minimum increment in settlement prices, which is one cent (\$.01). ONE desires to change the adjustment increment for stock futures to one hundredth of a cent (\$.0001). Daily settlement prices and trade prices would continue to be expressed in pennies on a per-contract basis. This change would affect any corporate action for which settlement prices are adjusted, including cash distributions.<sup>1</sup>

As an example of the intended change, suppose a futures contract settlement price needs to be adjusted to reflect a \$0.125 per share cash dividend. If the per-share settlement price is \$50.00, the adjusted settlement price would be \$50.00 - \$0.125 = \$49.8750. If the closing settlement price the following day is \$50.05, a mark-to-market of \$50.05 - \$49.875 = \$0.1750, or \$17.50 per contract, would result. Prior to the change, the adjusted settlement price of \$49.875 would be rounded to \$49.88. The resulting next day mark-to-market would be \$50.05 -

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See Article XII, Section 3(a) for a description of the general rules applicable to adjustments on stock futures.

\$49.88 = \$0.17, or \$17.00 per contract. In that case, \$0.50 in mark-to-market value would be not be accounted for.

\* \* \*

The proposed change is consistent with Section 17A of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), because it facilitates the clearance and settlement of stock futures transactions by providing a more precise calculation of the impact of certain adjustments. The proposed rule change is not inconsistent with the existing rules of OCC, including any other rules proposed to be amended.

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

  OCC does not believe that the proposed rule change would impose any burden on competition.
  - C. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the</u>
    Proposed Rule Change Received from Members, Participants or Others

Written comments were not and are not intended to be solicited with respect to the proposed rule change and none have been received.

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

The foregoing rule change has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act and paragraph (f) of Rule 19b-4 thereunder. At any time within 60 days of the filing of the proposed rule change, the Commission may summarily abrogate such rule 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 <u>rule-comments@sec.gov</u>. Please include File Number 2010-02 on the subject line.

### Paper Comments:

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

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-OCC-2010-02. 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 Section, 100F Fifth Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549-1090. Copies of such filing will also be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the above-mentioned self-regulatory organization. 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-OCC-
	2010-02 in the caption above 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.
	Secretary
	Dated:
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