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OFFICE OF THE SECRETARIAT

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May 6, 2009

Mr. David Stawick
Office of the Secretariat
Commodity Futures Trading Commission
Three Lafayette Centre
1155 21st Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20581

RE:

CME/CBOT Rule 526. ("Block Trades") CME/CBOT Submission No. 09-090

Dear Mr. Stawick:

Chicago Mercantile Exchange Inc. ("CME") and The Board of Trade of the City of Chicago, Inc. ("CBOT") hereby notify the Commodity Futures Trading Commission that they have approved amendments to CME/CBOT Rule 526.G. ("Block Trades") that requires block trades to be reported to the Clearing House in an approved reporting method. The text of the rule changes is attached with additions underscored and deletions overstruck.

CME and CBOT certify that these rule changes comply with the Commodity Exchange Act and regulations thereunder.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact me at (312) 648-5422.

Sincerely,

/s/ Stephen M. Szarmack
Director and Associate General Counsel

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## FOR CME AND CBOT RULEBOOKS

## **Rule 526. BLOCK TRADES**

The Exchange shall designate the products in which block trades shall be permitted and determine the minimum quantity thresholds for such transactions, subject to the provisions in Article IV, Section D(2)(e) of the Exchange's Certificate of Incorporation that are applicable to rule changes. The following shall govern block trades:

- A. A block trade must be for a quantity that is at or in excess of the applicable minimum threshold. Orders may not be aggregated in order to achieve the minimum transaction size, except by those entities described in Sections I. and J.
- B. Each party to a block trade must be an Eligible Contract Participant as that term is defined in Section 1a(12) of the Commodity Exchange Act.
- C. A member shall not execute any order by means of a block trade for a customer unless such customer has specified that the order be executed as a block trade.
- D. The price at which a block trade is executed must be fair and reasonable in light of (i) the size of the block trade, (ii) the prices and sizes of other transactions in the same contract at the relevant time, (iii) the prices and sizes of transactions in other relevant markets, including without limitation the underlying cash market or related futures markets, at the relevant time, and (iv) the circumstances of the markets or the parties to the block trade.
- E. Block trades shall not set off conditional orders (e.g., Stop Orders and MIT Orders) or otherwise affect orders in the regular market.
- F. The seller must ensure that each block trade is reported to the Exchange within five minutes of the time of execution. The report must include the contract, contract month, price, quantity of the transaction, the respective clearing members, the time of execution, and, for options, strike price, put or call and expiration month. The Exchange shall promptly publish such information separately from the reports of transactions in the regular market.
- G. Glearing members must report bBlock trades must be reported to the Clearing House in accordance with an approved reporting method. the Clearing House Manual of Operations.
- H. Clearing members and members involved in the execution of block trades must maintain a record of the transaction in accordance with Rule 536.
- A commodity trading advisor ("CTA") registered or exempt from registration under the Act, including, without limitation, any investment advisor registered or exempt from registration under the Investment Advisors Act of 1940, shall be the applicable entity for purposes of Sections A., B., C., and D., provided such advisors have total assets under management exceeding \$25 million and the block trade is suitable for the customers of such advisors.
- J. A foreign Person performing a similar role or function to a CTA or investment advisor as described in Section I, and subject as such to foreign regulation, shall be the applicable entity for purposes of Sections A., B., C., and D., provided such Persons have total assets under management exceeding \$25 million and the block trade is suitable for the customers of such Persons.