

C.F.T.C. OFFICE OF THE SECRETARIAT 2009 JUN 2 PM 2 32

June 1, 2009

Via Electronic Mail

Mr. David Stawick Secretary Commodity Futures Trading Commission Three Lafayette Centre 1155 21st Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20581

Re: <u>CBOE Futures Exchange, LLC Rule Certification</u> Submission Number CFE-2009-13

Dear Mr. Stawick:

Pursuant to Section 5c(c)(1) of the Commodity Exchange Act, as amended ("Act"), and §40.6(a) of the regulations promulgated by the Commodity Futures Trading Commission ("Commission") under the Act, CBOE Futures Exchange, LLC ("CFE" or "Exchange") hereby submits an amendment ("Amendment") to delete the term "combination" from CFE's Rules and Policies and Procedures. CFE views the term "combination" as used in CFE's Rules and Policies and Procedures to be synonymous with the term "spread order" which is already used in those provisions. Therefore, CFE does not believe that use of the term "combination" is needed to effectuate the intent of those CFE provisions that currently contain that term. Additionally, the Amendment also adds language to CFE Rule 415 regarding Block Trading to address strip transactions in CFE Rule 415 regarding Block Trading and makes certain non-substantive changes to Rule 415.

The Amendment will become effective on June 3, 2009.

CFE is not aware of any substantive opposing views to the Amendment. CFE hereby certifies that the Amendment complies with the Act and the regulations thereunder.

The Amendment, marked to show additions in <u>underlined</u> text and deletions in [bracketed] text, consists of the following:

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Rule 415. Block Trading

(a) If and to the extent permitted by the rules governing the applicable <u>Contract</u>, Trading Privilege Holders may enter into transactions outside the CBOE System, at prices mutually agreed, [with respect to Contracts that have been designated

by the Exchange for such purpose,] provided all of the following conditions are satisfied (such transactions, "Block Trades"):

Each buy or sell order underlying a Block Trade must (A) state (i)explicitly that it is to be, or may be, executed by means of a Block Trade and (B) be for at least such minimum number of Contracts as will from time to time be specified by the Exchange; provided that only (x) a commodity trading advisor registered under the CEA. (y) an investment adviser registered as such with the Securities and Exchange Commission that is exempt from regulation under the CEA and Commission Regulations thereunder and (z) any Person authorized to perform functions similar or equivalent to those of a commodity trading advisor in any jurisdiction outside the United States of America, in each case with total assets under management exceeding US\$25 million, may satisfy this requirement by aggregating orders for different accounts that are under management or control by such commodity trading advisor, investment adviser, or other Person. Other than as provided in the foregoing sentence, orders for different accounts may not be aggregated to satisfy Block Trade size requirements. For purposes of this Rule, if the Block Trade is executed as a spread order (as defined in Rule 404(g)) or [the quantity of each leg of a spread or a combination executed as a Block Trade must meet the designated minimum size set forth in the rules governing the relevant Contract] as a strip (i.e., a transaction with legs in multiple contract months that are exclusively for the purchase or exclusively for the sale of a Contract), the total quantity of the transaction and the quantity of each leg of the transaction must meet any designated minimum sizes applicable to those types of transactions that are set forth in the rules governing the relevant Contract.

(ii) Each party to a Block Trade must qualify as an "eligible contract participant" (as such term is defined in Section 1a(12) of the CEA); *provided* that, if the Block Trade is entered into on behalf of Customers by (A) a commodity trading advisor registered under the Act, (B) an investment adviser registered as such with the Securities and Exchange Commission that is exempt from regulation under the Act and Commission Regulations thereunder or (C) any Person authorized to perform functions similar or equivalent to those of a commodity trading advisor in any jurisdiction outside the United States of America, in each case with total assets under management exceeding US\$25 million, then only such commodity trading advisor or investment adviser, as the case may be, but not the individual Customers, need to so qualify.

(b) 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, at the relevant time, of orders in the order book for the same Contract, the same contract on other markets and similar or related contracts on the Exchange and other markets, including without limitation the underlying cash and futures markets; (iii) the prices and sizes, at the relevant time, of transactions in the same Contract, the same contract on other markets and similar or related contracts on the Exchange and other markets, including without limitation the underlying cash and futures markets; (iii) the prices and other markets and similar or related contracts on the Exchange and other markets, including without limitation the underlying cash and futures markets; (iv) the circumstances of the parties to the Block Trade; and (v) whether the Block Trade is executed as a spread [or combination] order or as a strip.

The following guidelines shall apply in determining whether the execution price of a Block Trade that is not executed as a spread [or combination] <u>order or as a strip</u> is "fair and reasonable." These guidelines are general and may not be applicable in each instance. Whether the execution price of a Block Trade is "fair and reasonable" depends upon the particular facts and circumstances.

In the event the quantity present in the order book is greater or equal to the quantity needed to fill an order of the size of the Block Trade, it would generally be expected that the Block Trade price would be better than the price present in the order book. In the event the quantity present in the order book is less than the quantity needed to fill an order of the size of the Block Trade, it would generally be expected that the Block Trade price would be relatively close to the price present in the order book and that the amount of the differential between the two prices would be smaller to the extent that the differential between the quantity present in the order book and the Block Trade quantity is smaller.

(c) Block Trades with respect to any Contract may occur during and outside of the Trading Hours set forth in the rules governing such Contract, unless otherwise specified in those rules. Each party to a Block Trade shall comply with all applicable Rules of the Exchange other than those which by their terms only apply to trading through the CBOE System.

(d) Each Block Trade shall be designated as such, and cleared through the Clearing Corporation as if it were a transaction executed through the CBOE System. The Exchange will publicize information identifying the trade as a Block Trade and identifying the relevant Contract, contract month, price or premium, quantity for each Block Trade and, if applicable, the underlying commodity, whether the transaction involved a put or a call and the strike price immediately after such information has been reported to the Exchange.

(c) Each Trading Privilege Holder that is party to a Block Trade shall record the following details on its order ticket: the Contract (including the delivery or expiry month) to which such Block Trade relates: the number of Contracts traded; the price of execution or premium; the time of execution; the identity of the counterparty; and, if applicable, details regarding the Customer for which the Block Trade was executed, the underlying commodity, whether the transaction involved a put or a call and the strike price. Upon request by the Exchange, such Trading Privilege Holder shall produce satisfactory evidence, including the order ticket referred to in the preceding sentence, that the Block Trade meets the requirements set forth in this Rule 415.

(f) Each Trading Privilege Holder executing a side of a Block Trade must have at least one designated person pre-authorized to report Block Trades. Only designated persons of Trading Privilege Holders with a clearing relationship at the Clearing Corporation will be allowed to report a Block Trade.

(g) The seller is obligated to call the Help Desk without delay, and in no event later than ten minutes after a Block Trade is negotiated to notify the Exchange of the terms of the trade if the transaction occurs during the Trading Hours for the relevant Contract, unless otherwise specified in the rules governing the relevant Contract. If the transaction occurs outside of the Trading Hours for the relevant Contract, notification to the Help Desk must occur no later than ten minutes from the time that regular trading next commences on the Exchange. The notification to the Help Desk with respect to a Block Trade shall include the relevant Contract, contract month, price or premium, quantity, time of execution, counterparty Clearing Member and, if applicable, the underlying commodity, whether the transaction involved a put or a call and the strike price, as well as any other information that is required to be set forth in the prescribed Block Trade Reporting Form. If the transaction is executed as a spread [or combination] order, such as when one party is rolling a position into the next contract month, the seller of the month closest to expiration is responsible for reporting the entire transaction to the Help Desk. The Help Desk will provide the caller a Trade Identification ("Trade ID") for the Block Trade and report both sides of the trade to the CBOE System. After reporting the Block Trade to the Help Desk, the buyer and seller must each complete and transmit the prescribed Block Trade Reporting Form via facsimile or c-mail to the Help Desk. Both sides must include the Trade ID given by the Help Desk to the seller for the Block Trade. It is the responsibility of the buying and selling Trading Privilege Holders to effect any subsequent allocations or necessary updates to non-critical matching fields utilizing a post-trade processing system designated by the Exchange.

(h) A Trading Privilege Holder may execute an Order placed for a nondiscretionary Customer account by means of a Block Trade only if the Customer has previously consented thereto.

(i) The Help Desk may review a Block Trade for compliance with the requirements of this Rule and may determine not to permit the Block Trade to be consummated if the Help Desk determines that the Block Trade does not conform with those requirements.

(j) The posting of a Block Trade by the Help Desk does not constitute a determination by the Exchange that the Block Trade was effected in conformity with the requirements of this Rule. A Block Trade that is posted by the Help Desk which does not conform to the requirements of this Rule shall be processed and given effect but will be subject to appropriate disciplinary action in accordance with the Rules of the Exchange.

(k) Any Block Trade in violation of the requirements of this Rule shall constitute conduct which is inconsistent with just and equitable principles of trade.

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Rule 1202. Contract Specifications

(a) - (j) No change.

(k) Block Trades. Pursuant to Rule 415(a)(i), the minimum Block Trade quantity for the VIX futures contract is 200 contracts if there is only one leg involved in the trade. If the Block Trade is executed as a spread [or a combination] order, one leg must meet the minimum Block Trade quantity for the VIX futures contract and the other leg(s) must have a contract size that is reasonably related to the leg meeting the minimum Block Trade quantity. If the Block Trade is executed as a transaction with legs in multiple contract months and all legs of the Block Trade are exclusively for the purchase or exclusively for the sale of VIX futures contracts (a "strip"), the minimum Block Trade quantity for the strip is 300 contracts and each leg of the strip is required to have a minimum size of 100 contracts. The minimum price increment for a Block Trade in the VIX futures contract is 0.01 index points.

(l) – (o) No change.

Rule 1302. Contract Specifications

(a) - (j) No change.

(k) Block Trades. Pursuant to Rule 415(a)(i), the minimum Block Trade quantity for the CBOE S&P 500 Three-Month Variance futures contract is 100 contracts if there is only one leg involved in the trade. If the Block Trade is executed as a spread [or a combination] order, one leg must meet the minimum Block Trade quantity for the CBOE S&P 500 Three-Month Variance futures contract and the other leg(s) must have a contract size that is reasonably related to the leg meeting the minimum Block Trade quantity. If the Block Trade is executed as a transaction with legs in multiple contract months and all legs of the Block Trade are exclusively for the purchase or exclusively for the sale of CBOE S&P 500 Three-Month Variance futures contracts (a "strip"), the minimum Block Trade quantity for the strip is 150 contracts and each leg of the strip is required to have a minimum size of 25 contracts.

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(1) - (0) No change.

Rule 1602. Contract Specifications

(a) - (j) No change.

(k) Block Trades. Pursuant to Rule 415(a)(i), the minimum Block Trade quantity for the RVX futures contract is 100 contracts if there is only one leg involved in the trade. If the Block Trade is executed as a spread [or a combination] order, one leg must meet the minimum Block Trade quantity for the RVX futures contract and the other leg(s) must have a contract size that is reasonably related to the leg meeting the minimum Block Trade quantity. If the Block Trade is executed as a transaction with legs in multiple contract months and all legs of the Block Trade are exclusively for the purchase or exclusively for the sale of RVX futures contracts (a "strip"), the minimum Block Trade quantity for the strip is 150 contracts and each leg of the strip is required to have a minimum size of 50 contracts.

The minimum price increment for a Block Trade in the RVX futures contract is 0.01 index points.

(l) - (o) No change.

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Rule 1702. Contract Specifications

(a) - (j) No change.

(k) Block Trades. Pursuant to Rule 415(a)(i), the minimum Block Trade quantity for the VXD futures contract is 100 contracts if there is only one leg involved in the trade. If the Block Trade is executed as a spread [or a combination] order, one leg must meet the minimum Block Trade quantity for the VXD futures contract and the other leg(s) must have a contract size that is reasonably related to the leg meeting the minimum Block Trade quantity. If the Block Trade is executed as a transaction with legs in multiple contract months and all legs of the Block Trade are exclusively for the purchase or exclusively for the sale of VXD futures contracts (a "strip"), the minimum Block Trade quantity for the strip is 150 contracts and each leg of the strip is required to have a minimum size of 50 contracts.

The minimum price increment for a Block Trade in the VXD futures contract is 0.01 index points.

(l) - (o) No change.

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Rule 1802. Contract Specifications

(a) -(n) No change.

(o) Block Trades. Pursuant to Rule 415(a)(i), the minimum Block Trade quantity for each Single Stock Future shall be 100 contracts, unless otherwise set forth in the Specifications Supplement for that Single Stock Future. If the Block Trade is executed as a spread [or a combination] <u>order</u>, one leg must meet the minimum Block Trade quantity for the particular Single Stock Future and the other leg(s) must have a contract size that is reasonably related to the leg meeting the minimum Block Trade quantity.

No natural person associated with a Trading Privilege Holder or Authorized Trader that has knowledge of a pending Block Trade of such Trading Privilege Holder or Authorized Trader, or a Customer thereof in a Single Stock Future on the Exchange, may enter an Order or execute a transaction, whether for his or her own account or, if applicable, for the account of a Customer over which he or she has control, for or in the Single Stock Future to which such Block Trade relates until after (i) such Block Trade has been reported to and published by the Exchange and (ii) any additional time period from time to time prescribed by the Exchange in its block trading procedures or contract specifications has expired.

No natural person associated with a Trading Privilege Holder or Authorized Trader that has knowledge of a pending Block Trade of such Trading Privilege Holder or Authorized Trader, or a Customer thereof in a Single Stock Future on any other exchange or trading system, may enter an Order or execute a transaction on the Exchange, whether for his or her own account or, if applicable, for the account of a Customer over which he or she has control, for any Single Stock Future which has the same underlying security as the contract to which such block trade relates until after (i) such block trade is reported and published in accordance with the rules, procedures or contract specifications of such exchange or trading system and (ii) any additional time period prescribed by the Exchange in its block trading procedures or contract specifications has expired.

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(p) - (q) No change.

Rule 1902. Contract Specifications

(a) - (l) No change.

(m) Block Trades. Pursuant to Rule 415(a)(i), the minimum Block Trade quantity for each Narrow Based Stock Index Future shall be 100 contracts, unless otherwise set forth in the Specifications Supplement for that Narrow Based Stock Index Future. If the Block Trade is executed as a spread [or a combination] order, one leg must meet the minimum Block Trade quantity for the particular Narrow Based Stock Index Future and the other leg(s) must have a contract size that is reasonably related to the leg meeting the minimum Block Trade quantity.

No natural person associated with a Trading Privilege Holder or Authorized Trader that has knowledge of a pending Block Trade of such Trading Privilege Holder or Authorized Trader, or a Customer thereof in a Narrow-Based Stock Index Future on the Exchange, may enter an Order or execute a transaction, whether for his or her own account or, if applicable, for the account of a Customer over which he or she has control, for or in the Narrow-Based Stock Index Future to which such Block Trade relates until after (i) such Block Trade has been reported to and published by the Exchange and (ii) any additional time period from time to time prescribed by the Exchange in its block trading procedures or contract specifications has expired.

No natural person associated with a Trading Privilege Holder or Authorized Trader that has knowledge of a pending Block Trade of such Trading Privilege Holder or Authorized Trader, or a Customer thereof in a Narrow-Based Stock Index Future on any other exchange or trading system, may enter an Order or execute a transaction on the Exchange, whether for his or her own account or, if applicable, for the account of a Customer over which he or she has control, for any Narrow-Based Stock Index Future which has the same underlying index as the contract to which such block trade relates until after (i) such block trade is reported and published in accordance with the rules, procedures or contract specifications of such exchange or trading system and (ii) any additional time period prescribed by the Exchange in its block trading procedures or contract specifications has expired.

(n) - (o) No change.

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Rule 2302. Contract Specifications

(a) - (j) No change.

(k) Block Trades. Pursuant to Rule 415(a)(i), the minimum Block Trade quantity for the CBOE S&P 500 Twelve-Month Variance futures contract is 100

contracts if there is only one leg involved in the trade. If the Block Trade is executed as a spread [or a combination] <u>order</u>, one leg must meet the minimum Block Trade quantity for the CBOE S&P 500 Twelve-Month Variance futures contract and the other leg(s) must have a contract size that is reasonably related to the leg meeting the minimum Block Trade quantity.

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(l) - (o) No change.

CFE Policy and Procedure III. Resolution of Error Trades (Rule 416)

A. General Policy

1. Invoking Error Trade Policy

Any request by a Trading Privilege Holder to invoke the error trade policy with respect to any trade must be made to the help desk as soon as possible. Additionally, an employee of the Exchange can bring a potential error trade to the help desk's attention. The help desk may provide assistance only to Trading Privilege Holders. In all cases, if a potential error trade is not brought to the help desk's attention within eight minutes after the relevant trade occurred, such trade will stand, except as provided in Part B below.

2. Procedure Followed by Help Desk

When a potential error trade is brought to the help desk's attention, the help desk will determine whether the trade price is in the "no bust range" for the relevant Contract, as set forth in the Rules governing such Contract. With respect to trades involving a Spread Order [(e.g., a combination order and not independent, separate legs)], the help desk may also consider the theoretical net price of the Spread Order and apply the "no bust range" in relation to that theoretical net price (such that if the net trade price of the Spread Order was inside (outside) that "no bust range", all of the trades involving the Spread Order would be treated as inside (outside) the "no bust range"). In making a determination regarding the theoretical net price of a Spread Order, the help desk may consider all relevant factors, including the net of the true market prices of the Contracts that comprise the individual legs of the Spread Order (each determined in the manner described above) and the net price of other Spread Orders of the same type.

In determining whether the trade price is within the "no bust range," the help desk will determine what the true market price for the relevant Contract was immediately before the potential error trade occurred. In making such determination, the help desk may consider all relevant factors, including the last trade price for such Contract, a better bid or offer price, a more recent price in a different contract month or series and the prices of related contracts trading in other markets.

3.-6. No change.

B. – F. No change.

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Questions regarding this submission may be directed to Arthur Reinstein at (312) 786-7570 or Jennifer Klebes at (312) 786-7466. Please reference our submission number CFE-2009-13 in any related correspondence.

CBOE Futures Exchange, iLLC By:

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