



For Immediate Release

ISE Maintains Position as Largest US Equity Options Exchange Experiences Second Month as Number One in Customer Order-Flow Execution

NEW YORK, July 1, 2003 – For the fifth consecutive month, the International Securities Exchange (ISE) was the largest US equity options exchange.

ISE traded more equity options than any other US options exchange in June, according to trading volume analysis. ISE's equity options market share was 30% in June, a 25% increase compared to 24% for the same year-ago period. ISE is the world's largest equity options exchange, according to statistics compiled by Futures & Options Week (FOW).

ISE, which was founded in May 2000, emerged as the largest US equity options exchange earlier this year after implementing several trading system and market place innovations. In January, ISE introduced the "one size fits all" trading initiative that insures all market participants receive the full size available at the quote for their orders. In February, ISE implemented ISE *spreads*, which enhanced the execution of multi-legged options orders. In March, ISE introduced VPN-CLICK, a Virtual Private Network connectivity solution that allows ISE member firms to route orders to ISE over a low-cost, secure Internet connection.

The growing acceptance in the options industry of ISE's initiatives is continuing to contribute to ISE's trading volume growth. Indeed, ISE's innovations are attracting more customer volume to the exchange. In ISE's listings in June, ISE executed more customer order-flow than any other exchange. Overall, in its listings, ISE traded more volume in 377 of its 560 issues than any other options exchange.

In June, ISE traded 22 million equity options contracts, up 57% from 14 million equity options contracts in the same year-ago period. Average daily volume in June was 1,061,678 contracts, up 48% from 719,560 contracts in the same year-ago period.

ISE was the lead market in June for options on 23 of the 30 stocks in the Dow Jones Industrial Average, which represented 74% of the index's total weighting. ISE was the lead market for options on 225 of the stocks in the Standard & Poor's 500 Index, which represented 67% of the index's total weighting. ISE was the lead market for options on 334 stocks of the 1000 stocks in the Russell 1000 Index, which represented 62% of the index's total weighting.

ISE Background

The International Securities Exchange was founded on the principle that technology fosters and infuses new efficiencies and operational innovations into securities trading. After developing an innovative market structure that integrated auction market principles into an advanced screen-based trading system, ISE launched the first fully electronic US options exchange in May 2000. ISE, which is the largest US equity options exchange, continually enhances its trading systems to provide investors and the trading community with the most efficient, least expensive order executions possible.

For more information about ISE, its products and its technology, visit www.iseoptions.com.

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