

Regulatory Circular RG12-177

Date: December 21, 2012

To: Trading Permit Holders
From: Regulatory Services Division
RE: Prearranged Trades

This Regulatory Circular restates Chicago Board Options Exchange, Incorporated's ("Exchange") policy concerning prearranged trading. Trading Permit Holders are cautioned that any purchase or sale, transaction or series of transactions, coupled with an agreement, arrangement or understanding, directly or indirectly to reverse such transaction which is not done for a legitimate economic purpose or without subjecting the transactions to market risk, violates Exchange Rules and may be inconsistent with various provisions of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, (the "Act") and rules thereunder. All transactions must be effected in accordance with applicable trading rules, must be subject to risk of the market, and must be reported for dissemination.

Section 9(a)(1) of the Act prohibits any member of a national securities exchange, for the purpose of creating a false or misleading appearance of active trading in any security registered on a national securities exchange, or a false or misleading appearance with respect to the market for any such security, (A) from effecting any transaction in such security which involves no change in the beneficial ownership thereof, or (B) from entering an order or orders for the purchase (sale) of such security with the knowledge that an order or orders of substantially the same size, at substantially the same time, and at substantially the same price, for the sale (purchase) of any such security, has been or will be entered by or for the same or different parties.

Prearranged trading could result in a violation of CBOE Rule 4.1, which prohibits conduct inconsistent with just and equitable principles of trade, Rule 6.45A or 6.45B which addresses the priority of bids and offers, or Rule 10b-5 of the Act, which prohibits any act, practice or course of business which operates or would operate as a fraud or deceit upon any person, in connection with the purchase or sale of any security, respectively.

Additional Information:

Please contact the Regulatory Interpretations and Guidance team at RegInterps@cboe.com or (312) 786-8141 for additional information.

(Regulatory Circular RG12-073, reissued)