## **MEMORANDUM**

TO: Members, Member Organizations, Participants, Participant Organizations

FROM: Richard S. Rudolph, Vice President and Counsel

Legal Department

DATE: July 17, 2008

RE: Emergency Order

Pre-Borrowing Requirement for Short Sales in Certain Financial Stocks

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The Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC" or "Commission") has issued an **Emergency Order** ("**Order**") concerning short sales of certain equity securities. The Order will include a "pre-borrowing" requirement for short sellers in certain securities, which are listed below (the "affected securities").

Current SEC rules permit broker/dealers to sell stock short as long as they reasonably believe they can locate the needed shares and deliver them on time. Beginning Monday, July 21, 2008 at 12:01 a.m., and extending through Tuesday July 29, 2008 at 11:59 p.m., short sellers, **including options market makers**, will need to make formal arrangements to borrow the shares before selling them.

Specifically, the Order states in relevant part:

"[N]o person may effect a short sale in these securities [affected securities]...unless such person or its agent has borrowed or arranged to borrow the security or otherwise has the security available to borrow in its inventory prior to effecting such short sale and delivers the security on settlement date."

The Order also notes that short sales to be effected as a result of a put options exercise are subject to the Order, and short sales used to hedge are also subject to the Order.

Phlx staff, in conjunction with representatives from the other options exchanges, discussed the Order with senior Commission staff yesterday and expressed our concern over the potential impact of the Order on the options markets and market participants. Phlx, together with the other options exchanges, intends to request today that the Commission grant some form of exemptive relief to options market makers concerning the "pre-borrowing" requirement in the Order. We will also request that this exemption apply to short sales occurring as a result of the exercise of long put options and as a result of the assignment of short call option positions. At this time it is not clear whether the SEC will grant such relief. We will keep you updated.

The Order will apply to the following affected securities:

Company Ticker Symbol(s)

BNP Paribas Securities Corp.

BNPQF or BNPQY

Bank of America Corporation **BAC Barclays PLC BCS** Citigroup Inc. C Credit Suisse Group CS Daiwa Securities Group Inc. **DSECY** Deutsche Bank Group AG DB Allianz SE AZGoldman, Sachs Group Inc GS Royal Bank ADS **RBS** 

HSBC Holding PLC ADS HBC and HIS

J.P.Morgan Chase & Co. JPM Lehman Brothers Holdings Inc. LEH Merrill Lynch & Co., Inc. **MER** Mizuho Financial Group, Inc. **MFG** Morgan Stanley MS **UBS AG UBS** Freddie Mac **FRE** Fannie Mae **FNM** 

The Order states that the SEC may extend the duration of the Order by way of further rulemaking. We will follow this and keep membership informed. Questions concerning the Order may be addressed to Rick Rudolph in the Phlx Legal Department at (215) 496-5074.