

ISE Reports Monthly Volume for February 2004 Achieves Lead Market Status in US

NEW YORK, March 1, 2004 – The International Securities Exchange (ISE), the world's largest equity options exchange, reported an increase in February trading volume compared to the same year-ago period.

Volume Statistics

- ISE's equity options market share was 32% in February, an 18% increase compared to 27% for the same year-ago period.
- Overall, in its listings, ISE traded more volume in 448 of its 625 issues than any other options exchange.

In February, ISE traded 27.6 million equity options contracts, up 104% from 13.5 million equity options contracts in the same year-ago period. Average daily volume (ADV) in February was 1,450,816 contracts, up 104% from 710,218 contracts in the same year-ago period.

- ISE executed more customer volume in its own listings than any other exchange in February.

Monthly Highlights

- ISE was the lead market in February for options on 23 of the 30 stocks in the Dow Jones Industrial Average, which represented 73% of the index's total weighting. ISE was the lead market for options on 241 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 315 of the 1000 stocks in the Russell 1000 Index, which represented 63% of the index's total weighting.
- For the first time, ISE was the largest US options exchange based on both equity and index options trading volume during any single month.

ISE Background

The International Securities Exchange, the world's largest equity options 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 continually enhances its trading systems to provide investors with the best marketplace to execute their options orders.

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

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