

on SEC Form S-8 or the withholding taxes for an employee stock award plan, a creditor may accept, in lieu of the securities, a properly executed exercise notice, where applicable, and instructions to the issuer to deliver the stock to the creditor. Prior to acceptance, the creditor must verify that the issuer will deliver the securities promptly and the customer must designate the account into which the securities are to be deposited.

(f) *Exchange of securities.* (1) To enable a customer to participate in an offer to exchange securities which is made to all holders of an issue of securities, a creditor may submit for exchange any securities held in a margin account, without regard to the other provisions of this part, provided the consideration received is deposited into the account.

(2) If a nonmargin, nonexempted security is acquired in exchange for a margin security, its retention, withdrawal, or sale within 60 days following its acquisition shall be treated as if the security is a margin security.

(g) *Valuing securities.* The current market value of a security shall be determined as follows:

(1) Throughout the day of the purchase or sale of a security, the creditor shall use the security's total cost of purchase or the net proceeds of its sale including any commissions charged.

(2) At any other time, the creditor shall use the closing sale price of the security on the preceding business day, as shown by any regularly published reporting or quotation service. If there is no closing price, the creditor may use any reasonable estimate of the market value of the security as of the close of business on the preceding business day.

(h) *Innocent mistakes.* If any failure to comply with this part results from a mistake made in good faith in executing a transaction or calculating the amount of margin, the creditor shall not be deemed in violation of this part if, promptly after the discovery of the mistake, the creditor takes appropriate corrective action.

(i) *Foreign currency.* Freely convertible foreign currency may be treated at its U.S. dollar equivalent, provided the currency is marked-to-market daily.

[Reg. T, 61 FR 20392, May 6, 1996]

§ 220.4 Margin account.

(a) *Margin transactions.* (1) All transactions not specifically authorized for inclusion in another account shall be recorded in the margin account.

(2) A creditor may establish separate margin accounts for the same person to:

(i) Clear transactions for other creditors where the transactions are introduced to the clearing creditor by separate creditors; or

(ii) Clear transactions through other creditors if the transactions are cleared by separate creditors; or

(iii) Provide one or more accounts over which the creditor or a third party investment adviser has investment discretion.

(b) *Required margin—(1) Applicability.* The required margin for each long or short position in securities is set forth in § 220.18 (the Supplement) and is subject to the following exceptions and special provisions.

(2) *Short sale against the box.* A short sale "against the box" shall be treated as a long sale for the purpose of computing the equity and the required margin.

(3) *When-issued securities.* The required margin on a net long or net short commitment in a when-issued security is the margin that would be required if the security were an issued margin security, plus any unrealized loss on the commitment or less any unrealized gain.

(4) *Stock used as cover.* (i) When a short position held in the account serves in lieu of the required margin for a short put, the amount prescribed by paragraph (b)(1) of this section as the amount to be added to the required margin in respect of short sales shall be increased by any unrealized loss on the position.

(ii) When a security held in the account serves in lieu of the required margin for a short call, the security shall be valued at no greater than the exercise price of the short call.

(5) *Accounts of partners.* If a partner of the creditor has a margin account with the creditor, the creditor shall disregard the partner's financial relations

with the firm (as shown in the partner's capital and ordinary drawing accounts) in calculating the margin or equity of the partner's margin account.

(6) *Contribution to joint venture.* If a margin account is the account of a joint venture in which the creditor participates, any interest of the creditor in the joint account in excess of the interest which the creditor would have on the basis of its right to share in the profits shall be treated as an extension of credit to the joint account and shall be margined as such.

(7) *Transfer of accounts.* (i) A margin account that is transferred from one creditor to another may be treated as if it had been maintained by the transferee from the date of its origin, if the transferee accepts, in good faith, a signed statement of the transferor (or, if that is not practicable, of the customer), that any margin call issued under this part has been satisfied.

(ii) A margin account that is transferred from one customer to another as part of a transaction, not undertaken to avoid the requirements of this part, may be treated as if it had been maintained for the transferee from the date of its origin, if the creditor accepts in good faith and keeps with the transferee account a signed statement of the transferor describing the circumstances for the transfer.

(8) *Credit denominated in foreign currency.* A creditor may extend credit denominated in any freely convertible foreign currency.

(9) *Options.* The following provisions are in force until June 1, 1997:

(i) *Margin or cover for options on exempted debt securities, certificates of deposit, stock indices, or securities exchange traded options on foreign currencies.* The required margin for each transaction involving any short put or short call on an exempted debt security, certificate of deposit, stock index, or foreign currency (if the option is traded on a securities exchange), shall be the amount or position in lieu of margin set forth in §220.18 (the Supplement).

(ii) *Margin for options on equity securities.* The required margin for each transaction involving any short put or short call on an equity security shall be the amount set forth in §220.18 (the Supplement).

(iii) *Cover or positions in lieu of margin.* No margin is required for an option written on an equity security position when the account holds any of the following:

(A) The underlying asset in the case of a short call, or a short position in the underlying asset in the case of a short put;

(B) Securities immediately convertible into or exchangeable for the underlying asset without the payment of money in the case of a short call, if the right to convert or exchange does not expire on or before the expiration date of the short call;

(C) An escrow agreement for the underlying security or foreign exchange (in the case of a short call) or cash (in the case of a short put);

(D) A long call on the same number of shares of the same underlying asset if the long call does not expire before the expiration date of the short call, and if the amount (if any), by which the exercise price of the long call exceeds the exercise price of the short call is deposited in the account;

(E) A long put on the same number of shares of the same underlying asset if the long put does not expire before the expiration date of the short put, and if the amount (if any), by which the exercise price of the short put exceeds the exercise price of the long put is deposited in the account;

(F) A warrant to purchase the underlying asset, in the case of a short call, if the warrant does not expire on or before the expiration date of the short call, and if the amount (if any), by which the exercise price of the short call is deposited in the account. A warrant used in lieu of the required margin under this provision shall contribute no equity to the account.

(iv) *Straddles.* When both a short put and a short call are in a margin account on the same number of shares of the same underlying security, the required margin shall be the margin on either the short put or the short call, whichever is greater, plus any unrealized loss on the other option.

(v) *Exclusive designation.* The customer may designate at the time the option order is entered which security position held in the account is to serve in lieu of the required margin, if such

service is offered by the creditor; or the customer may have a standing agreement with the creditor as to the method to be used for determining on any given day which security position will be used in lieu of the margin to support an option transaction. Any security held in the account which serves in lieu of the required margin for a short put or a short call shall be unavailable to support any other option transaction in the account.

(c) *When additional margin is required—(1) Computing deficiency.* All transactions on the same day shall be combined to determine whether additional margin is required by the creditor. For the purpose of computing equity in an account, security positions are established or eliminated and a credit or debit created on the trade date of a security transaction. Additional margin is required on any day when the day's transactions create or increase a margin deficiency in the account and shall be for the amount of the margin deficiency so created or increased.

(2) *Satisfaction of deficiency.* The additional required margin may be satisfied by a transfer from the special memorandum account or by a deposit of cash, margin securities, exempted securities, or any combination thereof.

(3) *Time limits.* (i) A margin call shall be satisfied within one payment period after the margin deficiency was created or increased.

(ii) The payment period may be extended for one or more limited periods upon application by the creditor to its examining authority unless the examining authority believes that the creditor is not acting in good faith or that the creditor has not sufficiently determined that exceptional circumstances warrant such action. Applications shall be filed and acted upon prior to the end of the payment period or the expiration of any subsequent extension.

(4) *Satisfaction restriction.* Any transaction, position, or deposit that is used to satisfy one requirement under this part shall be unavailable to satisfy any other requirement.

(d) *Liquidation in lieu of deposit.* If any margin call is not met in full within the required time, the creditor shall liquidate securities sufficient to meet

the margin call or to eliminate any margin deficiency existing on the day such liquidation is required, whichever is less. If the margin deficiency created or increased is \$1000 or less, no action need be taken by the creditor.

(e) *Withdrawals of cash or securities.* (1) Cash or securities may be withdrawn from an account, except if:

(i) Additional cash or securities are required to be deposited into the account for a transaction on the same or a previous day; or

(ii) The withdrawal, together with other transactions, deposits, and withdrawals on the same day, would create or increase a margin deficiency.

(2) Margin excess may be withdrawn or may be transferred to the special memorandum account (§220.5) by making a single entry to that account which will represent a debit to the margin account and a credit to the special memorandum account.

(3) If a creditor does not receive a distribution of cash or securities which is payable with respect to any security in a margin account on the day it is payable and withdrawal would not be permitted under paragraph (e) of this section, a withdrawal transaction shall be deemed to have occurred on the day the distribution is payable.

(f) *Interest, service charges, etc.* (1) Without regard to the other provisions of this section, the creditor, in its usual practice, may debit the following items to a margin account if they are considered in calculating the balance of such account:

(i) Interest charged on credit maintained in the margin account;

(ii) Premiums on securities borrowed in connection with short sales or to effect delivery;

(iii) Dividends, interest, or other distributions due on borrowed securities;

(iv) Communication or shipping charges with respect to transactions in the margin account; and

(v) Any other service charges which the creditor may impose.

(2) A creditor may permit interest, dividends, or other distributions credited to a margin account to be withdrawn from the account if:

(i) The withdrawal does not create or increase a margin deficiency in the account; or

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(ii) The current market value of any securities withdrawn does not exceed 10 percent of the current market value of the security with respect to which they were distributed.

[Reg. T, 61 FR 20392, May 6, 1996]

§ 220.5 Special memorandum account.

(a) A special memorandum account (SMA) may be maintained in conjunction with a margin account. A single entry amount may be used to represent both a credit to the SMA and a debit to the margin account. A transfer between the two accounts may be effected by an increase or reduction in the entry. When computing the equity in a margin account, the single entry amount shall be considered as a debit in the margin account. A payment to the customer or on the customer's behalf or a transfer to any of the customer's other accounts from the SMA reduces the single entry amount.

(b) The SMA may contain the following entries:

- (1) Dividend and interest payments;
- (2) Cash not required by this part, including cash deposited to meet a maintenance margin call or to meet any requirement of a self-regulatory organization that is not imposed by this part;
- (3) Proceeds of a sale of securities or cash no longer required on any expired or liquidated security position that may be withdrawn under § 220.4(e); and
- (4) Margin excess transferred from the margin account under § 220.4(e)(2).

[Reg. T, 61 FR 20394, May 6, 1996]

§ 220.6 Government securities account.

In a government securities account, a creditor may effect and finance transactions involving government securities, provided the transaction is not prohibited by section 15C of the Act or any rule thereunder.

[Reg. T, 61 FR 20394, May 6, 1996]

§ 220.7 Arbitrage account.

In an arbitrage account a creditor may effect and finance for any customer bona fide arbitrage transactions. For the purpose of this section, the term "bona fide arbitrage" means:

(a) A purchase or sale of a security in one market together with an offsetting sale or purchase of the same security

in a different market at as nearly the same time as practicable for the purpose of taking advantage of a difference in prices in the two markets; or

(b) A purchase of a security which is, without restriction other than the payment of money, exchangeable or convertible within 90 calendar days of the purchase into a second security together with an offsetting sale of the second security at or about the same time, for the purpose of taking advantage of a concurrent disparity in the prices of the two securities.

[Reg. T, 61 FR 20394, May 6, 1996]

§ 220.8 Cash account.

(a) *Permissible transactions.* In a cash account, a creditor, may:

(1) Buy for or sell to any customer any security or other asset if:

(i) There are sufficient funds in the account; or

(ii) The creditor accepts in good faith the customer's agreement that the customer will promptly make full cash payment for the security or asset before selling it and does not contemplate selling it prior to making such payment;

(2) Buy from or sell for any customer any security or other asset if:

(i) The security is held in the account; or

(ii) The creditor accepts in good faith the customer's statement that the security is owned by the customer or the customer's principal, and that it will be promptly deposited in the account;

(3) Issue, endorse, or guarantee, or sell an option for any customer as part of a covered option transaction; and

(4) Use an escrow agreement in lieu of the cash, cash equivalents or underlying asset position if:

(i) In the case of a short call or a short put, the creditor is advised by the customer that the required securities, assets or cash are held by a person authorized to issue an escrow agreement and the creditor independently verifies that the appropriate escrow agreement will be delivered by the person promptly; or

(ii) In the case of a call issued, endorsed, guaranteed, or sold on the same day the underlying asset is purchased in the account and the underlying