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PIP Improvement Increases For Third Consecutive Month

Boston, March 3, 2010: For the month of February, price improvement versus the prevailing NBBO for contracts submitted via the Boston Options Exchange's ("BOX") price improvement auction ("PIP*") averaged \$2.73 per contract, up from \$2.60 in January and \$2.40 in December. An average of 34,834 contracts per day received price improvement during the month. Total monthly savings to investors reached \$1.8M. Average daily trading volume on BOX for the month of February 2010 was 267,620.

** Patent application pending for BOX Price Improvement Process auction*