



Register of ASTC Settlement Rule Waivers

(August 2006)

The purpose of this register is to record when ASX has exercised its discretion and granted a waiver from the ASTC Settlement rules. Waivers are published monthly and include information such as :

- Organisation**
- Rule Number**
- Decision Details**
- Basis for Decision**

For all product enquiries, please contact:

- Customer Service Centre on 1300 300 279**

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Rule Number	4.9.1
Date	11/08/2006
Participant	A.B.C. Learning Centres Limited
Waiver Number	WPA060064-001
Decision	<p>A.B.C. Learning Centres Limited has been granted a waiver of ASTC Settlement Rule 4.9.1 on the following conditions:</p> <p>1. The waiver applies in respect of the requirement for the Participant to lodge a Performance Bond with ASTC pursuant to ASTC Settlement Rules 4.4.1 and 4.9.1. The Participant's admission as a Specialist Settlement Participant will be on a conditional basis solely for the purpose of conducting its proposed Off-Market Takeover Bid subject to the limitation that it will only be permitted to transmit the CHESSE electronic message types set out below:</p> <p>CHESSE to Issuer Sponsored Conversion Request - 011 CHESSE to Certificated Conversion Request - 013 New Registration Details - 201 Registration Details Update Request - 203 Transfer - 431 Reporting Request - 503 Reporting Request Cancellation - 505 Acceptance Rejection - 701 Acceptance Removal Authorisation - 703 Acceptance Removal Rejection - 705 Offeror Takeover Acceptance Removal - 707 Offeror Takeover Acceptance - 711</p>
Basis For Decision	<p>Underlying Policy The policy of requiring a settlement bond is to ensure that all participants with access to the daily settlement facilities have adequate financial resources to provide compensation if there is any misuse of those facilities causing loss to ASTC or other participants.</p> <p>Present Application Prior to the introduction of FSRA Regulations, and the subsequent ASTC and ACH rule changes as a result, applicants previously requesting admission under SCH Business Rules 2.3.2 and 2.4.1 were not required to lodge a Performance Bond. However, the ASTC Settlement Rules now requires entities of this type to lodge a Performance Bond.</p> <p>The purpose of the Settlement Bond is to ensure that all Participants with access to the daily settlement facilities have adequate financial recourse to provide compensation if there is any misuse of those facilities causing loss to ASTC or other Participants. As the Participant will be admitted on a conditional and restricted basis that will functionally prevent them from entering into the "Settlement Batch", a Performance Bond is not required.</p>

Rule Number	4.9.1
Date	11/08/2006
Participant	ARH Investments (Australia) Pty Ltd
Waiver Number	WPA060063-001
Decision	<p>ARH Investments (Australia) Pty Ltd has been granted a waiver of ASTC Settlement Rule 4.9.1 on the following conditions:</p> <p>1. The waiver applies in respect of the requirement for the Participant to lodge a Performance Bond with ASTC pursuant to ASTC Settlement Rules 4.4.1 and 4.9.1. The Participant's admission as a Specialist Settlement Participant will be on a conditional basis solely for the purpose of conducting its proposed Off-Market Takeover Bid subject to the limitation that it will only be permitted to transmit the CHESSE electronic message types set out below:</p> <p>CHESSE to Issuer Sponsored Conversion Request - 011 CHESSE to Certificated Conversion Request - 013 New Registration Details - 201 Registration Details Update Request - 203 Transfer - 431 Reporting Request - 503 Reporting Request Cancellation - 505 Acceptance Rejection - 701 Acceptance Removal Authorisation - 703 Acceptance Removal Rejection - 705 Offeror Takeover Acceptance Removal - 707 Offeror Takeover Acceptance - 711</p>
Basis For Decision	<p>Underlying Policy The policy of requiring a settlement bond is to ensure that all participants with access to the daily settlement facilities have adequate financial resources to provide compensation if there is any misuse of those facilities causing loss to ASTC or other participants.</p> <p>Present Application Prior to the introduction of FSRA Regulations, and the subsequent ASTC and ACH rule changes as a result, applicants previously requesting admission under SCH Business Rules 2.3.2 and 2.4.1 were not required to lodge a Performance Bond. However, the ASTC Settlement Rules now requires entities of this type to lodge a Performance Bond.</p> <p>The purpose of the Settlement Bond is to ensure that all Participants with access to the daily settlement facilities have adequate financial recourse to provide compensation if there is any misuse of those facilities causing loss to ASTC or other Participants. As the Participant will be admitted on a conditional and restricted basis that will functionally prevent them from entering into the "Settlement Batch", a Performance Bond is not required.</p>

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Rule Number	4.9.1
Date	22/08/2006
Participant	Buttermere Australia Pty Ltd
Waiver Number	WPA060071-001
Decision	<p>Buttermere Australia Pty Limited has been granted a waiver of ASTC Settlement Rule 4.9.1 on the following conditions:</p> <p>1. The waiver applies in respect of the requirement for the Participant to lodge a Performance Bond with ASTC pursuant to ASTC Settlement Rules 4.4.1 and 4.9.1. The Participant's admission as a Specialist Settlement Participant will be on a conditional basis solely for the purpose of conducting its proposed Off-Market Takeover Bid subject to the limitation that it will only be permitted to transmit the CHESSE electronic message types set out below:</p> <p>CHESSE to Issuer Sponsored Conversion Request - 011 CHESSE to Certificated Conversion Request - 013 New Registration Details - 201 Registration Details Update Request - 203 Transfer - 431 Reporting Request - 503 Reporting Request Cancellation - 505 Acceptance Rejection - 701 Acceptance Removal Authorisation - 703 Acceptance Removal Rejection - 705 Offeror Takeover Acceptance Removal - 707 Offeror Takeover Acceptance - 711</p>
Basis For Decision	<p>Underlying Policy The policy of requiring a settlement bond is to ensure that all participants with access to the daily settlement facilities have adequate financial resources to provide compensation if there is any misuse of those facilities causing loss to ASTC or other participants.</p> <p>Present Application Prior to the introduction of FSRA Regulations, and the subsequent ASTC and ACH rule changes as a result, applicants previously requesting admission under SCH Business Rules 2.3.2 and 2.4.1 were not required to lodge a Performance Bond. However, the ASTC Settlement Rules now requires entities of this type to lodge a Performance Bond.</p> <p>The purpose of the Settlement Bond is to ensure that all Participants with access to the daily settlement facilities have adequate financial recourse to provide compensation if there is any misuse of those facilities causing loss to ASTC or other Participants. As the Participant will be admitted on a conditional and restricted basis that will functionally prevent them from entering into the "Settlement Batch", a Performance Bond is not required.</p>

Rule Number	4.9.1
Date	1/09/2006
Participant	Hospira Holdings (S.A.) Pty Ltd
Waiver Number	WPA060073-001
Decision	<p>Hospira Holdings (S.A.) Pty Limited has been granted a waiver of ASTC Settlement Rule 4.9.1 on the following conditions:</p> <p>1. The waiver applies in respect of the requirement for the Participant to lodge a Performance Bond with ASTC pursuant to ASTC Settlement Rules 4.4.1 and 4.9.1. The Participant's admission as a Specialist Settlement Participant will be on a conditional basis solely for the purpose of conducting its proposed Off-Market Takeover Bid subject to the limitation that it will only be permitted to transmit the CHESS electronic message types set out below:</p> <p>CHESS to Issuer Sponsored Conversion Request - 011 CHESS to Certificated Conversion Request - 013 New Registration Details - 201 Registration Details Update Request - 203 Transfer - 431 Reporting Request - 503 Reporting Request Cancellation - 505 Acceptance Rejection - 701 Acceptance Removal Authorisation - 703 Acceptance Removal Rejection - 705 Offeror Takeover Acceptance Removal - 707 Offeror Takeover Acceptance - 711</p>
Basis For Decision	<p>Underlying Policy The policy of requiring a settlement bond is to ensure that all participants with access to the daily settlement facilities have adequate financial resources to provide compensation if there is any misuse of those facilities causing loss to ASTC or other participants.</p> <p>Present Application Prior to the introduction of FSRA Regulations, and the subsequent ASTC and ACH rule changes as a result, applicants previously requesting admission under SCH Business Rules 2.3.2 and 2.4.1 were not required to lodge a Performance Bond. However, the ASTC Settlement Rules now requires entities of this type to lodge a Performance Bond.</p> <p>The purpose of the Settlement Bond is to ensure that all Participants with access to the daily settlement facilities have adequate financial recourse to provide compensation if there is any misuse of those facilities causing loss to ASTC or other Participants. As the Participant will be admitted on a conditional and restricted basis that will functionally prevent them from entering into the "Settlement Batch", a Performance Bond is not required.</p>

Rule Number	4.9.1
Date	4/08/2006
Participant	MFS Diversified Limited
Waiver Number	WPA060065-001
Decision	<p>MFS Diversified Limited has been granted a waiver of ASTC Settlement Rule 4.9.1 on the following conditions:</p> <p>1. The waiver applies in respect of the requirement for the Participant to lodge a Performance Bond with ASTC pursuant to ASTC Settlement Rules 4.4.1 and 4.9.1. The Participant's admission as a Specialist Settlement Participant will be on a conditional basis solely for the purpose of conducting its proposed Off-Market Takeover Bid subject to the limitation that it will only be permitted to transmit the CHESSE electronic message types set out below:</p> <p>CHESSE to Issuer Sponsored Conversion Request - 011 CHESSE to Certificated Conversion Request - 013 New Registration Details - 201 Registration Details Update Request - 203 Transfer - 431 Reporting Request - 503 Reporting Request Cancellation - 505 Acceptance Rejection - 701 Acceptance Removal Authorisation - 703 Acceptance Removal Rejection - 705 Offeror Takeover Acceptance Removal - 707 Offeror Takeover Acceptance - 711</p>
Basis For Decision	<p>Underlying Policy The policy of requiring a settlement bond is to ensure that all participants with access to the daily settlement facilities have adequate financial resources to provide compensation if there is any misuse of those facilities causing loss to ASTC or other participants.</p> <p>Present Application Prior to the introduction of FSRA Regulations, and the subsequent ASTC and ACH rule changes as a result, applicants previously requesting admission under SCH Business Rules 2.3.2 and 2.4.1 were not required to lodge a Performance Bond. However, the ASTC Settlement Rules now requires entities of this type to lodge a Performance Bond.</p> <p>The purpose of the Settlement Bond is to ensure that all Participants with access to the daily settlement facilities have adequate financial recourse to provide compensation if there is any misuse of those facilities causing loss to ASTC or other Participants. As the Participant will be admitted on a conditional and restricted basis that will functionally prevent them from entering into the "Settlement Batch", a Performance Bond is not required.</p>

Rule Number	4.9.1
Date	22/08/2006
Participant	MFS Leisure Resort Holdings Pty Ltd
Waiver Number	WPA060070-001
Decision	<p>MFS Leisure Resort Holdings Pty Limited has been granted a waiver of ASTC Settlement Rule 4.9.1 on the following conditions:</p> <p>1. The waiver applies in respect of the requirement for the Participant to lodge a Performance Bond with ASTC pursuant to ASTC Settlement Rules 4.4.1 and 4.9.1. The Participant's admission as a Specialist Settlement Participant will be on a conditional basis solely for the purpose of conducting its proposed Off-Market Takeover Bid subject to the limitation that it will only be permitted to transmit the CHESSE electronic message types set out below:</p> <p>CHESSE to Issuer Sponsored Conversion Request - 011 CHESSE to Certificated Conversion Request - 013 New Registration Details - 201 Registration Details Update Request - 203 Transfer - 431 Reporting Request - 503 Reporting Request Cancellation - 505 Acceptance Rejection - 701 Acceptance Removal Authorisation - 703 Acceptance Removal Rejection - 705 Offeror Takeover Acceptance Removal - 707 Offeror Takeover Acceptance - 711</p>
Basis For Decision	<p>Underlying Policy The policy of requiring a settlement bond is to ensure that all participants with access to the daily settlement facilities have adequate financial resources to provide compensation if there is any misuse of those facilities causing loss to ASTC or other participants.</p> <p>Present Application Prior to the introduction of FSRA Regulations, and the subsequent ASTC and ACH rule changes as a result, applicants previously requesting admission under SCH Business Rules 2.3.2 and 2.4.1 were not required to lodge a Performance Bond. However, the ASTC Settlement Rules now requires entities of this type to lodge a Performance Bond.</p> <p>The purpose of the Settlement Bond is to ensure that all Participants with access to the daily settlement facilities have adequate financial recourse to provide compensation if there is any misuse of those facilities causing loss to ASTC or other Participants. As the Participant will be admitted on a conditional and restricted basis that will functionally prevent them from entering into the "Settlement Batch", a Performance Bond is not required.</p>

Rule Number	4.9.1
Date	11/08/2006
Participant	Mount Gibson Iron Limited
Waiver Number	WPA060066-001
Decision	<p>Mount Gibson Iron Limited has been granted a waiver of ASTC Settlement Rule 4.9.1 on the following conditions:</p> <p>1. The waiver applies in respect of the requirement for the Participant to lodge a Performance Bond with ASTC pursuant to ASTC Settlement Rules 4.4.1 and 4.9.1. The Participant's admission as a Specialist Settlement Participant will be on a conditional basis solely for the purpose of conducting its proposed Off-Market Takeover Bid subject to the limitation that it will only be permitted to transmit the CHESSE electronic message types set out below:</p> <p>CHESSE to Issuer Sponsored Conversion Request - 011 CHESSE to Certificated Conversion Request - 013 New Registration Details - 201 Registration Details Update Request - 203 Transfer - 431 Reporting Request - 503 Reporting Request Cancellation - 505 Acceptance Rejection - 701 Acceptance Removal Authorisation - 703 Acceptance Removal Rejection - 705 Offeror Takeover Acceptance Removal - 707 Offeror Takeover Acceptance - 711</p>
Basis For Decision	<p>Underlying Policy The policy of requiring a settlement bond is to ensure that all participants with access to the daily settlement facilities have adequate financial resources to provide compensation if there is any misuse of those facilities causing loss to ASTC or other participants.</p> <p>Present Application Prior to the introduction of FSRA Regulations, and the subsequent ASTC and ACH rule changes as a result, applicants previously requesting admission under SCH Business Rules 2.3.2 and 2.4.1 were not required to lodge a Performance Bond. However, the ASTC Settlement Rules now requires entities of this type to lodge a Performance Bond.</p> <p>The purpose of the Settlement Bond is to ensure that all Participants with access to the daily settlement facilities have adequate financial recourse to provide compensation if there is any misuse of those facilities causing loss to ASTC or other Participants. As the Participant will be admitted on a conditional and restricted basis that will functionally prevent them from entering into the "Settlement Batch", a Performance Bond is not required.</p>

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Rule Number	4.9.1
Date	17/08/2006
Participant	Quadra Mining Australia Pty Ltd
Waiver Number	WPA060067-001
Decision	<p>Quadra Mining Australia Pty Limited has been granted a waiver of ASTC Settlement Rule 4.9.1 on the following conditions:</p> <p>1. The waiver applies in respect of the requirement for the Participant to lodge a Performance Bond with ASTC pursuant to ASTC Settlement Rules 4.4.1 and 4.9.1. The Participant's admission as a Specialist Settlement Participant will be on a conditional basis solely for the purpose of conducting its proposed Off-Market Takeover Bid subject to the limitation that it will only be permitted to transmit the CHES electronic message types set out below:</p> <p>CHES to Issuer Sponsored Conversion Request - 011 CHES to Certificated Conversion Request - 013 New Registration Details - 201 Registration Details Update Request - 203 Transfer - 431 Reporting Request - 503 Reporting Request Cancellation - 505 Acceptance Rejection - 701 Acceptance Removal Authorisation - 703 Acceptance Removal Rejection - 705 Offeror Takeover Acceptance Removal - 707 Offeror Takeover Acceptance - 711</p>
Basis For Decision	<p>Underlying Policy The policy of requiring a settlement bond is to ensure that all participants with access to the daily settlement facilities have adequate financial resources to provide compensation if there is any misuse of those facilities causing loss to ASTC or other participants.</p> <p>Present Application Business Rules 2.3.2 and 2.4.1 were not required to lodge a Performance Bond. However, the ASTC Settlement Rules now requires entities of this type to lodge a Performance Bond.</p> <p>The purpose of the Settlement Bond is to ensure that all Participants with access to the daily settlement facilities have adequate financial recourse to provide compensation if there is any misuse of those facilities causing loss to ASTC or other Participants. As the Participant will be admitted on a conditional and restricted basis that will functionally prevent them from entering into the "Settlement Batch", a Performance Bond is not required.</p>

Rule Number	4.9.1
Date	18/08/2006
Participant	Sierra Gorda Copper Pty Ltd
Waiver Number	WPA060069-001
Decision	<p>Sierra Gorda Copper Pty Limited has been granted a waiver of ASTC Settlement Rule 4.9.1 on the following conditions:</p> <p>1. The waiver applies in respect of the requirement for the Participant to lodge a Performance Bond with ASTC pursuant to ASTC Settlement Rules 4.4.1 and 4.9.1. The Participant's admission as a Specialist Settlement Participant will be on a conditional basis solely for the purpose of conducting its proposed Off-Market Takeover Bid subject to the limitation that it will only be permitted to transmit the CHESSE electronic message types set out below:</p> <p>CHESSE to Issuer Sponsored Conversion Request - 011 CHESSE to Certificated Conversion Request - 013 New Registration Details - 201 Registration Details Update Request - 203 Transfer - 431 Reporting Request - 503 Reporting Request Cancellation - 505 Acceptance Rejection - 701 Acceptance Removal Authorisation - 703 Acceptance Removal Rejection - 705 Offeror Takeover Acceptance Removal - 707 Offeror Takeover Acceptance - 711</p>
Basis For Decision	<p>Underlying Policy The policy of requiring a settlement bond is to ensure that all participants with access to the daily settlement facilities have adequate financial resources to provide compensation if there is any misuse of those facilities causing loss to ASTC or other participants.</p> <p>Present Application Prior to the introduction of FSRA Regulations, and the subsequent ASTC and ACH rule changes as a result, applicants previously requesting admission under SCH Business Rules 2.3.2 and 2.4.1 were not required to lodge a Performance Bond. However, the ASTC Settlement Rules now requires entities of this type to lodge a Performance Bond.</p> <p>The purpose of the Settlement Bond is to ensure that all Participants with access to the daily settlement facilities have adequate financial recourse to provide compensation if there is any misuse of those facilities causing loss to ASTC or other Participants. As the Participant will be admitted on a conditional and restricted basis that will functionally prevent them from entering into the "Settlement Batch", a Performance Bond is not required.</p>

Rule Number	4.9.1
Date	25/08/2006
Participant	Skilled Group Limited
Waiver Number	WPA060072-001
Decision	<p>Skilled Group Limited has been granted a waiver of ASTC Settlement Rule 4.9.1 on the following conditions:</p> <p>1. The waiver applies in respect of the requirement for the Participant to lodge a Performance Bond with ASTC pursuant to ASTC Settlement Rules 4.4.1 and 4.9.1. The Participant's admission as a Specialist Settlement Participant will be on a conditional basis solely for the purpose of conducting its proposed Off-Market Takeover Bid subject to the limitation that it will only be permitted to transmit the CHES electronic message types set out below:</p> <p>CHES to Issuer Sponsored Conversion Request - 011 CHES to Certificated Conversion Request - 013 New Registration Details - 201 Registration Details Update Request - 203 Transfer - 431 Reporting Request - 503 Reporting Request Cancellation - 505 Acceptance Rejection - 701 Acceptance Removal Authorisation - 703 Acceptance Removal Rejection - 705 Offeror Takeover Acceptance Removal - 707 Offeror Takeover Acceptance - 711</p>
Basis For Decision	<p>Underlying Policy The policy of requiring a settlement bond is to ensure that all participants with access to the daily settlement facilities have adequate financial resources to provide compensation if there is any misuse of those facilities causing loss to ASTC or other participants.</p> <p>Present Application Prior to the introduction of FSRA Regulations, and the subsequent ASTC and ACH rule changes as a result, applicants previously requesting admission under SCH Business Rules 2.3.2 and 2.4.1 were not required to lodge a Performance Bond. However, the ASTC Settlement Rules now requires entities of this type to lodge a Performance Bond.</p> <p>The purpose of the Settlement Bond is to ensure that all Participants with access to the daily settlement facilities have adequate financial recourse to provide compensation if there is any misuse of those facilities causing loss to ASTC or other Participants. As the Participant will be admitted on a conditional and restricted basis that will functionally prevent them from entering into the "Settlement Batch", a Performance Bond is not required.</p>

Rule Number	4.9.1
Date	17/08/2006
Participant	Wide Bay Australia Limited
Waiver Number	WPA060068-001
Decision	<p>Wide Bay Australia Limited has been granted a waiver of ASTC Settlement Rule 4.9.1 on the following conditions:</p> <p>1. The waiver applies in respect of the requirement for the Participant to lodge a Performance Bond with ASTC pursuant to ASTC Settlement Rules 4.4.1 and 4.9.1. The Participant's admission as a Specialist Settlement Participant will be on a conditional basis solely for the purpose of conducting its proposed Off-Market Takeover Bid subject to the limitation that it will only be permitted to transmit the CHESSE electronic message types set out below:</p> <p>CHESSE to Issuer Sponsored Conversion Request - 011 CHESSE to Certificated Conversion Request - 013 New Registration Details - 201 Registration Details Update Request - 203 Transfer - 431 Reporting Request - 503 Reporting Request Cancellation - 505 Acceptance Rejection - 701 Acceptance Removal Authorisation - 703 Acceptance Removal Rejection - 705 Offeror Takeover Acceptance Removal - 707 Offeror Takeover Acceptance - 711</p>
Basis For Decision	<p>Underlying Policy The policy of requiring a settlement bond is to ensure that all participants with access to the daily settlement facilities have adequate financial resources to provide compensation if there is any misuse of those facilities causing loss to ASTC or other participants.</p> <p>Present Application Prior to the introduction of FSRA Regulations, and the subsequent ASTC and ACH rule changes as a result, applicants previously requesting admission under SCH Business Rules 2.3.2 and 2.4.1 were not required to lodge a Performance Bond. However, the ASTC Settlement Rules now requires entities of this type to lodge a Performance Bond.</p> <p>The purpose of the Settlement Bond is to ensure that all Participants with access to the daily settlement facilities have adequate financial recourse to provide compensation if there is any misuse of those facilities causing loss to ASTC or other Participants. As the Participant will be admitted on a conditional and restricted basis that will functionally prevent them from entering into the "Settlement Batch", a Performance Bond is not required.</p>

Rule Number	13.9.4
Date	31/08/2006
ASX Code	NWS
Listed Company	NEWS CORPORATION
Waiver Number	WLC060251-001
Decision	<p>ASTC has granted News a waiver from ASTC Rule 13.9.4. This waiver is granted to the extent necessary to allow News to not generate a Trustee Transfer Form in accordance with the Procedures and to not register that Transfer in the Principal Register within the Scheduled Time (12 business hours of ASTC transmitting the Message). This waiver is granted subject to the following conditions:</p> <p>1.The waiver only applies for the period from and including 7 September 2006 up to and including 13 September 2006 ("the relevant period");</p> <p>2.News issues a market release informing investors that no conversions (transmutations) will be processed during the relevant period.</p>
Basis For Decision	<p>Underlying Policy A waiver of this Rule would only be considered as a means of preventing potential mischief, such as the potential for gaining inappropriate access to a dividend or other corporate action.</p> <p>Present Application The disparity between the ex periods as required by ASX and NYSE inadvertently opens an opportunity investors who are not entitled to receive the dividend to inappropriately gain access to the dividend. By permitting News to effectively freeze any conversions during the ex period, this inadvertent opportunity is prevented, with no real disadvantage to any investors who are legitimately entitled to the dividend.</p>

Rule Number	13.9.9
Date	31/08/2006
ASX Code	NWS
Listed Company	NEWS CORPORATION
Waiver Number	WLC060251-002
Decision	<p>ASTC has granted News a waiver from ASTC Rule 13.9.4. This waiver is granted to the extent necessary to allow News to not generate a Trustee Transfer Form in accordance with the Procedures and to not register that Transfer in the Principal Register within the Scheduled Time (12 business hours of ASTC transmitting the Message). This waiver is granted subject to the following conditions:</p> <p>1.The waiver only applies for the period from and including 7 September 2006 up to and including 13 September 2006 ("the relevant period");</p> <p>2.News issues a market release informing investors that no conversions (transmutations) will be processed during the relevant period.</p>
Basis For Decision	<p>Underlying Policy A waiver of this Rule would only be considered as a means of preventing potential mischief, such as the potential for gaining inappropriate access to a dividend or other corporate action.</p> <p>Present Application The disparity between the ex periods as required by ASX and NYSE inadvertently opens an opportunity investors who are not entitled to receive the dividend to inappropriately gain access to the dividend. By permitting News to effectively freeze any conversions during the ex period, this inadvertent opportunity is prevented, with no real disadvantage to any investors who are legitimately entitled to the dividend.</p>