THE TAKEOVER PANEL CODE COMMITTEE

Instrument 2010/1

Amendments to Rule 5.2(c)(iii)

Pursuant to sections 942, 943 and 944 of the Companies Act 2006, and in exercise of the functions conferred on it by the Panel in paragraph 2 of its Terms of Reference, the Code Committee hereby makes this instrument containing rules.

The Takeover Code is amended, with effect from 8 March 2010, in accordance with the Appendix to this instrument.

In the Appendix, underlining indicates new text and striking through indicates deleted text.

Made by Lindsay Tomlinson, Chairman, acting on behalf of the Code Committee

5 March 2010

APPENDIX

RULE 5. TIMING RESTRICTIONS ON ACQUISITIONS

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5.2 EXCEPTIONS TO RESTRICTIONS

The restrictions in Rule 5.1 do not apply to an acquisition of an interest in shares carrying voting rights in a company by a person:—

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(c) after the person has announced a firm intention to make an offer provided that, at the time of the acquisition, there is no pre-condition to which the making of an offer is subject and:

•••

(iii) either:

(1)—the first closing date of that offer has passed and it has been announced that such offer is not to be referred to the Competition Commission (or such offer does not come within the statutory provisions for possible reference) and it has been established that no action by the European Commission will any longer be taken in respect of such offer pursuant to Council Regulation 139/2004/EC (or such offer does not come within the scope of such Regulation); or

(2) the first closing date of any competing offer has passed and it has been announced that such competing offer is not to be referred to the Competition Commission (or such competing offer does not come within the statutory provisions for possible reference) and it has been established that no action by the European Commission will any longer be taken in respect of such offer pursuant to Council Regulation 139/2004/EC (or such offer does not come within the scope of such Regulation); or

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