

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**R.J. O'BRIEN TO USE MICRO DESIGN SERVICE'S EXCHANGE ORDER ROUTING
AND MANAGEMENT SYSTEM ON THE NYMEX FLOOR**

R.J. O'Brien (RJO) today announced the successful rollout of Micro Design Services, LLC (MDS) exchange order routing and management system (EOR) on the NYMEX floor. The MDS EOR system provides R.J. O'Brien the ability to electronically route orders directly into the NYMEX crowd, and receive fills automatically. This rollout gives RJO the ability to electronically route orders from a single RJO workstation to both NYMEX, and NYBOT for direct execution in the pit.

MDS's EOR System receives orders from RJO via a standard FIX4.2 interface and routes these orders to MDS supplied Booth Terminals, as well as wirelessly to executing brokers in NYMEX's trading pits. Routing to Booths and broker's Wireless Hand Held Terminals is accomplished using MDS's sophisticated rules based routing engine. Brokers executions are reported wirelessly in real-time back to RJO for customer notification. All wireless connectivity is accomplished over NYMEX's in-house wireless backbone. Every activity in the system is fully audit-trailed with the date-time of each action.

RJO will be beginning the deployment of the system immediately. RJO's CEO, Gerry Corcoran, had this to say today "we are extremely excited to partner with MDS and to rapidly deploy this new technology at the NYMEX" he went on to say "our customers will see a dramatic improvement to the already high levels of service we currently provide to them. RJO will enjoy the benefits from the straight through processing elements of the MDS product."

MDS is a leading software company that develops order management systems, hand-held broker terminals and wireless systems. MDS has developed systems for the world's largest securities and futures exchanges as well as for many major brokerage firms. MDS was established in 1990 and is based in Parsippany, NJ.

R.J. O'Brien is the largest independent FCM in the futures industry. RJO was founded in 1914 and is a founding clearing member of the Chicago Mercantile Exchange. RJO executes and clears regulated futures derivatives on all US futures exchanges. RJO is based in Chicago, IL.

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