

The Depository Trust Company

IMPORTANT

B#: 2909

DATE: January 08, 2002

TO: All Participants

CATEGORY: Dividends

FROM: DTC Dividend Department

ATTENTION: Managing Partner/Officer, Cashier, Operations/Div. Mgr.

SUBJECT: New E-mail Alert and Contact Database Services

DTC would like to announce the implementation of two new services designed to improve communications between Participants and DTC, and between Participants. The first new service is the E-mail Alert service for advising Participants of urgent Reorganization, Dividend, Settlement, and Underwriting information. The second service is a Contact Database for locating Reorganization, Dividend, Settlement, and Underwriting contacts at other Participants. Both of these services will be available only to registered users of DTC's closed web site at www.dtc.org.

Current Services

DTC has already developed several messaging facilities to enable DTC to rapidly communicate time critical information to Participants. These facilities, such as the Reorganization Department's RIPS Broadcast Message and the Settlement Department's Bulletin Board Inquiry, allow DTC to create messages whenever the need arises to quickly communicate urgent information to Participants. When a Participant signs on to RIPS or FFSP, the urgent message appears, prompting the Participant to read the message and take the appropriate course of action.

DTC's quarterly Reference Directory lists certain types of Participant contacts. It does not list the contacts for operations areas such as Reorganization, Dividends, Settlement, or Underwritings. Participants have had to call DTC for such contact information or have been left to their own devices to determine it.

New Services

Registered users of DTC's www.dtc.org web site will now be eligible to receive E-mail Alerts of time critical information. For example, when DTC's Reorganization Department creates a RIPS Broadcast Message, it will also create an E-mail Alert containing the same information, which will be E-mailed to all Participants subscribing to this service. This will help to more rapidly alert Participants of time critical information. Users will also be able to search for Reorganization, Dividend, Settlement, or Underwriting contacts at other Participants.

When initially registering as a web site user, the individual is asked to indicate their Role/Responsibility. Among the choices are Reorganization, Dividends, Settlement Services, or Underwriting. Selecting one of these choices will automatically subscribe you to receive E-mail Alerts for that specific department. It will also add you to the contact database, making your name, telephone number, and E-mail address available to other Participants. Additionally, a User can specify a sub-role, such as Dividend Stock Loans. Participants who wish to receive E-mail Alerts, but not be listed in the Contact Database may select "No Listing" as a sub-role. Existing registered users may update their profile by clicking on the "Update Profile" icon on the Member's Home Page.

The Contact Databases may be found under the Participant Reference section of the Members Home Page.

For more information about these new services, please contact your Relationship Manager. For problems accessing the function, please contact the Customer Support Center.

Jay Gottlieb
Director
Reorganization Department