

IMPORTANT NOTICE

National Securities Clearing Corporation



A#6580

P&S #6150

DATE: March 4, 2008

TO: ALL PARTICIPANTS

**ATTENTION: MANAGER MUTUAL FUNDS OPERATIONS,
MANAGER DATA PROCESSING, MANAGER
CASHIERS, MANAGER P&S DEPARTMENT**

**FROM: WEALTH MANAGEMENT SERVICES - MUTUAL
FUNDS**

**SUBJECT: STANDARDIZED UNDERLYING FIRM SYMBOL
(UFS) – NETWORKING SERVICE**

NSCC participant numbers are typically used in the mutual fund industry as a standard method of identifying funds, firms, and other intermediaries such as third-party administrators and recordkeepers. Intermediaries that are not NSCC members will not have NSCC participant numbers, and are generally left with no other standard and universally recognized means of being identified in a mutual fund account's setup or profile. As such, the Investment Company Institute's (ICI) Bank, Trust, and Recordkeeper Advisory Committee (BTRAC) has set out to establish a process for creating and assigning identifier codes, called the Underlying Firm Symbol (UFS), which will be used as an alternate, standard method of identifying intermediaries involved in providing service to a mutual fund account.

Presently, the ICI BTRAC has created and assigned identifiers to a preliminary but lengthy list of mutual fund intermediaries. DTCC has agreed to provide a central location for the list and to maintain changes and additions that are provided by NSCC members. The service is being offered through DTCC Solutions LLC, a subsidiary of DTCC.

The list of intermediaries and UFS identifiers will be available at <http://www.dtcc.com/products/wealthmgmt/>, under Wealth Management Services, Participants/Members, Participants' Log-in, Standardized Underlying Firm Symbol (UFS) within the next few days. We will begin accepting requests for UFS identifiers once the UFS List and Request and Maintenance forms have been posted to the website. A UFS User Guide, created by the ICI BTRAC UFS Taskforce, will also be available on the website shortly and provides pertinent information about the use and maintenance of the UFS identifiers.

Changes and additions to the list can be made by completing the UFS New Request and Maintenance forms and instructions found at <http://www.dtcc.com/products/wealthmgmt/>, under Wealth Management Services, Participants/Members, Participants' Log-in, Standardized Underlying Firm Symbol (UFS). The forms (excel formatted) must be completed correctly

before DTCC can accept the request. Please review all the Instructions before completing the form. (Please note that the electronic form is password-protected for modifications so you will need to open the file as “read-only”. In the instructions there are directions for renaming the file before returning it to DTCC.)

The first designed use of the UFS will be for the Standardized Data Reporting functionality on the Networking Service. The Underlying Firm number field is an optional field currently contained on Networking record types F20, B/U21, B/U25, B/U27, and N28. The UFS can be used to identify the underlying intermediaries that hold the data necessary to complete a fund shareholder information request. Please note the UFS has no routing value. Data requests and responses can be sent to and received from only NSCC participants.

Any questions or concerns regarding this Important Notice can be directed to Mutual Fund Marketing at 212-855-8877, your relationship manager, or the undersigned.

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DTCC Wealth Management Services
212-855-5677