

adversely affected, the Commission will issue an Order designating the time and place of any hearing. If a hearing is held, the issue to be considered at such hearing shall be whether this Order should be sustained.

Pursuant to 10 CFR 2.202(c)(2)(I), Mr. Speciale may, in addition to demanding a hearing, at the time the answer is filed or sooner, move the presiding officer to set aside the immediate effectiveness of the Order on the ground that the Order, including the need for immediate effectiveness, is not based on adequate evidence but on mere suspicion, unfounded allegations, or error.

In the absence of any request for hearing, or written approval of an extension of time in which to request a hearing, the provisions specified in Section IV above shall be final 20 days from the date of this Order without further order or proceedings. If an extension of time for requesting a hearing has been approved, the provisions specified in Section IV shall be final when the extension expires if a hearing request has not been received. An answer or a request for hearing shall not stay the immediate effectiveness of this order.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland this 21st day of July, 1999.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Malcolm R. Knapp,

Deputy Executive Director for Regulatory Effectiveness.

[FR Doc. 99-19365 Filed 7-28-99; 8:45 am]

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Software Reliability Models for Digital Safety Critical Systems

AGENCY: Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Notice of workshop.

SUMMARY: The NRC has committed through its Strategic Plan to incorporate risk insights, conduct anticipatory research on issues of potential regulatory and safety significance, engage in cooperative research agreements, and provide timely information to our stakeholders. As part of this commitment, a workshop has been established to assess software models which could be used to determine the software reliability of digital systems. This research is conducted through a cooperative agreement between academia and the government. The objective of this workshop is to evaluate software reliability models and the associated

software metrics to determine which would be most effective in determining the software reliability of digital safety systems.

Date: August 16-17, 1999—The workshop will begin at 8:30 a.m. and end at 6:00 p.m.

Location: Nuclear Regulatory Commission, White Flint II, 11545 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20852.

Contact:

Registration—Sandra George, Phone: 301-405-6659; E-mail: sgeorge@eng.umd.edu

General—

Carol S. Smidts, Phone: 301-405-7314; E-mail: csmidts@eng.umd.edu

Ming Li, Phone: 301-405-1071; E-mail: mli@eng.umd.edu

Robert Brill, Phone: 301-415-6760; E-mail: rwb2@nrc.gov

Attendance: This workshop is free and open to the general public. All individuals planning to attend should pre-register with Ms. Sandra George by telephone or e-mail and provide their name, affiliation, phone number, and e-mail address.

Program: The workshop will be a mix of presentations and working group discussions. During the first day, the challenges of finding software reliability models for safety critical applications will be examined. A preliminary study identifying practical potential candidate models and their associated software metrics will be discussed by a panel of eminent researchers and practitioners in the fields of software engineering, software reliability engineering and software-based digital systems. During the second day, the panel will divide into working groups to evaluate each of the models and recommend the best models which could be used to evaluate the software reliability of digital systems. As part of this effort, the working groups will explore the need for any additional software metrics to strengthen the models chosen.

Dated in Rockville, Maryland this 23rd day of July, 1999.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

John W. Craig,

Director, Division of Engineering Technology, Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research.

[FR Doc. 99-19364 Filed 7-28-99; 8:45 am]

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-41643; SR-DTC-99-16]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; The Depository Trust Company; Notice of Filing of Amendment to Proposed Rule Change Relating to Profile Modification Feature of the Direct Registration System

July 22, 1999.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act"),¹ notice is hereby given that on July 22, 1999, The Depository Trust Company ("DTC") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") an amendment as described in Items I, II, and III below, which items have been prepared primarily by DTC, to its proposed rule change SR-DTC-99-16.² Notice of the proposed rule change as originally filed was published in the **Federal Register** on June 23, 1999.³ The Commission is publishing this notice of the amendment to solicit comments from interested persons.

I. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed Rule Change

The purpose of DTC's amendment is to add a fourth option on how to resolve the impasse in the implementation of the Profile Modification System ("Profile") feature of the Direct Registration System ("DRS") and to clarify DTC's description of the Profile.

II. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

In its filing with the Commission, DTC included statements concerning the purpose of and basis for the proposed rule change and discussed any comments it received on the proposed rule change. The text of these statements may be examined at the places specified in Item IV below. DTC has prepared summaries, set forth in sections (A), (B), and (C) below, of the most significant aspects of such statements.⁴

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² DTC filed SR-DTC-99-16 on June 17, 1999.

³ Securities Exchange Act Release No. 41535 (June 17, 1999), 64 FR 33539 [File No. SR-DTC-99-16] (notice relating to the profile modification feature of the DRS).

⁴ The Commission has modified the text of the summaries prepared by DTC.

(A) Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

The purpose of this filing is to amend DTC's proposed rule change regarding the implementation of the Profile feature⁵ of DRS.⁶ The amendment adds a fourth option to the three options initially proposed as ways to resolve the impasse in implementing the Profile feature. The amendment also provides technical clarification of DTC's description of the Profile feature.

In its proposed rule change, DTC has requested the guidance of the Commission staff in resolving the impasse between members of the Securities Transfer Association ("STA") and the Securities Industry Association ("SIA") relating to the implementation of the Profile feature of DRS. Because there is no industry consensus on whether DRS should continue to operate as it does today or whether use of DRS should be restricted in some manner until the Profile feature is implemented, DTC initially proposed three options on making additional securities issues eligible for inclusion in DRS.⁷

Since publication of the proposed rule change, several "DRS limited participants" have indicated that they may be operationally able to implement the Profile feature by the proposed deadline of August 31, 1999, or shortly thereafter. In addition, the SIA has submitted a comment letter supporting the concept of permitting any "DRS limited participant" capable of using the Profile Feature by the August 31, 1999,

deadline to be able to do so and to allow that "DRS limited participant" to make additional issues eligible.⁸

As a result of these developments, DTC is adding the following additional option on making new issues eligible for DRS:

(4) If a "DRS limited participant" is able to implement Profile by September 13, 1999, either through DTC's Participant Terminal System ("PTS") or its Computer-to-Computer Facility ("CCF"), that "DRS limited participant" will be allowed to continue to make securities eligible for inclusion in DRS. Any "DRS limited participant" unable to implement Profile either through PTS or CCF by September 13, 1999, will not be allowed to make additional securities eligible for DRS until such time as it is able to implement Profile after January 15, 2000.

Due to the delay caused by the filing of this amendment, DTC is concerned about the shortened amount of time "DRS limited participants" will have to become operationally prepared to meet the August 31, 1999, deadline initially imposed in option (1) of the proposed rule change. Therefore, DTC is amending its proposed rule change so that the deadline in option (1) is September 13, 1999, and not August 31, 1999.⁹

DTC is also amending the proposed rule change to clarify its description of Profile. DTC is adding the following sentence to footnote 4 of Exhibit 1 ("completed notice of the proposed rule change for publication in the **Federal Register**") to its proposed rule change: "Profile was developed to incorporate the use of an electronic medallion guarantee."¹⁰

DTC believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 17A(b)(3)(F)¹¹ the requirements of the Act and the rules and regulations thereunder applicable to DTC because the proposed rule change is designed to further the perfection of the mechanism for the national system for the prompt and accurate clearance and settlement of securities transactions.

(B) Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition

DTC does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on competition.

(C) Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed Rule Change Received From Members, Participants or Others

No comments on the amendment to the proposed rule change were solicited by DTC. DTC will notify the Commission of any written comments it receives.

III. Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission Action

Within thirty-five days of the date of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register** or within such longer period (i) as the Commission may designate up to ninety days of such date if it finds such longer period to be appropriate and publishes its reasons for so finding or (ii) as to which the self-regulatory organization consents, the Commission will:

- (a) by order approve the proposed rule change, or
- (b) institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule change should be disapproved.

IV. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views, and arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act. Persons making written submissions should file six copies thereof with the Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 450 Fifth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20549-0609. Copies of the submission, all subsequent amendments, all written statements with respect to the proposed rule change that are filed with the Commission, and all written communications relating to the proposed rule change between the Commission and any person, other than those that may be withheld from the public in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552, will be available for inspection and copying in the Commission's Public Reference Section, 450 Fifth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20549. Copies of such filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of DTC. All submissions should refer to File No. SR-DTC-99-16 and should be submitted by August 19, 1999.

⁵ Profile is an electronic communication system through DTC which allows participants and DRS Limited Participants to send instructions to each other regarding the movement of DRS shares.

⁶ Securities Exchange Act Release No. 35038 (December 1, 1994), 59 FR 643652 (concept release relating to the direct registration system); Securities Exchange Act Release No. 37931 (November 7, 1996), 61 FR 58600 (File No. SR-DTC-96-15) (order relating to the establishment of DRS).

⁷ DTC's original three options included:

(1) if all "DRS limited participants" are not able to implement Profile by August 31, 1999, no additional securities issues would be made eligible after August 31, 1999, for inclusion in DRS until sometime in the first quarter of 2000 when all "DRS limited participants" are able to implement Profile using either PTS or CCF;

(2) securities issues would continue to be made eligible for inclusion in DRS in the manner in which they are currently made eligible for inclusion; or

(3) securities would continue to be made eligible for inclusion in DRS provided that each "DRS limited participant" could be the "DRS limited participant" for no more than two new issues per month. If all "DRS limited participants" are not able to implement Profile by using PTS or CCF by March 31, 2000, no additional securities issues would be made eligible for inclusion in DRS until such time as all "DRS limited participants" are ready to use Profile.

⁸ Letter from Jerome Clair, Chair, SIA Operations Committee, and John Cirrito, Chair, Subcommittee on DRS, to Jonathan Katz, Secretary, Commission (July 14, 1999).

⁹ DTC established a September 13, 1999, cutoff for all DTC systems changes due to Year 2000 concerns.

¹⁰ See footnote 4 of Securities Exchange Act Release No. 41535 (June 7, 1999); 64 FR 33539 (File No. SR-DTC-99-16) (notice relating to the profile modification feature of the DRS).

¹¹ 15 U.S.C. 78q-1(b)(3)(F).

For the Commission by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.¹²

Margaret H. McFarland,

Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 99-19416 Filed 7-28-99; 8:45 am]

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SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Request and Comment Request

In compliance with Public Law 104-13, the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, SSA is providing notice of its information collections that require submission to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). SSA is soliciting comments on the accuracy of the agency's burden estimate; the need for the information; its practical utility; ways to enhance its quality, utility and clarity; and on ways to minimize burden on respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

I. The information collection listed below will be submitted to OMB within 60 days from the date of this notice.

Therefore, comments and recommendations regarding the information collection would be most useful if received by the Agency within 60 days from the date of this publication. Comments should be directed to the SSA Reports Clearance Officer at the address listed at the end of this publication. You can obtain a copy of the collection instrument by calling the SSA Reports Clearance Officer on (410) 965-4145, or by writing to him at the address listed at the end of this publication.

1. Public Understanding Measurement System—0960-NEW. SSA has contracted with the Gallup Organization to conduct surveys to gather data on the public's level of knowledge about Social Security programs. The 1998 Public Understanding Measurement System (PUMS) survey indicated that 45 percent of the population has a lack of understanding of the major Social Security program areas. The 1999 and future Public Understanding

Measurement System (PUMS II) surveys will enable SSA to build upon the 1998 PUMS quantitative baseline measure of public understanding.

An annual survey will provide tracking data of public understanding of SSA programs against which the outcomes of SSA performance improvement efforts can be assessed. Eight quarterly targeted surveys will test the effectiveness of several specific communications and public information outreach efforts.

PUMS II is essential to SSA's goal of strengthening public understanding about Social Security programs. The relevant Agency goal contained in SSA's strategic plan is that by the year 2005, 90 percent of all American adults will be knowledgeable about Social Security programs in five broad areas: basic program facts; the financial value of programs to individuals; the economic and social impact of SSA programs; how the programs are financed today; and financing issues. The respondents will be randomly selected adults residing in the United States.

	Annual survey	Quarterly surveys
Number of Respondents	4,000	12,000.
Frequency of Response	1	1.
Average Burden Per Response	12 minutes	12 minutes.
Estimated Annual Burden	800 hours	2,400 hours.

II. The information collections listed below have been submitted to OMB for clearance. Written comments and recommendations on the information collections would be most useful if received within 30 days from the date of this publication. Comments should be directed to the SSA Reports Clearance Officer and the OMB Desk Officer at the addresses listed at the end of this publication. You can obtain a copy of the OMB clearance packages by calling

the SSA Reports Clearance Officer on (410) 965-4145, or by writing to him.

1. Supplemental Security Income Notice of Interim Assistance Reimbursement (two forms)—0960-0546. Please note that these forms were previously approved under 2 OMB numbers, form SSA-8125, 0960-0546 and SSA-L8125-F6, 0960-0563. However, because these forms are interrelated SSA is combining them under 0960-0546. Form SSA-8125 and SSA-L8125-F6, previously 0960-0563, collect interim assistance

reimbursement (IAR) information from the States that provide such assistance. Form SSA-8125 is used in situations where IAR can be distributed directly to the recipient after the State has deducted the amount of assistance it provided. Form SSA-L8125-F6 is used in situations where a recipient entitled to underpayments has received IAR from a State and SSA will control the benefit through the installment process. The respondents are States that provide IAR to SSI claimants.

	SSA-8125	SSA-L8125-F6
Number of Respondents	50,000	50,000.
Frequency of Response	1	1.
Average Burden Per Response	10 minutes	10 minutes.
Estimated Annual Burden	8,333 hours	8,333 hours.

2. Request for Information—0960-0607. The information collected through this form letter will be used by SSA's Office of the Inspector General (OIG) to conduct periodic eligibility reviews of

beneficiaries residing in foreign countries. The form is designed to replace the current time-consuming and expensive method of conducting these reviews by selecting sample cases and

conducting in person interviews. The form will permit OIG to review all beneficiary residents of the foreign country under study, thereby narrowing the scope of the beneficiaries requiring

¹² 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).