

Formations of, Acquisitions by, and Mergers of Bank Holding Companies

The companies listed in this notice have applied to the Board for approval, pursuant to the Bank Holding Company Act of 1956 (12 U.S.C. 1841 *et seq.*) (BHC Act), Regulation Y (12 CFR Part 225), and all other applicable statutes and regulations to become a bank holding company and/or to acquire the assets or the ownership of, control of, or the power to vote shares of a bank or bank holding company and all of the banks and nonbanking companies owned by the bank holding company, including the companies listed below.

The applications listed below, as well as other related filings required by the Board, are available for immediate inspection at the Federal Reserve Bank indicated. Once the application has been accepted for processing, it will also be available for inspection at the offices of the Board of Governors. Interested persons may express their views in writing on the standards enumerated in the BHC Act (12 U.S.C. 1842(c)). If the proposal also involves the acquisition of a nonbanking company, the review also includes whether the acquisition of the nonbanking company complies with the standards in section 4 of the BHC Act, including whether the acquisition of the nonbanking company can "reasonably be expected to produce benefits to the public, such as greater convenience, increased competition, or gains in efficiency, that outweigh possible adverse effects, such as undue concentration of resources, decreased or unfair competition, conflicts of interests, or unsound banking practices" (12 U.S.C. 1843). Any request for a hearing must be accompanied by a statement of the reasons a written presentation would not suffice in lieu of a hearing, identifying specifically any questions of fact that are in dispute, summarizing the evidence that would be presented at a hearing, and indicating how the party commenting would be aggrieved by approval of the proposal. Unless otherwise noted, nonbanking activities will be conducted throughout the United States.

Unless otherwise noted, comments regarding each of these applications must be received at the Reserve Bank indicated or the offices of the Board of Governors not later than September 13, 1996.

A. Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis (Randall C. Sumner, Vice President) 411 Locust Street, St. Louis, Missouri 63166:
1. *Mercantile Bancorporation Inc.*, St. Louis, Missouri to acquire 100 percent of the voting shares of Today's Bancorp, Inc., Freeport, Illinois, and thereby

indirectly acquire Today's Bank-East, Freeport, Illinois, and Today's Bank-West, Galena, Illinois; and Mercantile Bancorporation of Illinois, St. Louis, Missouri, a second-tier holding company subsidiary of Mercantile Bancorporation Inc., to merge with Today's Bancorp, Inc., Freeport, Illinois, and thereby indirectly acquire Today's Bank-East, Freeport, Illinois, and Today's Bank-West, Galena, Illinois.

In connection with this application Mercantile Bancorporation Inc., also has applied to acquire Today's Insurance Source Agency, Inc., East Dubuque, Illinois, and thereby engage in insurance agency activities, pursuant to § 225.25(b)(8)(iii) of the Board's Regulation Y.

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, August 15, 1996.

Jennifer J. Johnson

Deputy Secretary of the Board.

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Notice of Proposals to Engage in Permissible Nonbanking Activities or to Acquire Companies that are Engaged in Permissible Nonbanking Activities

The companies listed in this notice have given notice under section 4 of the Bank Holding Company Act (12 U.S.C. 1843) (BHC Act) and Regulation Y, (12 CFR Part 225) to engage *de novo*, or to acquire or control voting securities or assets of a company that engages either directly or through a subsidiary or other company, in a nonbanking activity that is listed in § 225.25 of Regulation Y (12 CFR 225.25) or that the Board has determined by Order to be closely related to banking and permissible for bank holding companies. Unless otherwise noted, these activities will be conducted throughout the United States.

Each notice is available for inspection at the Federal Reserve Bank indicated. Once the notice has been accepted for processing, it will also be available for inspection at the offices of the Board of Governors. Interested persons may express their views in writing on the question whether the proposal complies with the standards of section 4 of the BHC Act, including whether consummation of the proposal can "reasonably be expected to produce benefits to the public, such as greater convenience, increased competition, or gains in efficiency, that outweigh possible adverse effects, such as undue concentration of resources, decreased or unfair competition, conflicts of interests, or unsound banking practices" (12 U.S.C. 1843). Any request for a

hearing on this question must be accompanied by a statement of the reasons a written presentation would not suffice in lieu of a hearing, identifying specifically any questions of fact that are in dispute, summarizing the evidence that would be presented at a hearing, and indicating how the party commenting would be aggrieved by approval of the proposal.

Unless otherwise noted, comments regarding the applications must be received at the Reserve Bank indicated or the offices of the Board of Governors not later than September 4, 1996.

A. Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis (Randall C. Sumner, Vice President) 411 Locust Street, St. Louis, Missouri 63166:

1. *First Commercial Corporation*, Little Rock, Arkansas; to engage in the leasing of personal property, pursuant to § 225.25(b)(5) of the Board's Regulation Y.

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, August 15, 1996.

Jennifer J. Johnson

Deputy Secretary of the Board

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GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

The Federal Register Online Via GPO Access; Meeting and Demonstration

The United States Government Printing Office (GPO) will hold a meeting for Federal agencies, businesses, non-profit organizations and the public interested in an overview and demonstration of the Government Printing Office's online service, *GPO Access*, provided under the Government Printing Office Electronic Information Access Enhancement Act of 1993 (Public Law 103-40).

The demonstration will be held at the United States Government Printing Office, Carl Hayden Room, 8th Floor, 732 North Capitol Street NW., Washington, DC, on Tuesday, September 17, from 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. There is no charge to attend. GPO is accessible via the Metro from Union Station, using the Red Line.

The online Federal Register service offers access to the daily issues of the Federal Register by 6 a.m. on the day of publication at no charge to the user. All notices, rules and proposed rules, Presidential documents, executive orders, separate parts, and reader aids are included in the database. Documents are available as ASCII text files and in typeset form as Adobe Acrobat Portable Document Format (PDF) files. Graphics