

United States Information Agency

White House Liaison to the Chief of Staff, Office of the Director. Effective July 31, 1998.

Special Advisor to the Associate Director, Bureau of Information. Effective July 31, 1998.

Authority: 5 U.S.C. 3301 and 3302; E.O. 10577, 3 CFR 1954-1958 Comp., P.218.

Office of Personnel Management.

Janice R. Lachance,

Director.

[FR Doc. 98-23023 Filed 8-26-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6325-01-P

OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT**The National Partnership Council**

AGENCY: Office of Personnel Management.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

TIME AND DATE: 2:00 p.m., September 9, 1998.

PLACE: Alan K. Campbell Auditorium, U.S. Office of Personnel Management, Theodore Roosevelt Building, 1900 E Street, NW., Washington, DC. The Campbell Auditorium is located on the ground floor.

STATUS: This meeting will be open to the public. Seating will be available on a first-come, first-served basis. Individuals with special access needs wishing to attend should contact OPM at the number shown below to obtain appropriate accommodations.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED: This meeting will consist of an awards ceremony. The winners of the 1998 John N. Sturdivant National Partnership Award will be announced; and the winners will receive their awards. The John N. Sturdivant National Partnership Award is given in recognition of outstanding labor-management partnership activities.

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION: Rose M. Gwin, Director, Center for Partnership and Labor-Management Relations, Office of Personnel Management, Theodore Roosevelt Building, 1900 E Street, NW., Room 7H28, Washington, DC 20415-0001, (202) 606-2930.

Office of Personnel Management.

Janice R. Lachance,

Director.

[FR Doc. 98-23022 Filed 8-26-98; 8:45 am]

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OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT**Privacy Act of 1974; Publication of a Proposed New Routine Use**

AGENCY: Office of Personnel Management (OPM).

ACTION: Notice of a proposed new routine use.

SUMMARY: This notice proposes to add a new routine use to an existing Central System of Records.

DATES: This proposed routine use will be effective without further notice October 6, 1998, unless comments received dictate otherwise.

ADDRESSES: Send written comments to Office of Personnel Management, Attn: Mary Beth Smith-Toomey, Office of the Chief Information Officer, 1900 E Street NW, Room 5415, Washington, DC 20415-7900.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mary Beth Smith-Toomey, (202) 606-8358.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: OPM finds that it is in the Government's interest to add a new routine use to OPM's Central System of Records, OPM/Central-1, Civil Service Retirement and Insurance Records. This system of records is applicable to a number of OPM managed benefit programs, including the Federal Employees Health Benefits (FEHB) Program, the Federal Employees Group Life Insurance (FGLI) Program, and two of the Federal Government's retirement programs, the Civil Service Retirement System (CSRS) and the Federal Employees Retirement System (FERS). This new routine use will allow OPM to release information from OPM/Central-1, Civil Service Retirement and Insurance Records, where OPM has determined that the use of that information is compatible with proper disclosure and will directly benefit Federal employees, annuitants or their dependents, survivors, and beneficiaries. For example, OPM utilizes the services of contractors to send out annual income tax information to annuitants, to distribute to annuitants annual rate and benefit information regarding the FEHB Program, and to distribute open season and customer feedback information involving the FGLI Program. Moreover, in certain circumstances, a private organization may undertake a project that results in Federal employees, annuitants or their dependents, survivors and beneficiaries obtaining important and timely information that is beneficial to that audience. Such a situation was anticipated by Congress in October 1991

as part of the debate on the legislation that would include OPM's Fiscal Year 1992 appropriation. In the Conference Report accompanying H.R. 2622, the conferees directed OPM to seriously consider requests from certain private organizations for "blind mailings" in which OPM would facilitate these organizations getting information to Federal annuitants and employees without the organizations ever actually seeing the addresses of the proposed recipients. A contractor to the private organization would then require access to certain OPM information in order to make the blind mailing possible. Any release of such information must also comply with section 626 of the Treasury, Postal, and General Government Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 1998, P.L. 105-61, and any such successor law. Section 626 provides that none of the funds appropriated by that Act or any other Act may be used to provide a Federal employee's home address to any labor organization except where the employee has authorized such disclosure or that disclosure has been ordered by a court of competent jurisdiction. OPM shall exercise its discretion under the new routine use in accordance with section 626, or any such successor law.

The new routine use is added to the following Central System of Records: OPM/Central-1, Civil Service Retirement and Insurance Records.

For Non-Federal Personnel—To disclose information to private organizations, contractors, grantees, volunteers, or other non-Federal personnel performing or working on a project, contract, service, grant, cooperative agreement, or job for, to the benefit of, or consistent with the interests of the Federal Government when OPM has determined that the use of that information is compatible with proper disclosure and will benefit Federal employees, annuitants or their dependents, survivors, and beneficiaries.

Office of Personnel Management.

Janice R. Lachance,

Director.

[FR Doc. 98-23011 Filed 8-26-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6325-01-P

RAILROAD RETIREMENT BOARD**Agency Forms Submitted for OMB Review**

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35), the Railroad Retirement Board (RRB) has submitted

the following proposal(s) for the collection of information to the Office of Management and Budget for review and approval.

Summary of Proposal(s)

- (1) *Collection title*: Application for Survivor Insurance Annuities.
- (2) *Form(s) submitted*: AA-17, AA-17b, AA-18, AA-19, AA-19a, AA-20.
- (3) *OMB Number*: 3220-0030.
- (4) *Expiration date of current OMB clearance*: 10/31/1998.
- (5) *Type of request*: Extension of a currently approved collection.
- (6) *Respondents*: Individuals or households.
- (7) *Estimated annual number of respondents*: 5,765.
- (8) *Total annual responses*: 5,765.
- (9) *Total annual reporting hours*: 2,864.
- (10) *Collection description*: Under Section 2(d) of the Railroad Retirement Act, monthly survivor annuities are payable to surviving widow(ers), parents, unmarried children, and in certain cases, divorced wives (husbands), mothers (fathers), remarried widow(ers) and grandchildren of deceased railroad employees. The collection obtains information needed by the RRB for determining entitlement to and amount of the annuity applied for.

Additional Information or Comments

Copies of the form and supporting documents can be obtained from Chuck Mierzwa, the agency clearance officer (312-751-3363). Comments regarding the information collection should be addressed to Ronald J. Hodapp, Railroad Retirement Board, 844 North Rush Street, Chicago, Illinois 60611-2092 and the OMB reviewer, Laura Oliven (202-395-7316), Office of Management and Budget, Room 10230, New Executive Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20503.

Chuck Mierzwa,

Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 98-23050 Filed 8-26-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7905-01-M

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Rel. No. IC-23396; 813-176]

Hambrecht & Quist Employee Venture Fund, L.P., et al.; Notice of Application

August 21, 1998.

AGENCY: Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC").

ACTION: Notice of application for an order under sections 6(b) and 6(e) of the

Investment Company Act of 1940 ("Act") exempting the applicants from all provisions of the Act, except section 9, sections 17 (other than certain provisions of paragraphs (a), (d), (e), (f), (g), and (j)) and 30 (other than certain provisions of paragraphs (a), (b), (e), and (h)), sections 36 through 53, and the rules and regulations under the Act.

SUMMARY OF APPLICATION: Applicants request an order to exempt certain limited partnership formed for the benefit of key employees of Hambrecht & Quist Group ("H&Q Group") and its affiliates from certain provisions of the Act. Each partnership will be an employees' securities company within the meaning of section 2(a)(13) of the Act.

APPLICANTS: Hambrecht & Quist Employee Venture Fund, L.P. ("Initial Partnership"), and H&Q Group, on behalf of other partnerships or other investment vehicles that may be formed in the future ("Other Partnerships") (together with the Initial Partnership, the "Partnerships").

FILING DATES: The application was filed on October 28, 1997. Applicants have agreed to file an amendment to the application, the substance of which is incorporated in this notice, during the notice period.

HEARING OR NOTIFICATION OF HEARING: An order granting the application will be issued unless the SEC orders a hearing. Interested persons may request a hearing by writing to the SEC's Secretary and serving applicants with a copy of the request, personally or by mail. Hearing requests should be received by the SEC by 5:30 p.m. on September 15, 1998, and should be accompanied by proof of service on applicants, in the form of an affidavit or, for lawyers, a certificate of service. Hearing requests should state the nature of the writer's interest, the reason for the request, and the issues contested. Persons who wish to be notified of a hearing may request notification by writing to the SEC's Secretary.

ADDRESSES: Secretary, SEC, 450 Fifth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20549. Applicants, One Bush Street, San Francisco, California 94104.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: J. Amanda Machen, Senior Counsel, at (202) 942-7120, or Christine Greenlees, Branch Chief, (202) 942-0564 (Division of Investment Management, Office of Investment Company Regulation).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The following is a summary of the application. The complete application may be obtained for a fee at the SEC's Public Reference Branch, 450 Fifth

Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20549 (tel. 202-942-8090).

Applicants' Representations

1. H&Q Group, a holding company, operates as an investment bank through its subsidiaries. Its principal wholly-owned subsidiary is Hambrecht & Quist LLC, a broker-dealer registered under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Exchange Act") and an investment adviser registered under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 ("Advisers Act"). H&Q Group and its affiliates, as defined in rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act ("Affiliates"), are referred to this notice collectively as "H&Q" and individually as an "H&Q entity."

2. H&Q proposes to offer various investment programs for the benefit of certain key employees. The programs may be structured as different Partnerships or as separate plans within the same Partnership. Each Partnership will be a limited partnership or limited liability company formed as an "employees" securities company" within the meaning of section 2(a)(13) of the Act, and will operate as a closed-end, non-diversified, management investment company. The Partnerships will be established primarily for the benefit of highly compensated employees of H&Q as part of a program designed to create capital building opportunities that are competitive with those at other investment banking firms and to facilitate the recruitment of high caliber professionals. Participation in a Partnership will be voluntary.

3. H&Q Plan Management, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, will act as the general partner of the Initial Partnership (together with any Affiliate that controls, is controlled by or is under common control with H&Q Group and that acts as a Partnership's general partner, the "General Partner"). The General Partner will manage, operate, and control each of the Partnerships; however, the General Partner will be authorized to delegate management responsibility to H&Q or to a committee of H&Q employees. An H&Q entity will act as the investment adviser to a Partnership and will be registered as an investment adviser under the Advisers Act.

4. Interests in the Partnerships ("Interests") will be offered without registration in reliance on section 4(2) of the Securities Act of 1933 (the "Securities Act"), or Regulation D under the Securities Act, and will be sold without a sales load only to "Eligible Employees" and "Qualified Participants," in each case as defined below (collectively, "Participants"). Prior to offering Interests to an Eligible