

## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

### **Issuer Delisting; Notice of Application to Withdraw from Listing and Registration; (The Network Connection, Inc., Common Stock, \$.001 Par Value, and Attached Common Stock Purchase Rights) File No. 1-13760**

October 18, 2000.

The Network Connection, Inc. ("Company") has filed an application with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission"), pursuant to Section 12(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act")<sup>1</sup> and Rule 12d2-2(d)<sup>2</sup> thereunder, to withdraw its Common Stock, \$.001 par value, and attached Common Stock Purchase Rights (referred to collectively herein as the "Securities") from listing and registration on the Boston Stock Exchange ("BSE").

In addition to being listed and registered on the BSE, the Securities trade over-the-counter and have been designated for quotation on the SmallCap Market of the Nasdaq Stock Market, Inc. ("Nasdaq") since May 1995. The Company does not see any particular advantage in its Securities trading on two markets and so has applied to withdraw the Securities from listing and registration on the BSE in order to avoid possible fragmentation of the market for such Securities and to save the expense of maintaining the secondary listing.

The Company has stated in its application that it has complied with the rules of the BSE governing the withdrawal of its Securities from listing and that the BSE has in turn indicated that it will not oppose such withdrawal. In addition, the Company has stated that its application relates solely to the withdrawal of the Securities from listing and registration on the BSE and shall have no effect upon either their continued designation for quotation on the Nasdaq, their registration under Section 12(g) of the Act,<sup>3</sup> or the Company's continued obligation to file with the Commission the periodic and other reports required by Section 13 of the Act.<sup>4</sup>

Any interested person may, on or before November 8, 2000, submit by letter to the Secretary of the Securities and Exchange Commission, 450 Fifth Street, NW., Washington, DC 20549-0609, facts bearing upon whether the

application has been made in accordance with the rules of the BSE and what terms, if any, should be imposed by the Commission for the protection of investors. The Commission, based on the information submitted to it, will issue an order granting the application after the date mentioned above, unless the Commission determines to order a hearing on the matter.

For the Commission, by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.<sup>5</sup>

**Jonathan G. Katz,**

*Secretary.*

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**BILLING CODE 8010-01-M**

## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

### **[Investment Company Act Release No. 24694; 812-11608]**

### **William Blair Funds and William Blair & Company, L.L.C.; Notice of Application**

October 17, 2000.

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

**ACTION:** Notice of application for an order under section 12(d)(1)(J) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 ("Act") for an exemption from sections 12(d)(1)(A) and (B) of the Act, under sections 6(c) and 17(b) of the Act for an exemption from section 17(a) of the Act, and under section 17(d) of the Act and rule 17d-1 under the Act to permit certain joint transactions.

**SUMMARY OF APPLICATION:** The applicants request an order that would permit certain registered management investment companies and private accounts to invest uninvested cash and cash collateral in one or more affiliated money market funds and engage in certain transactions with each other.

**Applicants:** William Blair Funds on behalf of its series William Blair Growth Fund, William Blair Tax-Managed Growth Fund, William Blair Large Cap Growth Fund, William Blair Small Cap Growth Fund, William Blair International Growth Fund, William Blair Emerging Markets Growth Fund, William Blair Disciplined Large Cap Fund, William Blair Value Discovery Fund, William Blair, Millennium Fund, William Blair Income Fund, William Blair Ready Reserves Fund, each subsequently created series, and any registered management investment company and its series that are

currently or in the future advised by William Blair Advisers (defined below) ("Blair Funds"), and William Blair & Company, L.L.C. and any entity controlling, controlled by, or under common control with William Blair & Company, L.L.C. ("William Blair Advisers").

**FILING DATES:** The application was filed on May 14, 1999. Applicants have agreed to file an amendment during the notice period, the substance of which is reflected in this notice.

**Hearing or Notification of Hearing:** An order granting the requested relief will be issued unless the Commission orders a hearing. Interested persons may request a hearing by writing to the Commission's Secretary and serving applicants with a copy of the request, personally or by mail. Hearing requests should be received by the Commission by 5:30 p.m. on November 13, 2000 and should be accompanied by proof of service on applicants, in the form of an affidavit or, for lawyers, a certificate of service. Hearing request should state the nature of the writer's interest, the reason for the request, and the issues contested. Persons may request notification of a hearing by writing to the Commission's Secretary.

**ADDRESSES:** Secretary, Commission, 450 5th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20549-0609. Applicants, 227 West Monroe Street, Chicago, IL 60606.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Anu Dubey, Senior Counsel, at (202) 942-0687, or Michael Mundt, Branch Chief, at (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 Commission's Public Reference Branch, 450 5th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20549-0102 (tel. 202-942-8090).

### **Applicants' Representations**

1. William Blair Funds is organized as a Delaware business trust and is an open-end management investment company registered under the Act. One of the series of the William Blair Funds is a money market fund subject to the requirements of rule 2a-7 under the Act (together with future Blair Funds that are money market funds, the "Money Market Funds").<sup>1</sup> William Blair &

<sup>1</sup> All existing Blair Funds that currently intend to rely on the requested order are named as applicants. Applicants also request that the order extend to each applicant's successor in interest, which is any entity or entities that result from a reorganization of the entity into another jurisdiction or a change in the type of business organization of the entity.

<sup>2</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78l(d).

<sup>3</sup> 17 CFR 240.12d2-2(d).

<sup>3</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78l(g).

<sup>4</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78m.

<sup>5</sup> 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(1).