

*Total Burden Cost (capital/startup):* \$0.

*Total Burden Cost (operating/maintaining):* \$5,020.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for Office of Management and Budget approval of the information collection request; they will also become a matter of public record.

Dated at Arlington, Virginia, this 16th day of January, 2003.

**Thomas Charboneau,**

*Financial Manager, Office of Administration and Management.*

[FR Doc. 03-1428 Filed 1-22-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4510-43-M

## DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

### Pension and Welfare Benefits Administration

#### Proposed Extension of Information Collection Request Submitted for Public Comment; Prohibited Transaction Class Exemption 2002-12, Cross-Trades of Securities by Index and Model Funds

**AGENCY:** Pension and Welfare Benefits Administration, Department of Labor.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Labor, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, conducts a preclearance consultation program to provide the general public and Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on proposed and continuing collections of information in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA 95). This program helps to ensure that requested data can be provided in the desired format, reporting burden (time and financial resources) is minimized, collection instruments are clearly understood, and the impact of collection requirements on respondents can be properly assessed. Currently, the Pension and Welfare Benefits Administration is soliciting comments on the proposed extension of the disclosure provisions of the Prohibited Transaction Class Exemption 2002-12, Cross-Trades of Securities by Index and Model Funds.

A copy of the information collection request (ICR) can be obtained by contacting the individual shown in the Addresses section of this notice.

**DATES:** Written comments must be submitted to the office shown in the Addresses section on or before March 24, 2003.

**ADDRESSES:** Joseph S. Piacentini, Department of Labor, Pension and Welfare Benefits Administration, 200 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20210, (202) 693-8410, FAX (202) 219-5333. (These are not toll-free numbers.)

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### I. Background

PTE 2002-12 exempts certain transactions that would be prohibited under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (the Act or ERISA) and the Federal Employees' Retirement System Act (FERSA), and provides relief from certain sanctions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (the Code). The exemption permits cross-trades of securities among index and model-driven funds (Funds) managed by investment managers, and among such Funds and certain large accounts (Large Accounts) that engage such managers to carry out a specific portfolio restructuring program or to otherwise act as a "trading adviser" for such a program. By removing existing barriers to these types of transactions, the exemption increases the incidences of cross-trading, thereby lowering fees to plans from what they would otherwise be if based on multiple individual trades.

In order for the Department to grant an exemption for a transaction or class of transactions that would otherwise be impermissible under ERISA, the statute requires the Department to make a finding that the exemption is administratively feasible, in the interest of the plan and its participants and beneficiaries, and protective of the rights of the participants and beneficiaries. To insure that investment managers have complied with the requirements of the exemption, the Department has included in the exemption certain recordkeeping and disclosure obligations that are designed to safeguard plan assets by periodically providing information to independent plan fiduciaries about changes in the cross-trading program. Initially, where plans are not invested in Funds, investment managers must have authorization from a plan fiduciary to invest plan assets in Funds. For plans that are currently invested in Funds, certain notices must be provided that describe the cross-trading program, update changes in Funds, and provide the plan with an opportunity to withdraw from the program. For Large Accounts, information must be provided by the investment manager about the results of transactions involved in a portfolio-restructuring program. Finally,

the exemption requires that Funds and Large Accounts maintain for a period of 6 years the records necessary to enable certain persons authorized by the exemption (e.g., Department representatives or contributing employers, to determine whether the conditions of the exemption have been met.)

The exemption affects participants and beneficiaries of employee benefit plans whose assets are invested in Index or Model-Driven Funds, large pension plans and other large accounts involved in portfolio restructuring programs, as well as the Funds and their investment managers.

##### II. Desired Focus of Comments

- The Department of Labor (Department) is particularly interested in comments that:
  - Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;
  - Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
  - Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and
  - Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques of forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submissions of responses.

##### III. Current Actions

Extension of the information collection provision of the exemption is important because, without the disclosures and recordkeeping provided for in the exemption, participants and beneficiaries' investments in a pension plan might not be protected. In addition, investment managers, that cross trade securities among Funds or engage in the restructuring of a portfolio of a Large Account would be subject to statutorily imposed sanctions under ERISA. Lastly, the exemption provides a benefit to plans and participants through savings that result from index/model cross-trading. No change to the existing ICR is proposed or made at this time.

*Agency:* Pension and Welfare Benefits Administration, Department of Labor.

*Title:* Prohibited Transaction Class Exemption 2002-12, Cross-Trades of

Securities by Index and Model-Driven Funds.

*Type of Review:* Extension of a currently approved collection of information.

*OMB Number:* 1210-0115.

*Affected Public:* Individuals or households; Business or other for-profit; Not-for-profit institutions.

*Respondents:* 66.

*Responses:* 924.

*Estimated Total Burden Hours:* 4,707.

*Estimated Total Burden Cost*

*(Operating and Maintenance):* \$109,000.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for Office of Management and Budget approval of the information collection request; they will also become a matter of public record.

Dated: January 16, 2003.

**Joseph S. Piacentini,**

*Deputy Director, Pension and Welfare Benefits Administration, Office of Policy and Research.*

[FR Doc. 03-1427 Filed 1-22-03; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4510-29-M**

## NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

[Notice (03-005)]

### NASA Advisory Council, Task Force on International Space Station Operational Readiness; Meeting

**AGENCY:** National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act, Public Law 92-463, as amended, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration announces an open meeting of the NASA Advisory Council (NAC), Task Force on International Space Station Operational Readiness (IOR).

**DATES:** Friday, February 21, 2003, 12 Noon—1 p.m. Eastern Standard Time.

**ADDRESSES:** This meeting will be conducted via teleconference; hence participation will require contacting Mr. Lee Pagel (202/358-4621) before 12 Noon Eastern, February 14, 2003, and leaving your name, affiliation, and phone number.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Lee Pagel, Code IH, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Washington, DC 20546-0001, 202/358-4621.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This meeting will be open to the public up to the capability of the teleconferencing system. The agenda for the meeting is as follows:

—To assess the operational readiness of the International Space Station to support the new crew and the American and Russian flight team's preparedness to accomplish the Expedition Seven mission.

It is imperative that the meeting be held on this date to accommodate the scheduling priorities of the key participants.

**June W. Edwards,**

*Advisory Committee Management Officer, National Aeronautics and Space Administration.*

[FR Doc. 03-1399 Filed 1-22-03; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 7510-01-P**

## NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

[Notice (03-006)]

### NASA Advisory Council, Biological and Physical Research Advisory Committee Meeting

**AGENCY:** National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act, Public Law 92-463, as amended, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration announces a meeting of the NASA Advisory Council, Biological and Physical Research Advisory Committee.

**DATES:** Thursday, February 13, 2003, from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. and Friday, February 14, 2003 from 8 a.m. until 12 Noon.

**ADDRESSES:** NASA Headquarters, 300 E Street SW., Room 7H46, Washington, DC 20546.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Dr. Bradley Carpenter, Code UG, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Washington, DC 20546, 202/358-0826.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The meeting will be open to the public up to the seating capability of the meeting room. Due to the increased security at NASA facilities, any members of the public who wish to attend this meeting of the Biological and Physical Research Advisory Committee must provide their name, date and place of birth, citizenship, social security number, or passport and visa information (number, country of issuance and expiration), business address and phone number, if any. This information is to be provided at least 72 hours (10 a.m. EDT on February 10, 2003) prior to the date of the public meeting. Identification information is to be provided to Dr. Bradley Carpenter at 202/358-0826 or

via e-mail at [bcarpent@hq.nasa.gov](mailto:bcarpent@hq.nasa.gov). Failure to timely provide such information may result in denial of attendance. Photo identification may be required for entry into the building. Persons with disabilities who require assistance should indicate this in their message. Due to limited availability of seating, members of the public will be admitted on a first-come, first-serve basis. News media wishing to attend the meeting should follow standard accreditation procedures. Members of the press who have questions about these procedures should contact the NASA Headquarters newsroom (202/358-1600). The agenda for the meeting is as follows:

- Review Recommendations
- Program Overview
- Biomedical Research Issues
- Division Reports
- Education and Outreach Policy
- International Space Station Research Status
- Strategic Plan Development

It is imperative that the meeting be held on this date to accommodate the scheduling priorities of the key participants. Visitors will be requested to sign a visitor's register.

**June W. Edwards,**

*Advisory Committee Management Officer, National Aeronautics and Space Administration.*

[FR Doc. 03-1400 Filed 1-22-03; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 7510-01-P**

## NATIONAL COUNCIL ON DISABILITY

### Sunshine Act Meetings

**TIMES AND DATES:** 1 p.m. to 5 p.m., March 5, 2003; 8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m., March 6, 2003.

**PLACE:** Embassy Suites Hotel Alexandria'Old Town, 1900 Diagonal Road, Alexandria, VA 22314.

**STATUS:** Parts of this meeting will be open to the public. The rest of the meeting will be closed to the public.

**MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:** Reports from the Chairperson and the Executive Director, Committee meetings and Committee reports, executive session, unfinished business, new business, announcements, adjournment.

**PORTIONS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:** Reports from the Chairperson and the Executive Director, Committee meetings and Committee reports, unfinished business, new business, announcements, adjournment.

**PORTIONS CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC:** Executive session.