



TRADITIONAL/ROTH IRA

Application and Instructions

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
Introduction: Questions & Answers	1
Applications/Forms	
IRA/Roth IRA Adoption Agreement	5
IRA Transfer/Direct Rollover/Conversion Form	9
Disclosure Statement	
Part 1: Description of Traditional IRAs	11
Part 2: Description of Roth IRAs	19
Part 3: Disclosure Statement for Traditional and Roth IRAs	27
Custodial Agreement	
Part 1: Provisions Applicable to Traditional IRAs	30
Part 2: Provisions Applicable to Roth IRAs	32
Part 3: Provisions Applicable to Both Traditional IRAs and Roth IRAs	33

Van Eck Global

TRADITIONAL/ROTH IRA INFORMATION KIT

INTRODUCTION

What's New In The World Of IRAs?

An Individual Retirement Account ("IRA") has always provided an attractive means to save money for the future on a tax-advantaged basis. In 1998, the Federal laws were revised to permit individuals to open and maintain Roth Individual Retirement Accounts ("Roth IRAs"). Under a Roth IRA, the earnings and interest on an individual's nondeductible contributions grow without being taxed, and distributions may be tax-free under certain circumstances. Most taxpayers (except for those with very high income levels) are eligible to contribute to a Roth IRA. A Roth IRA can be used instead of a Traditional IRA, to replace an existing Traditional IRA, or complement a Traditional IRA you wish to continue maintaining.

Taxpayers with adjusted gross income of up to \$100,000 are eligible to convert existing Traditional IRAs into Roth IRAs. If you convert early in a year and later turn out to be ineligible because your gross income exceeds \$100,000 (or for other reasons you wish to reverse the conversion), you can "recharacterize" the conversion by transferring the amount in the converted Roth IRA back to a Traditional IRA. The details on conversion (and recharacterization) are found later in this booklet.

Changes made by the 2001 tax law have improved Traditional and Roth IRAs as investment and savings vehicles. The most significant change is an increase to the amount of money an individual may contribute in a year. Under the prior limits, the most that anyone could contribute to a Traditional IRA or Roth IRA for any calendar year was \$2,000. Effective January 1, 2002, individuals may contribute up to \$3,000 annually. This amount increases to \$4,000 in 2005 and to \$5,000 in 2008. After 2008, cost of living adjustments will be made to the contribution limit, in \$500 increments.

In addition, starting in 2002, individuals who are age 50 and over by the end of any year may make special "catch-up" contributions to Traditional IRAs or Roth IRAs. From 2002 through 2005 the catch-up contribution limit will be \$500. Beginning in 2006, the catch-up contribution limit will increase to \$1,000 annually.

The 2001 tax law also made some important changes to the Traditional IRA rollover rules. Effective January 1, 2002, individuals may roll their Traditional IRA account balances over to an employer sponsored qualified plan, regardless of whether the amount in the Traditional IRA is attributable to distributions that had previously come from another qualified plan. After-tax contributions to a

Traditional IRA, however, may not be rolled over to an employer sponsored qualified plan. (Under the old rules, only distributions from a qualified plan could be rolled over to another qualified plan. Individuals wishing to "park" their distribution from one employer's qualified plan in a Traditional IRA before rolling it over to another qualified plan had to establish a "conduit IRA," in which only qualified plan distributions would be held. Under the revised rules, conduit IRAs are, in most cases, unnecessary, as it is now possible to roll over amounts attributable to Traditional IRA contributions as well as amounts in the Traditional IRA that came from the rollover of a distribution from an employer plan.)

Because of the different tax rules for distributions from a Roth IRA, rollovers from an employer plan to a Roth IRA, or vice versa, should not be made.

Also, the IRS has issued revised proposed regulations relating to the required minimum distribution ("RMD") rules, which are used to determine RMDs from Traditional IRAs after reaching age 70½ and from Roth IRAs after the account owner's death. In general, under the revised rules the amount of a minimum distribution will usually be determined, using a uniform IRS life expectancy table, which is based on the life expectancy of an individual and a beneficiary who is ten years younger than that individual. The RMD rules also abolish the concept of "recalculation." Recalculation on a yearly basis is actually built into the uniform IRS life expectancy table.

The "RMD" rules do not apply to Roth IRAs while the Roth IRA owner is alive. Roth IRA owners may withdraw however much they wish whenever they wish, with no minimums at age 70½. However, the new RMD rules do apply to Roth IRAs after a Roth IRA owner's death. The new RMD rules generally require payments to the designated beneficiary to start by the end of the year after the year of the Roth IRA owner's death. Minimum payments over the beneficiary's life expectancy are required.

The revised RMD rules are generally effective beginning January 1, 2002 (but may be used to calculate year 2001 minimum distributions). As applicable to Roth IRAs, the revised rules are reflected in this Kit.

Note: The rules governing required minimum distributions have been evolving for years and are always subject to change. In addition, the uniform table and other tables may be revised to reflect longer life expectancies. Always check with your accountant, lawyer or other tax adviser, or with a qualified financial planner, for the latest RMD rule developments.

What's in This Kit?

In this Kit you will find detailed information about Traditional IRAs and Roth IRAs, based on the rules applicable on and after January 1, 2002. You will also find everything you need to establish and maintain either a Traditional or Roth IRA, or to convert all or part of an existing Traditional IRA to a Roth IRA.

The first section of this Kit contains the instructions and forms you will need to open a new Traditional or Roth IRA, to transfer from another IRA to a Van Eck Global IRA, or to convert a Traditional IRA to a Roth IRA.

The second section of this Kit contains our Universal IRA Disclosure Statement. The Disclosure Statement is divided into three parts:

- Part One describes the basic rules and benefits which are specifically applicable to your Traditional IRA.
- Part Two describes the basic rules and benefits which are specifically applicable to your Roth IRA.
- Part Three describes important rules and information applicable to all IRAs.

The third section of this Kit contains the Universal IRA Custodial Agreement. The Custodial Agreement is also divided into three parts:

- Part One contains provisions specifically applicable to Traditional IRAs.
- Part Two contains provisions specifically applicable to Roth IRAs.
- Part Three contains provisions applicable to all IRAs (Traditional and Roth).

This Kit contains information and forms for both Traditional IRAs and Roth IRAs. However, you may use the Adoption Agreement in this Kit to establish only one Traditional IRA or one Roth IRA; separate Adoption Agreements must be completed if you want to establish multiple (Roth or Traditional) IRA accounts.

What's the Difference Between a Traditional IRA and a Roth IRA?

With a Traditional IRA, an individual may be able to deduct the contribution from taxable income (up to the annual contribution limit for the year), reducing current income taxes. Taxes on investment growth and divi-

dends are deferred until the money is withdrawn. Withdrawals are taxed as additional ordinary income when received. Nondeductible contributions, if any, are withdrawn tax-free. Withdrawals before age 59½ are assessed a 10% penalty in addition to income tax, unless an exception applies.

With a Roth IRA, the contribution limits are essentially the same as Traditional IRAs, but there is no tax deduction for contributions. All dividends and investment growth in the account are tax-free. Most important with a Roth IRA: there is **no income tax** on qualified withdrawals from your Roth IRA. Additionally, unlike a Traditional IRA, there is no rule against making contributions to Roth IRAs after turning age 70½, and there's no requirement that you begin making minimum withdrawals at that age.

Is a Roth or a Traditional IRA Right For Me?

We cannot act as your legal or tax adviser and so we cannot tell you which kind of IRA is right for you. The information contained in this Kit is intended to provide you with the basic information and material you will need if you decide whether a Traditional or Roth IRA is better for you, or if you want to convert an existing Traditional IRA to a Roth IRA. We suggest that you consult with your accountant, lawyer or other tax adviser, or with a qualified financial planner, to determine whether you should open a Traditional or Roth IRA or convert any or all of an existing Traditional IRA to a Roth IRA. Your tax adviser can also advise you as to the state tax consequences that may affect whether a Traditional or Roth IRA is right for you.

Other Points to Note:

The Disclosure Statement in this Kit provides you with the basic information that you should know about Traditional IRAs and Roth IRAs. The Disclosure Statement provides general information about the governing rules for these IRAs and their benefits and features. However, the Adoption Agreement and the Custodial Agreement are the primary documents controlling the terms and conditions of your Van Eck Global Traditional or Roth IRA, and these shall govern in the case of any difference with the Disclosure Statement.

You or *your* when used throughout this Kit refer to the person for whom the Traditional or Roth IRA is established. A **Roth IRA** is either a Van Eck Global Roth IRA or any Roth IRA established with any other financial institution. A **Traditional IRA** is any non-Roth IRA offered by Van Eck Global or any other financial institution.

The following chart highlights some of the major differences between a Traditional IRA and a Roth IRA:

Characteristics	Traditional IRA	Roth IRA
Eligibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individuals (and their spouses) who receive compensation • Individuals age 70½ and over may not contribute 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individuals (and their spouses) who receive compensation • Individuals age 70½ and over may contribute
Tax Treatment of Contributions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Subject to limitations, contributions are deductible 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No deduction permitted for amounts contributed
Contribution Limits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individuals may contribute up to the tax law limit* • Deductibility depends on income level for individuals who are active participants in an employer-sponsored retirement plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individuals may generally contribute up to the tax law limit* • Ability to contribute phases out at income levels of \$95,000 to \$110,000 (individual taxpayer) and \$150,000 to \$160,000 (married taxpayers) • The tax law limit* applies to combined contributions to Traditional and Roth IRAs (but not including SEP or SIMPLE IRAs)
Earnings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Earnings and interest are not taxed when received by your IRA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Earnings and interest are not taxed when received by your IRA
Rollover/Conversions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individual may rollover amounts held in employer-sponsored retirement arrangements (401(k), SEP IRA, etc.) tax free to Traditional IRA • Individuals may rollover amounts held in Traditional IRA to employer-sponsored qualified plan. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rollovers from other IRAs only • Amounts rolled over (or converted) from another Traditional IRA are subject to income tax in the year rolled over or converted • Amounts held in Roth IRAs may not be rolled over into employer-sponsored qualified plans
Withdrawals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total (principal + earnings) taxable as income in year withdrawn (except for any prior non-deductible contributions) • Minimum withdrawals must begin after age 70½ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not taxable as long as the withdrawal is a qualified distribution—generally, account has been open for 5 years, and the individual is age 59½ or above • Minimum withdrawals not required after age 70½

* The tax law limit is \$3,000 for 2002-2004; \$4,000 for 2005-2007; and \$5,000 for 2008 (with cost-of-living adjustments thereafter). For individuals age 50 or above, at the end of a year, additional contributions of \$500 for 2002-2005, and \$1000 for 2006 and future years, are allowed. The limit is 100% of compensation, if less.

[THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK]

Van Eck Global

IRA/ROTH IRA ADOPTION AGREEMENT

Use this form to open a new IRA, IRA Rollover (Conduit), Roth Contributory IRA, and/or Roth Converted IRA.

(Do not use this application to open a SIMPLE IRA, SEP IRA or Education IRA.) You may use this form to establish only one type of IRA. For Roth IRAs, only annual contributions may be accepted in a non-deductible Contribution Roth IRA account. If a conversion, rollover or transfer from a Traditional IRA to a Roth IRA is being made, only amounts converted, rolled over or transferred during the same year (not annual contributions) will be accepted in the Roth IRA account. The account information, signature and social security number that appears on the application must be that of the person for whom the IRA is being established. Non-resident aliens cannot use this application to open an account. Please mail the application along with two checks payable to State Street Bank and Trust Company ("State Street"), as Custodian, one in the amount of your initial contribution and the second in the amount of \$10, representing the annual fiduciary fee, to: Van Eck Global, P.O. Box 218407, Kansas City, Missouri 64121-8407. For information or to request additional forms call 800-544-4653.

Important Information: To help the government fight the funding of terrorism and money laundering activities, federal law under the USA Patriot Act requires all financial institutions to obtain, verify, and record information that identifies each person who opens an account. What this means to you: When you open an account, you must provide your name, address, date of birth, and other information that will allow us to identify you. Failure to provide all requested information for all individuals registered to and/or authorized to act on this account may result in delays to your investment or even the return of your investment. Van Eck accepts no responsibility for trading losses associated with delays in receiving and verifying the required information.

1. ACCOUNT INFORMATION

Name of Shareholder (Depositor)		
Mailing Address (If the mailing address is a P.O. Box, the street address is required in the box below.)		
City, State, Zip Code	() -	Telephone Number

If the above mailing address is a P.O. Box, the address of permanent residence must be provided here or the application and investment cannot be accepted.

Street Address
City, State, Zip Code

U.S. State of Permanent Residence: _____ U.S. Citizen Resident Alien

Social Security # _____ - _____ - _____ Date of Birth _____ - _____ - _____

\$ _____ Total Contribution Amount for Tax Year _____

\$ 10.00 Fiduciary Fee (separate check in addition to contribution)

\$ _____ Total Remitted

2. IRA ACCOUNT INVESTMENT TYPE

- Traditional IRA – may hold tax-deductible or non-deductible contributions up to \$2000 per year
- IRA deductible or non-deductible Contribution
 - Direct Transfer from existing IRA*
 - Rollover within 60 days of receipt from a Traditional IRA
- Rollover IRA (Conduit) – funded with the proceeds of an employer-sponsored qualified plan or 403(b) account
- Direct Rollover payable to State Street as Custodian of Van Eck Global IRAs, from 403(b) or employer qualified plan*
 - Direct Transfer from existing Conduit IRA*
 - Rollover within 60 days of receipt from 403(b) or qualified plan
- Roth Contributory IRA – funded with nondeductible contributions, and qualified distributions are tax-free
- Roth IRA non-deductible Contribution
 - Direct Transfer from existing Roth IRA with original start date _____*
 - Rollover within 60 days of receipt from Roth IRA with original start date _____
- Roth Converted IRA – funded with assets converted from a Traditional or Rollover IRA
- Conversion of Traditional IRA with another custodian to a Roth Converted IRA with Van Eck Global*
 - Conversion of Traditional IRA with Van Eck Global to a Roth Converted IRA with Van Eck Global*
 - Direct Transfer from existing Roth Converted IRA with original start date _____*
 - Rollover within 60 days of receipt from Roth Converted IRA with original start date _____

* Complete and enclose "Van Eck Global IRA Transfer/Direct Rollover/Conversion Form".

3. (Optional) REDUCED SALES CHARGE - Class A Only

All shareholders are eligible for reduced sales charges under the Right of Accumulation, a quantity discount program that combines the amount of your investment with the value at current offering price of your existing Class A and Class C shares of the Van Eck Funds (except the money market fund) that you already own. Please review the Prospectus under the sections entitled Sales Charges and Reduced or Waived Sales Charges to determine your eligibility for various reduced sales charge programs and waivers. Please list your existing accounts below (and accounts for your spouse or minor children under the age of 21) except for the money market fund in order to link them for reduced sales charges. Other than for Right of Accumulation, please indicate if you qualify for any special reduced or waived sales charge program as stated in the Prospectus.

List Fund Names (and Classes) and Account Numbers (attach list if needed)

4. INVESTMENT INSTRUCTIONS Please allocate my investment as follows

Van Eck Funds	Dollar Amount or Percentage	Van Eck Funds	Dollar Amount or Percentage
Emerging Markets Fund-A	_____	Multi-Manager Alternatives Fund-A	_____
Emerging Markets Fund-C	_____	Money Fund	_____
Global Hard Assets Fund-A	_____	Other	_____
Global Hard Assets Fund-C	_____		
International Investors Gold Fund-A	_____		
International Investors Gold Fund-C	_____		

5. BENEFICIARY DESIGNATION

I designate the individual(s) named below the Beneficiary(ies) of this IRA. I revoke all prior IRA Beneficiary designations, if any, made by me for these assets. I understand that I may change or add Beneficiaries at any time by written notice to the Custodian. If I am not survived by any Beneficiary, my Beneficiary shall be my estate. (If no percentage is specified, primary beneficiaries will share the account balance equally.) *For multiple beneficiaries, attach separate page as needed.*

Primary Beneficiary(ies)

Name _____ % of Acct. _____ % SS# _____
 Birthdate _____ Relationship: _____
 Name _____ % of Acct. _____ % SS# _____
 Birthdate _____ Relationship: _____

Contingent Beneficiary(ies)

Name _____ % of Acct. _____ % SS# _____
 Birthdate _____ Relationship: _____
 Name _____ % of Acct. _____ % SS# _____
 Birthdate _____ Relationship: _____

6. SPOUSAL CONSENT (Review only if you have designated a primary beneficiary other than your spouse)

(This section should only be reviewed if the shareholder is married, is a resident of a community property or marital property state, and designates a primary beneficiary other than the spouse. It is the shareholder's responsibility to determine if this section applies. The shareholder may need to consult with legal counsel. Neither the Custodian nor the Sponsor are liable for any consequences resulting from a failure of the shareholder to provide proper spousal consent.)

I am the spouse of the above named shareholder. I acknowledge that I have received a full and reasonable disclosure of my spouse's property and financial obligations. Due to any possible consequences of giving up my community property interest in this IRA, I have been advised to see a tax professional or legal advisor.

I hereby consent to the beneficiary designation(s) indicated above. I assume full responsibility for any adverse consequence that may result. No tax or legal advice was given to me by the Custodian or Sponsor.

Signature of Spouse _____ Date _____

Signature of Witness for Spouse _____ Date _____
(cannot be shareholder)

[THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK]

Van Eck Global

IRA TRANSFER/DIRECT ROLLOVER/CONVERSION FORM

Please use this form to request a transfer/direct rollover/conversion to the Custodian for the Van Eck Global family of funds, State Street Bank and Trust Company ("State Street"), from an existing retirement plan held by State Street or another Custodian. Send this form, attached to a completed Van Eck Global IRA/Roth IRA Adoption Agreement, and a check for the fiduciary fee to State Street. Upon receipt, State Street will set up a new State Street IRA account for you with a zero balance and send a Letter of Acceptance attached to this form to your current custodian. The Letter of Acceptance officially informs your current custodian that State Street is ready to accept your account and become your new custodian. The transfer, rollover or conversion will be completed when State Street receives the assets from your current custodian. *For questions, please call Account Assistance at 1-800-544-4653.*

1. SHAREHOLDER INFORMATION

Name	Social Security Number
Address	Date of Birth
City, State, Zip Code	Daytime Telephone Number

2. CURRENT CUSTODIAN ACCOUNT INFORMATION

Custodian Name	Current Fund Name/Class
Custodian Address	Current Account Number
City, State, Zip Code	Additional Fund Name/Class
Custodian Telephone Number	Additional Account Number

3. TYPE OF ACCOUNT HELD BY THE CURRENT CUSTODIAN (check one)*

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Traditional IRA
<input type="checkbox"/> Conduit IRA (direct rollover from a qualified plan or 403(b))
<input type="checkbox"/> Roth Contributory Account (Account start date _____) | <input type="checkbox"/> Roth Converted Account (Account start date _____)
<input type="checkbox"/> SEP IRA
<input type="checkbox"/> SAR-SEP IRA (For plans established prior to 1/1/97)
<input type="checkbox"/> Employers Qualified Plan, 403(b), 401(k), etc. |
|---|---|

*** Note:** You may not transfer from a Roth IRA to a Traditional IRA. Transfers to a Roth IRA are possible only from another Roth IRA, from a Traditional IRA, from a SEP IRA or from a Simple IRA, not from other types of tax-deferred accounts. A transfer to a Roth IRA from a Traditional IRA may trigger federal income tax on the taxable amount transferred from the Traditional IRA. If a conversion, rollover or transfer from a Traditional IRA to a Roth IRA is being made, only amounts converted, rolled over or transferred during the same year (not annual contributions) will be accepted in the Roth Converted IRA account.

4. INSTRUCTIONS TO STATE STREET BANK AND TRUST COMPANY

Invest my assets into the IRA and investment type indicated below.

IRA Types: (choose one)	Investment Types: (choose one)
<input type="checkbox"/> Traditional IRA	<input type="checkbox"/> Direct Transfer from existing Traditional IRA
<input type="checkbox"/> Rollover IRA (Conduit)	<input type="checkbox"/> Direct Rollover payable to State Street from 403(b) or employer qualified plan <input type="checkbox"/> Direct Transfer from existing Conduit IRA
<input type="checkbox"/> Roth Contributory IRA	<input type="checkbox"/> Direct Transfer from existing Roth Contributory IRA—original start date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Roth Converted IRA	<input type="checkbox"/> Convert my existing Traditional IRA to a Roth Converted IRA <input type="checkbox"/> Direct Transfer from existing Roth Converted IRA—original start date _____

5. INSTRUCTIONS TO MY CURRENT CUSTODIAN

(I have established a Van Eck Global retirement account with State Street Bank and Trust Company ("State Street") as Custodian. Please act on my account in your custody as directed below.)

LIQUIDATE and transfer from my indicated account directly to my new custodian, State Street:

- All the assets in my account(s).
- Only \$ _____ or _____% of my account.

If you are transferring a Certificate of Deposit (CD) IRA, choose one option:

- Liquidate prior to maturity date. I am aware that I may incur a penalty for early withdrawal.
- Liquidate at Maturity. (Maturity date must be within 60 days. If the maturity date is less than 15 days from the date of this request, you may want to contact your custodian bank to prevent automatic reinvestment of the CD.

1. Make check payable to State Street
2. Include Van Eck Global account number on check
3. Mail with a copy of the attached State Street Letter of Acceptance to:

State Street Bank and Trust Company
FBO: Van Eck Global Acct # _____ (completed by State Street)
P.O. Box 218407
Kansas City, MO 64121-8407

TRANSFER IN KIND (custodial change or direct transfer/rollover or conversion of an EXISTING Van Eck Global retirement account)

- All the assets in my account(s).
- Only \$ _____ or _____% of my account.

1. Send in-kind transfer instructions referencing the new Van Eck Global account number (and issued certificates (if any)).
2. Mail with a copy of the attached State Street Letter of Acceptance to:

State Street Bank and Trust Company
FBO: Van Eck Global Acct # _____ (completed by State Street)
P.O. Box 218407
Kansas City, MO 64121-8407

(Note: If State Street is the current custodian of the existing Van Eck Global retirement account, Transfer In Kind steps 1. and 2. are not needed to act on a direct transfer/rollover or conversion from one retirement plan type to another.)

6. (For Conversion to Roth IRA Only) TAX WITHHOLDING ELECTION (SUBSTITUTE FORM W-4P/OMB NO. 1545-0415)

IRS regulations require the custodian to withhold federal income taxes at a rate of 10% on nonperiodic payments from an IRA for federal income tax purposes. A conversion from a Traditional IRA to a Roth Converted IRA is treated as a taxable distribution by the IRS. For more information, see IRS Publication 505, "Tax Withholding and Estimated Tax." Do not check the box below if you do not want taxes withheld.

Withhold Federal income tax at a rate of _____% (not less than 10%) from the Traditional IRA distribution that I am converting to a Roth Converted IRA.

7. SIGNATURE OF SHAREHOLDER (DEPOSITOR)

The undersigned certifies to the present IRA custodian that the undersigned has established a successor Individual Retirement Account meeting the requirements of Internal Revenue Code Section 408(a) or 408A (as the case may be) to which assets will be transferred, and certifies to State Street Bank and Trust Company that the account from which assets are being transferred meets the requirements of the Internal Revenue Code for transfer/direct rollover/conversion.

Signature of Shareholder (Depositor)

Date

SIGNATURE GUARANTEE (only if required by current Custodian)

(It is important to call your current trustee/custodian to determine if it requires a signature guarantee stamp next to your signature, or any other requirements, before it will process a transfer of retirement assets. A notary public is not acceptable. Only your current trustee/custodian can advise you of its individual requirements. Participants in a qualified plan or 403(b) should consult with their employer regarding any requirements it may impose.)

Van Eck Global DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Part One: Description of Traditional IRAs

SPECIAL NOTE

Part One of the Disclosure Statement describes the rules applicable to Traditional IRAs as revised by the 2001 tax law, effective January 1, 2002. For information about the pre-2002 rules for Traditional IRAs, call the 800 number or write the address listed at the end of this Disclosure Statement.

IRAs described in these pages are called "Traditional IRAs" to distinguish them from the "Roth IRAs" that first became available in 1998. Roth IRAs are described in Part Two of this Disclosure Statement. Contributions to a Roth IRA are not deductible (regardless of your AGI), but withdrawals that meet certain requirements are not subject to federal income tax, so that dividends and investment growth on amounts held in the Roth IRA can escape federal income tax. Please see Part Two of this Disclosure Statement if you are interested in learning more about Roth IRAs.

Traditional IRAs described in this Disclosure Statement may be used as part of a simplified employee pension (SEP) plan maintained by your employer. Under a SEP your employer may make contributions to your Traditional IRA, and these contributions may exceed the normal limits on Traditional IRA contributions. This Disclosure Statement does not describe IRAs established in connection with a SIMPLE IRA program maintained by your employer. Employers provide special explanatory materials for accounts established as part of a SIMPLE IRA program. Traditional IRAs may be used in connection with a SIMPLE IRA program, but for the first two years of participation a special SIMPLE IRA (not a Traditional IRA) is required.

YOUR TRADITIONAL IRA

This Part One contains information about your Traditional Individual Retirement Custodial Account with State Street Bank and Trust Company as Custodian. A Traditional IRA gives you several tax benefits. Earnings on the assets held in your Traditional IRA are not subject to federal income tax until withdrawn by you. You may be able to deduct all or part of your Traditional IRA contribution on your federal income tax return. State income tax treatment of your Traditional IRA may differ from federal treatment; ask your state tax department or your personal tax adviser for details.

Be sure to read Part Three of this Disclosure Statement for important additional information, including information on how to revoke your Traditional IRA, investments and prohibited transactions, fees and expenses, and certain tax requirements.

ELIGIBILITY

What are the eligibility requirements for a Traditional IRA?

You are eligible to establish and contribute to a Traditional IRA for a year if:

- You received compensation (or earned income if you are self employed) during the year for personal services you rendered. If you received taxable alimony, this is treated like compensation for IRA purposes.
- You did not reach age 70½ during the year.

Can I Contribute to a Traditional IRA for my Spouse?

For each year before the year when your spouse attains age 70½, you can contribute to a separate Traditional IRA for your spouse, regardless of whether your spouse had any compensation or earned income in that year. This is called a "spousal IRA." To make a contribution to a Traditional IRA for your spouse, you must file a joint tax return for the year with your spouse. For a spousal IRA, your spouse must set up a different Traditional IRA, separate from yours, to which you contribute.

CONTRIBUTIONS

When Can I Make Contributions to a Traditional IRA?

You may make a contribution to your existing Traditional IRA or establish a new Traditional IRA for a taxable year by the due date (not including any extensions) for your federal income tax return for the year. Usually this is April 15 of the following year. For example, you will have until April 15, 2003 to establish and make a contribution to a Traditional IRA for 2002.

How Much Can I Contribute to my Traditional IRA?

For each year when you are eligible (see above), you can contribute up to the lesser of your IRA Contribution Limit (see the following table) or 100% of your compensation (or earned income, if you are self-employed). However, under the tax laws, all or a portion of your contribution may not be deductible.

IRA CONTRIBUTION LIMIT

YEAR	LIMIT
2002-2004	\$3,000
2005-2007	\$4,000
2008	\$5,000
2009 and future years	\$5,000 increased by cost-of-living adjustments (in \$500 increments)

Individuals age 50 or over may make special "catch up" contributions to their Traditional IRAs. (See What are the Special Catch-Up Contribution Rules? below for details.)

If you and your spouse have spousal Traditional IRAs, each spouse may contribute up to the IRA Contribution Limit to his or her IRA for a year as long as the combined compensation of both spouses for the year (as shown on your joint income tax return) is at least two times the IRA Contribution Limit. If the combined compensation of both spouses is less than two times the IRA Contribution Limit, the spouse with the higher amount of compensation may contribute up to that spouse's compensation amount, or the IRA Contribution Limit, if less. The spouse with the lower compensation amount may contribute any amount up to that spouse's compensation plus any excess of the other spouse's compensation over the other spouse's IRA contribution. However, the maximum contribution to either spouse's Traditional IRA is the individual IRA Contribution Limit for the year.

If you (or your spouse) establish a new Roth IRA and make contributions to both your Traditional IRA and a Roth IRA, the combined limit on contributions to both your (or your spouse's) Traditional IRA and Roth IRA for a single calendar year is the IRA Contribution Limit. (Note: the Traditional IRA Contribution Limit is not reduced by employer contributions made on your behalf to either a SEP IRA or a SIMPLE IRA; salary reduction contributions by you are considered employer contributions for this purpose.)

What are the Special Catch-Up Contribution Rules?

Beginning in 2002, individuals who are age 50 and over by the end of any year may make special "make-up" contributions to a Traditional IRA for that year. For 2002 through the end of 2005, the special "catch-up" contribution is \$500 per year. From 2006 on, the special "catch-up" contribution will be \$1,000 per year. If you are over 50 by the end of a year, your catch-up limit is added to your normal IRA Contribution Limit for that year.

Congress intended these "catch-up" contributions specifically for older individuals who may have been absent from the workforce for a number of years and so may have lost out on the ability to contribute to an IRA. However, the "catch-up" contribution is available to anyone age 50 or over, whether or not they have consistently contributed to a Traditional IRA over the years.

Note that the rules for determining whether a contribution is tax-deductible (see below) also apply to special "catch-up" contributions.

How Do I Know if my Contribution is Tax Deductible?

The deductibility of your contribution depends upon whether you are an active participant in any employer-sponsored retirement plan. If you are not an active participant, the entire contribution to your Traditional IRA is deductible.

If you are an active participant in an employer-sponsored plan, your Traditional IRA contribution may still be completely or partly deductible on your tax return. This depends on the amount of your income (see below).

Similarly, the deductibility of a contribution to a Traditional IRA for your spouse depends upon whether your spouse is an active participant in any employer-sponsored retirement plan. If your spouse is not an active participant, the contribution to your spouse's Traditional IRA will be deductible. If your spouse is an active participant, the Traditional IRA contribution will be completely, partly or not deductible depending upon your combined income.

An exception to the preceding rules applies to high-income married taxpayers, where one spouse is an active participant in an employer-sponsored retirement plan and the other spouse is not. A contribution to the non-active participant spouse's Traditional IRA will be only partly deductible starting at an adjusted gross income level on the joint tax return of \$150,000, and the deductibility will be phased out as described below over the next \$10,000 so that there will be no deduction at all with an adjusted gross income level of \$160,000 or higher.

How do I Determine My or My Spouse's "Active Participant" status?

Your (or your spouse's) Form W-2 should indicate if you (or your spouse) were an active participant in an employer-sponsored retirement plan for a year. If you have a question, you should ask your employer or the plan administrator.

In addition, regardless of income level, your spouse's "active participant" status will not affect the deductibility of your contributions to your Traditional IRA if you and your spouse file separate tax returns for the taxable year and you lived apart at all times during the taxable year.

What are the Deduction Restrictions for Active Participants?

If you (or your spouse) are an active participant in an employer plan during a year, the contribution to your Traditional IRA (or your spouse's Traditional IRA) may be completely, partly or not deductible depending upon your filing status and your amount of adjusted gross income ("AGI"). If AGI is any amount up to the lower limit, the contribution is deductible. If your AGI falls between the lower limit and the upper limit, the contribution is partly deductible. If your AGI falls above the upper limit, the contribution is not deductible.

The Lower Limit and the Upper Limit are adjusted each year. The Lower Limits and Upper Limits for each year are set out on the table below. Use the correct Lower Limit and Upper Limit from the table to determine deductibility in any particular year. (Note: if you are married but filing separate returns, your Lower Limit is always zero and your Upper Limit is always \$10,000.)

TABLE OF LOWER AND UPPER LIMITS

Year	Single		Married Filing Jointly	
	Lower Limit	Upper Limit	Lower Limit	Upper Limit
2002	\$34,000	\$44,000	\$54,000	\$64,000
2003	\$40,000	\$50,000	\$60,000	\$70,000
2004	\$45,000	\$55,000	\$65,000	\$75,000
2005	\$50,000	\$60,000	\$70,000	\$80,000
2006	\$50,000	\$60,000	\$75,000	\$85,000
2007 and later	\$50,000	\$60,000	\$80,000	\$100,000

How do I Calculate my Deduction if I Fall in the "Partly Deductible" Range?

If your AGI falls in the partly deductible range, you must calculate the portion of your contribution that is deductible. To do this, multiply the IRA Contribution Limit for the year by a fraction. The numerator is the amount by which your AGI exceeds the lower limit (for 2002: \$34,000 if single, or \$54,000 if married filing jointly). The denominator is \$10,000 (note that the denominator for married joint filers is \$20,000 starting in 2007). Subtract this from the IRA Contribution Limit and then round down to the nearest \$10. When you fall in the "partly deductible" range, your contribution is deductible up to the greater of the amount calculated or \$200.

For example, assume that in 2002 you make a \$3,000 contribution (which is the IRA Contribution Limit if you are not age 50) to your Traditional IRA, a year in which you are an active participant in your employer's retirement plan. Also assume that your AGI is \$60,555 and you are married, filing jointly. You would calculate the deductible portion of your contribution this way:

- The amount by which your AGI exceeds the lower limit of the partly deductible range:
 $(\$60,555 - \$54,000) = \$6,555.00$
- Divide this by \$10,000: $\frac{\$6,555}{\$10,000} = 0.6555$
- Multiply this by the IRA Contribution Limit:
 $0.6555 \times 3,000 = \$1,966.50$
- Subtract this from the IRA Contribution Limit:
 $(\$3,000 - \$1,966.50) = \$1,033.50$
- Round this down to the nearest \$10 = \$1,030

- Your deductible contribution is the greater of this amount or \$200. In this case, you may deduct \$1,030 on your tax return.

Even though part or all of your contribution is not deductible, you may still contribute to your Traditional IRA (and your spouse may contribute to your spouse's Traditional IRA) up to the IRA Contribution Limit for the year. When you file your tax return for the year, you must designate the amount of non-deductible contributions to your Traditional IRA for the year. See IRS Form 8606.

How Do I Determine My AGI?

AGI is your gross income minus those deductions which are available to all taxpayers even if they don't itemize. Instructions to calculate your AGI are provided with your income tax Form 1040 or 1040A.

What Happens if I Contribute more than Allowed to my Traditional IRA?

The maximum contribution you can make to a Traditional IRA generally is the IRA Contribution Limit (or the IRA Contribution Limit plus a "catch-up" contribution if you are 50 or over) or 100% of compensation or earned income, whichever is less. Any amount contributed to the IRA above the maximum is considered an "excess contribution." The excess is calculated using your contribution limit, not the deductible limit. An excess contribution is subject to excise tax of 6% for each year it remains in the IRA.

How can I Correct an Excess Contribution?

Excess contributions may be corrected without paying a 6% penalty. To do so, you must withdraw the excess and any earnings on the excess before the due date (including extensions) for filing your federal income tax return for the year for which you made the excess contribution. A deduction should not be taken for any excess contribution. Earnings on the amount withdrawn must also be with-

drawn. (Refer to IRS Publication 590 to see how earnings may be adjusted to reflect gain or loss.) The earnings must be included in your income for the tax year for which the contribution was made and may be subject to a 10% premature withdrawal tax if you have not reached age 59½.

What Happens if I Don't Correct the Excess Contribution by the Tax Return Due Date?

Any excess contribution withdrawn after the tax return due date (including any extensions) for the year for which the contribution was made will be subject to the 6% excise tax. There will be an additional 6% excise tax for each year the excess remains in your account. Any such excess contributions must be reported to the IRS (see What Tax Information Must I Report to the IRS? in Part Three of this Disclosure Statement).

Under limited circumstances, you may correct an excess contribution after tax filing time by withdrawing the excess contribution (leaving the earnings in the account). This withdrawal will not be includible in income nor will it be subject to any premature withdrawal penalty if (1) your contributions to all Traditional IRAs do not exceed the IRA Contribution Limit (plus the "catch-up" contribution, if eligible) and (2) you did not take a deduction for the excess amount (or you file an amended return (Form 1040X) which removes the excess deduction).

How are Excess Contributions Treated if None of the Preceding Rules Apply?

Unless an excess contribution qualifies for the special treatment outlined above, the excess contribution and any earnings on it withdrawn after tax filing time will be includible in taxable income and may be subject to a 10% premature withdrawal penalty. No deduction will be allowed for the excess contribution for the year in which it is made.

Excess contributions may be corrected in a subsequent year to the extent that you contribute less than your maximum contribution amount. As the prior excess contribution is reduced or eliminated, the 6% excise tax will become correspondingly reduced or eliminated for subsequent tax years. Also, you may be able to take an income tax deduction for the amount of excess that was reduced or eliminated, depending on whether you would be able to take a deduction if you had instead contributed the same amount.

CONVERSION OF TRADITIONAL IRA

Can I convert an Existing Traditional IRA into a Roth IRA?

Yes, you can convert an existing Traditional IRA into a Roth IRA if you meet the eligibility requirements described below. Conversion may be accomplished in any of three ways: First, you can withdraw the amount you want to convert from your Traditional IRA and roll it over to a Roth IRA within 60 days. Second, you can establish a Roth IRA and then direct the custodian of your Traditional IRA to

transfer the amount in your Traditional IRA you wish to convert to the new Roth IRA. Third, if you want to convert an existing Traditional IRA with State Street Bank and Trust Company as custodian to a Roth IRA, you may give us directions to convert; we will convert your existing account when the paperwork to establish your new Roth IRA is complete.

You are eligible to convert a Traditional IRA to a Roth IRA if, for the year of the conversion, your AGI is \$100,000 or less. The same limit applies to married and single taxpayers, and the limit is not indexed to cost-of-living increases. Married taxpayers are eligible to convert a Traditional IRA to a Roth IRA only if they file a joint income tax return; married taxpayers filing separately are not eligible to convert. However, if you file separately and have lived apart from your spouse for the entire taxable year, you are considered not married, and the fact that you are filing separately will not prevent you from converting.

If you accomplish a conversion by withdrawing from your Traditional IRA and rolling over to a Roth IRA within 60 days, the conversion eligibility requirements in the preceding paragraph apply to the year of the withdrawal (even though the rollover contribution occurs in the following calendar year).

Caution: If you have reached age 70½ by the year when you convert another non-Roth IRA you own to a Roth IRA, be careful not to convert any amount that would be a required minimum distribution under the applicable age 70½ rules. Under current IRS regulations, required minimum distributions may not be converted.

What Happens if I change my Mind about Converting?

You can undo a conversion by notifying the custodian or trustee of each IRA (the custodian of the first IRA—the Traditional IRA you converted—and the custodian of the second IRA—the Roth IRA that received the conversion). The amount you want to unconvert by transferring back to the first custodian is treated for income tax purposes as if it had never been converted (however, the transfers involved in the original conversion and in the transfer back are reportable to the IRS by the Custodian). This is called "recharacterization."

If you want to recharacterize a converted amount, you must do so before the due date (including any extensions you receive) for your federal income tax return for the year of the conversion. Any net income (whether gain or loss) on the amount recharacterized must accompany it back to the Traditional IRA.

You can recharacterize for any reason. For example, you would recharacterize if you converted early in a year and then turned out to be ineligible because your income was

over the \$100,000 limit. Also, if you convert and then recharacterize during a year, you can then convert to a Roth IRA a second time if you wish, but you must wait until the later of the next tax year after your original conversion or until 30 days after your recharacterization. You are limited to one conversion of an account per year. If you convert an amount more than once in a year, any additional conversion transactions will be considered invalid and subject to rules for excess contributions.

Note: Conversions from a Traditional IRA to a Roth IRA that failed because you did not meet the eligibility requirements (more than \$100,000 of AGI or married but not filing jointly) must be recharacterized before your tax filing deadline (with extensions) in order to avoid possible taxes and penalties. The IRS automatically grants to taxpayers who file their taxes by the April 15th deadline a six-month extension of time (until October 15) to recharacterize for the tax year covered by that filing.

(Caution: As you can see, these rules are very complex; be sure to consult a competent tax professional for assistance. Always check with your tax adviser for the latest developments.)

Under current IRS rules, recharacterization is not restricted to amounts you converted from a Traditional IRA to a Roth IRA. You can, for example, make an annual contribution to a Traditional IRA and recharacterize it as a contribution to a Roth IRA, or vice versa. You must make the election to recharacterize by the due date for your tax return for the year and follow the procedures summarized above.

TRANSFERS/ROLLOVERS

Can I Transfer or Roll Over a Distribution I Receive from my Employer's Retirement Plan into a Traditional IRA?

Most distributions from employer plans or 403(b) arrangements (for employees of tax-exempt employers) or eligible 457 plans (for employees of certain governmental plans) are eligible for rollover to a Traditional IRA. The main exceptions are:

- payments over the lifetime or life expectancy of the participant (or participant and a designated beneficiary),
- installment payments for a period of 10 years or more,
- required distributions (generally the rules require distributions starting at age 70½ or for certain employees starting at retirement, if later), and
- hardship withdrawals from a 401(k) plan or a 403(b) arrangement.

If you are eligible to receive a distribution from a tax

qualified retirement plan as a result of, for example, termination of employment, plan discontinuance, or retirement, all or part of the distribution may be transferred directly into your Traditional IRA. This is called a "direct rollover." Or, you may receive the distribution and make rollover to your Traditional IRA within 60 days. By making a direct rollover or a regular rollover, you can defer income taxes on the amount rolled over until you subsequently make withdrawals from your Traditional IRA.

If you are over age 70½ and are required to take minimum distributions under the tax laws, you may not roll over any amount required to be distributed to you under the minimum distribution rules. You also may not roll over a hardship distribution from a 401(k) or 403 (b) plan. Also, if you are receiving periodic payments over your or your and your designated beneficiary's life expectancy or for a period of at least 10 years, you may not roll over these payments. A rollover to a Traditional IRA must be completed within 60 days after the distribution from the employer retirement plan to be valid.

NOTE: A qualified plan administrator or 403(b) sponsor **MUST WITHHOLD 20% OF YOUR DISTRIBUTION** for federal income taxes **UNLESS** you elect a direct rollover. Your plan or 403(b) sponsor is required to provide you with information about direct and regular rollovers and withholding taxes before you receive your distribution and must comply with your directions to make a direct rollover.

The rules governing rollovers are complicated. Be sure to consult your tax adviser or the IRS if you have a question about rollovers.

Once I Have Rolled Over a Plan Distribution into a Traditional IRA, Can I Subsequently Roll Over into another Employer's Plan?

Yes. Part or all of an eligible distribution received from a qualified plan may be withdrawn from the Traditional IRA and rolled over to another qualified plan, within 60 days of the date of withdrawal.

Can any Amount Held in My Traditional IRA be Rolled Over into an Employer Plan?

Yes, generally speaking, withdrawals from your traditional IRA may be rolled over to an employer's qualified plan or 403(b) arrangement.

Note: Before 2002, the rules governing such rollovers were more restrictive. A Traditional IRA must have held no assets other than those which were previously distributed to you from a qualified plan. Specifically, under the old rules a Traditional IRA could not contain any annual contributions by you (or your spouse).

Starting in 2002, assets held in a Traditional IRA, whether originally rolled over from an employer plan or attributable

to annual contributions, may be rolled over into an employer's plan. Such a rollover must be completed within 60 days after the withdrawal from your IRA. Thus, except in some very limited cases, there is no reason to establish a "conduit IRA" to keep track of amounts distributed from an employer plan.

Note that the employer plan must accept rollovers.

Only amounts that would, absent the rollover, otherwise be taxable may be rolled over to a qualified plan. In general, this means that after-tax contributions to a Traditional IRA may not be rolled over to an employer plan. However, to determine the amount an individual may roll over to plan, all Traditional IRAs are taken into account. If the amount being rolled over from one Traditional IRA is less than or equal to the otherwise taxable amount held in all of the individual's Traditional IRAs, then the total amount can be rolled over into an employer plan, even if some of the funds in the Traditional IRA being rolled over are after-tax contributions.

The following example illustrates this rule: Assume Gail has two IRAs: IRA(1) with a \$100,000 balance, all of which is attributable to deductible contributions and earnings and thus would be taxable if distributed directly to Gail; and IRA(2), with a balance of \$150,000, \$50,000 of which consists of after-tax contributions (and thus would be non-taxable if distributed directly to Gail) and \$100,000 of which consists of deductible contributions and earnings. Between the two IRAs, \$200,000 would be taxable if distributed to Gail and \$50,000 would not be taxable because it was contributed on an after-tax basis. Gail may rollover the full \$150,000 from IRA(2), even though \$50,000 is non-taxable, because the total amount of taxable funds in all of her IRAs exceeds \$150,000.

Can I Make a Rollover from my Traditional IRA to another Traditional IRA?

You may make a rollover from one Traditional IRA to another Traditional IRA you have or you establish to receive the rollover. Such a rollover must be completed within 60 days after the withdrawal from your first Traditional IRA.

After making a rollover from one Traditional IRA, you must wait a full year (365 days) before you can make another such rollover from the same Traditional IRA. In addition, after Traditional IRA assets are rolled over from one IRA to another, a second rollover of the same assets cannot be made for a full year. (However, you can instruct a Traditional IRA custodian to transfer amounts directly to another Traditional IRA custodian; such a direct transfer does not count as a rollover.)

May a Rollover or Transfer include After-Tax or Nondeductible Contributions?

Yes. Before January 1, 2002, after-tax contributions could not be rolled over from a qualified employer plan or a 403(b) arrangement to a Traditional IRA. Now such

rollovers or transfers, as well as rollovers or transfers of nondeductible contributions from another Traditional IRA, may include after-tax or nondeductible contributions. [If a rollover or transfer includes after-tax or nondeductible amounts, such amounts may be held under a separate account number by the recordkeeping system. In this event, if you want to make an investment change, remember that you may have to deal with multiple accounts.]

How Do Rollovers Affect my Contribution or Deduction Limits?

Rollover contributions, if properly made, do not count toward the maximum contribution. Also, rollovers are not deductible and they do not affect your deduction limits as described above.

WITHDRAWALS

When can I make withdrawals from my Traditional IRA?

You may withdraw from your Traditional IRA at any time. However, withdrawals before age 59½ may be subject to a 10% penalty tax in addition to regular income taxes (see below).

When must I start making withdrawals?

If you have not withdrawn the total amount held in your Traditional IRA by the April 1 following the year in which you reach 70½, you must make minimum withdrawals in order to avoid penalty taxes. The rule allowing certain employees to postpone distributions from an employer qualified plan until actual retirement (even if this is after age 70½) does not apply to Traditional IRAs.

IRS rules effective in 2002 make it easier for you to calculate your required minimum distribution. Under these rules a uniform table is used to determine required minimum distributions. The distribution period under the uniform table is the equivalent of the joint life expectancy of you and a beneficiary 10 years younger than you. (The joint life expectancy table may be used if your spouse is the sole beneficiary and is more than 10 years younger than you.) The minimum withdrawal amount is determined by dividing the balance in your Traditional IRA (or IRAs) by your life expectancy as shown on the uniform table. You are not required to recalculate because recalculation is built right in to the uniform table. Although the required minimum distribution rules have been, in some ways, simplified, they are still, in general, complex. Consult your tax adviser for assistance.

The penalty tax is 50% of the difference between the minimum withdrawal amount and your actual withdrawals during a year. The IRS may waive or reduce the penalty tax if you can show that your failure to make the required minimum withdrawals was due to reasonable cause and you are taking reasonable steps to remedy the problem.

How Are Withdrawals From My Traditional IRA Taxed?

Amounts withdrawn by you are includible in your gross income in the taxable year that you receive them, and are taxable as ordinary income. Amounts withdrawn may be subject to income tax withholding by the custodian unless you elect not to have withholding. See Part Three below for additional information on withholding. Lump sum withdrawals from a Traditional IRA are not eligible for averaging treatment currently available to certain lump sum distributions from qualified employer retirement plans.

Since the purpose of a Traditional IRA is to accumulate funds for retirement, your receipt or use of any portion of your Traditional IRA before you attain age 59½ generally will be considered as an early withdrawal and subject to a 10% penalty tax.

The 10% penalty tax for early withdrawal will not apply if:

- The distribution was a result of your death or disability.
- The purpose of the withdrawal is to pay certain higher education expenses for yourself or your spouse, child, or grandchild. Qualifying expenses include tuition, fees, books, supplies and equipment required for attendance at a post-secondary educational institution. Room and board expenses may qualify if the student is attending at least half-time.
- The withdrawal is used to pay eligible first-time homebuyer expenses. These are the costs of purchasing, building or rebuilding a principal residence (including customary settlement, financing or closing costs). The purchaser may be you, your spouse, or a child, grandchild, parent or grandparent of you or your spouse. An individual is considered a "first-time homebuyer" if the individual did not have (or, if married, neither spouse had) an ownership interest in a principal residence during the two-year period immediately preceding the acquisition in question. The withdrawal must be used for eligible expenses within 120 days after the withdrawal. (If there is an unexpected delay, or cancellation of the home acquisition, a withdrawal may be redeposited as a rollover).

There is a lifetime limit on eligible first-time homebuyer expenses of \$10,000 per individual.

- The distribution is one of a scheduled series of substantially equal periodic payments for your life or life expectancy (or the joint lives or life expectancies of you and your beneficiary).

If there is an adjustment to the scheduled series of payments, the 10% penalty tax may apply. The 10% penalty will not apply if you make no change in the series of payments until the end of five years or until you reach age 59½, whichever is later. If you make a change before then,

the penalty will apply. For example, if you begin receiving payments at age 50 under a withdrawal program providing for substantially equal payments over your life expectancy, and at age 58 you elect to receive the remaining amount in your Traditional IRA in a lump-sum, the 10% penalty tax will apply to the lump sum and to the amounts previously paid to you before age 59½.

- The distribution does not exceed the amount of your deductible medical expenses for the year (generally speaking, medical expenses paid during a year are deductible if they are greater than 7½% of your adjusted gross income for that year).
- The distribution does not exceed the amount you paid for health insurance coverage for yourself, your spouse and dependents. This exception applies only if you have been unemployed and received federal or state unemployment compensation payments for at least 12 weeks; this exception applies to distributions during the year in which you received the unemployment compensation and during the following year, but not to any distributions received after you have been reemployed for at least 60 days.
- A distribution is made pursuant to an IRS levy to pay overdue taxes.

How are Nondeductible Contributions Taxed When They are Withdrawn?

A withdrawal of nondeductible contributions (not including earnings) will be tax-free. However, if you made both deductible and nondeductible contributions to your Traditional IRA, then each distribution will be treated as partly a return of your nondeductible contributions (not taxable) and partly a distribution of deductible contributions and earnings (taxable). The nontaxable amount is the portion of the amount withdrawn which bears the same ratio as your total nondeductible Traditional IRA contributions bear to the total balance of all your Traditional IRAs (including rollover IRAs and SEPs, but not including Roth IRAs).

For example, assume that you made the following Traditional IRA contributions:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Deductible</u>	<u>Nondeductible</u>
One	\$2,000	
Two	\$2,000	
Three	\$1,000	\$1,000
Four	_____	<u>\$1,000</u>
	\$5,000	\$2,000

In addition assume that your Traditional IRA has total investment earnings through Year Four of \$1,000. During Year Four you withdraw \$500. Your total account balance as of the end of Year Four is \$7,500 as shown below.

Deductible Contributions	\$5,000
Nondeductible Contributions	\$2,000
Earnings On IRA	\$1,000
Less Year Four Withdrawal	<u>\$ 500</u>
Total Account Balance at the end of Year Four	\$7,500

To determine the nontaxable portion of your Year Four withdrawal, the total Year Four withdrawal (\$500) must be multiplied by a fraction. The numerator of the fraction is the total of all nondeductible contributions remaining in the account before the Year Four withdrawal (\$2,000). The denominator is the total account balance as of the end of Year Four (\$7,500) plus the Year Four withdrawal (\$500) or \$8,000. The calculation is:

Total Remaining	
<u>Nondeductible Contributions</u>	<u>\$2,000</u> x \$500 = \$ 125
Total Account Balance	\$8,000

Thus, \$125 of the \$500 withdrawal in Year Four will not be included in your taxable income. The remaining \$375 will be taxable for Year Four. In addition, for future calculations the remaining nondeductible contribution total will be \$2,000 minus \$125, or \$1,875.

A loss in your Traditional IRA investment may be deductible. You should consult your tax adviser for further details on the appropriate calculation for this deduction if applicable.

What about the 15 percent penalty?

Earlier tax laws imposed a "success" penalty equal to 15% of withdrawals from all retirement accounts (including IRAs, 401(k) or other employer retirement plans, 403(b) arrangements and others) in a year exceeding a specified amount (initially \$150,000 per year). Also, there was a 15% estate tax penalty on excess accumulations remaining in IRAs and other tax-favored arrangements upon your death. These 15% penalty taxes have been repealed.

Important: Please see Part Three below which contains important information applicable to all Van Eck Global IRAs.

Part Two: Description of Roth IRAs

SPECIAL NOTE

Part Two of the Disclosure Statement describes the rules generally applicable to Roth IRAs as revised by the tax law, effective January 1, 2002.

Roth IRAs were first made available in 1998. Contributions to a Roth IRA are not tax-deductible, but withdrawals that meet certain requirements are not subject to federal income taxes. This makes the dividends on and growth of the investments held in your Roth IRA tax-free for federal income tax purposes if the requirements are met.

Traditional IRAs, which have existed since 1975, are still available. Contributions to a Traditional IRA may be tax-deductible. Earnings and gains on amounts while held in a Traditional IRA are tax-deferred. Withdrawals are subject to federal income tax (except for prior after-tax contributions which may be recovered without additional federal income tax).

This Part Two does not describe Traditional IRAs. If you wish to review information about Traditional IRAs, please see Part One of this Disclosure Statement. If you want information about the pre-2002 rules for Roth IRAs, call the 800 number or write the address listed at the end of this Disclosure Statement.

This Disclosure Statement also does not describe IRAs established in connection with a SIMPLE IRA program or a Simplified Employee Pension (SEP) plan maintained by your employer. Roth IRAs may not be used in connection with a SIMPLE IRA program or a SEP plan.

YOUR ROTH IRA

Your Roth IRA gives you several tax benefits. While contributions to a Roth IRA are not deductible, dividends on and growth of the assets held in your Roth IRA are not subject to federal income tax. Withdrawals by you from your Roth IRA are excluded from your income for federal income tax purposes if certain requirements (described below) are met. State income tax treatment of your Roth IRA may differ from federal treatment; ask your state tax department or your personal tax adviser for details.

Be sure to read Part Three of this Disclosure Statement for important additional information, including information on how to revoke your Roth IRA, investments and prohibited transactions, fees and expenses and certain tax requirements.

ELIGIBILITY

What are the eligibility requirements for a Roth IRA?

You are eligible to establish and contribute to a Roth IRA for a year if you received compensation (or earned income if you are self employed) during the year for personal serv-

ices you rendered. If you received taxable alimony, this is treated like compensation for Roth IRA purposes.

In contrast to a Traditional IRA, with a Roth IRA you may continue making contributions after you reach age 70½.

Can I Contribute to a Roth IRA for my Spouse?

If you meet the eligibility requirements you can not only contribute to your own Roth IRA, but also to a separate Roth IRA for your spouse out of your compensation or earned income, regardless of whether your spouse had any compensation or earned income in that year. This is called a "spousal Roth IRA." To make a contribution to a Roth IRA for your spouse, you must file a joint tax return for the year with your spouse. For a spousal Roth IRA, your spouse must set up a different Roth IRA, separate from yours, to which you contribute.

Of course, if your spouse has compensation or earned income, your spouse can establish his or her own Roth IRA and make contributions to it in accordance with the rules and limits described in this Part Two of the Disclosure Statement.

CONTRIBUTIONS

When Can I Make Contributions to a Roth IRA?

You may make a contribution to your Roth IRA or establish a new Roth IRA for a taxable year by the due date (not including any extensions) for your federal income tax return for the year. Usually this is April 15 of the following year. For example, you will have until April 15, 2003 to establish and make a contribution to a Roth IRA for 2002.

How Much Can I Contribute to my Roth IRA?

For each year when you are eligible (see above), you can contribute up to the lesser of the IRA Contribution Limit (see the following table) or 100% of your compensation (or earned income, if you are self-employed).

IRA CONTRIBUTION LIMIT

YEAR	LIMIT
2002-2004	\$3,000
2005-2007	\$4,000
2008	\$5,000
2009 and future years	\$5,000 increased by cost-of-living adjustments (in \$500 increments)

Individuals age 50 and over may make special "catch-up" contributions to their Roth IRAs. (See What are the Special Catch-Up Contribution Rules? below for details.)

Your Roth IRA limit is reduced by any contributions for the same year to a Traditional IRA. For example, assuming you have at least \$3,000 in compensation or earned income, if

you contribute \$500 to your Traditional IRA for 2002, your maximum Roth IRA contribution for that year will be \$2,500. (**Note:** the Roth IRA contribution limit is not reduced by contributions made to either a SEP IRA or a SIMPLE IRA; salary reduction contributions by you are considered employer contributions for this purpose.)

If you and your spouse have spousal Roth IRAs, each spouse may contribute up to the IRA Contribution Limit to his or her Roth IRA for a year as long as the combined compensation of both spouses for the year (as shown on your joint income tax return) is at least two times the IRA Contribution Limit. If the combined compensation of both spouses is less than two times the IRA Contribution Limit, the spouse with the higher amount of compensation may contribute up to that spouse's compensation amount, or the IRA Contribution Limit if less. The spouse with the lower compensation amount may contribute any amount up to that spouse's compensation plus any excess the other spouse's compensation over the other spouse's Roth IRA contribution. However, the maximum contribution to either spouse's Roth IRA is the IRA Contribution Limit for the year.

As noted above, the Roth IRA limits are reduced by any contributions for the same calendar year to a Traditional IRA maintained by you or your spouse.

For taxpayers with high income levels, the contribution limits may be reduced (see below).

What are the Special Catch-Up Contribution Rules?

Beginning in 2002, individuals who are age 50 and over by the end of any year may make special "catch-up" contributions to a Roth IRA for that year. For 2002 through the end of 2005, the special "catch-up" contribution is \$500 per year. From 2006 on the special "catch-up" contribution will be \$1,000 per year. If you are over 50 by the end of a year, your catch-up limit is added to your normal IRA Contribution limit for that year.

Congress intended these "catch-up" contributions specifically for older individuals who may have been absent from the workforce for a number of years and so may have lost out on the ability to contribute to an IRA. However, the "catch-up" contribution is available to anyone age 50 or over, whether or not they have previously contributed to a Roth IRA.

Note that the rules on contribution limits for Roth IRAs (see below) apply to special "catch-up" contributions.

Are Contributions to a Roth IRA Tax Deductible?

Contributions to a Roth IRA are not deductible. This is a major difference between Roth IRAs and Traditional IRAs. Contributions to a Traditional IRA may be deductible on your federal income tax return depending on whether or not you are an active participant in an employer-sponsored plan and on your income level.

Are the Earnings on my Roth IRA Funds Taxed?

Any dividends on or growth of investments held in your Roth IRA are generally exempt from federal income taxes and will not be taxed until withdrawn by you, unless the tax exempt status of your Roth IRA is revoked. If the withdrawal qualifies as a tax-free withdrawal (see below), amounts reflecting earnings or growth of assets in your Roth IRA will not be subject to federal income tax.

Which is Better, a Roth IRA or a Traditional IRA?

This will depend upon your individual situation. A Roth IRA may be better if you are an active participant in an employer-sponsored plan and your adjusted gross income is too high to make a deductible IRA contribution (but not too high to make a Roth IRA contribution). Also, the benefits of a Roth IRA vs. a Traditional IRA may depend upon a number of other factors including: your current income tax bracket vs. your expected income tax bracket when you make withdrawals from your IRA, whether you expect to be able to make nontaxable withdrawals from your Roth IRA (see below), how long you expect to leave your contributions in the IRA, how much you expect the IRA to earn in the meantime, and possible future tax law changes.

Consult a qualified tax or financial adviser for assistance on this question.

Are there Any Restrictions on Contributions to my Roth IRA?

Taxpayers with very high income levels may not be able to contribute to a Roth IRA at all, or their contribution may be limited to an amount less than the IRA Contribution Limit. This depends upon your filing status and the amount of your adjusted gross income (AGI). The following table shows how the contribution limits are restricted:

ROTH IRA CONTRIBUTION LIMITS

	If You Are A Single Taxpayer	If You Are Married Filing Jointly	Then You May Make
	Up to \$95,000	Up to \$150,000	Full IRA Contribution Limit
Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) Level	More than \$95,000 but less than \$110,000	More than \$150,000 but less than \$160,000	Reduced IRA Contribution Limit (see explanation below)
	\$110,000 and up	\$160,000 and up	Zero (No Contribution)

Note: If you are a married taxpayer filing separately, your maximum Roth IRA Contribution Limit phases out over the first \$10,000 of adjusted gross income. If your AGI is \$10,000 or more you may not contribute to a Roth IRA for the year.

How do I Calculate my Limit if I Fall in the "Reduced Contribution" Range?

If your AGI falls in the reduced contribution range, you must calculate your contribution limit. To do this, multiply your normal IRA Contribution Limit (or your compensation if less) by a fraction. The numerator is the amount by which your AGI exceeds the lower limit of the reduced contribution range (\$95,000 if single, or \$150,000 if married filing jointly). The denominator is \$15,000 (single taxpayers) or \$10,000 (married filing jointly). Subtract this from your normal limit and then round down to the nearest \$10. If you have AGI in the reduced contribution range, your Roth IRA Contribution Limit is the greater of the amount calculated or \$200.

For example, assume that your AGI for the year is \$157,555 and you are married, filing jointly. You would calculate your Roth IRA Contribution Limit this way:

1. The amount by which your AGI exceeds the lower limit of the reduced contribution range:
 $(\$157,555 - \$150,000) = \$7,555$
2. Divide this by \$10,000: $\frac{\$7,555}{\$10,000} = 0.7555$
3. Multiply this by the Roth IRA Contribution for the year - for example, \$3,000 (for 2002-2004) (or your compensation for the year, if less):
 $0.7555 \times \$3,000 = \$2,266$
4. Round this down to the nearest \$10 = \$2,260
5. Subtract this from your \$3,000 limit:
 $(\$3,000 - \$2,260) = \$740$
6. Your contribution limit is the greater of this amount or \$200.

Remember, your Roth IRA Contribution Limit is reduced by any contributions for the same year to a Traditional IRA. If you fall in the reduced contribution range, the reduction formula applies to the Roth IRA contribution limit left after subtracting your contribution for the year to a Traditional IRA. (If you are 50 or older at the end of a year, the reduction formula described above applies to your increased annual IRA Contribution Limit.)

How Do I Determine My AGI?

AGI is your gross income minus those deductions which are available to all taxpayers even if they don't itemize. Instructions to calculate your AGI are provided with your income tax Form 1040 or 1040A.

There are two additional rules when calculating AGI for purposes of Roth IRA contribution limits. First, if you are

making a deductible contribution for the year to a Traditional IRA, your AGI is not reduced by the amount of the deduction. Second, if you are converting a Traditional IRA to a Roth IRA in a year (see below), the amount includible in your income as a result of the conversion is not considered AGI when computing your Roth IRA contribution limit for the year.

What Happens if I Contribute more than Allowed to my Roth IRA?

The maximum contribution you can make to a Roth IRA generally is the IRA Contribution Limit (plus the amount of any "catch-up" contribution, if you are eligible) or 100% of compensation or earned income, whichever is less. As noted above, your maximum is reduced by the amount of any contribution to a Traditional IRA for the same year and may be further reduced as described above if you have high AGI. Any amount contributed to the Roth IRA above the maximum is considered an "excess contribution."

An excess contribution is subject to excise tax of 6% for each year it remains in the Roth IRA.

How can I Correct an Excess Contribution?

Excess contributions may be corrected without paying a 6% penalty. To do so, you must withdraw the excess and any earnings on the excess before the due date (including extensions) for filing your federal income tax return for the year for which you made the excess contribution. (Refer to IRS Publication 590 to see how earnings may be adjusted to reflect gain or loss.) The earnings must be included in your income for the tax year for which the contribution was made and may be subject to a 10% premature withdrawal tax if you have not reached age 59½ (unless an exception to the 10% penalty tax applies).

What Happens if I Don't Correct the Excess Contribution by the Tax Return Due Date?

Any excess contribution withdrawn after the tax return due date (including any extensions) for the year for which the contribution was made will be subject to the 6% excise tax. There will be an additional 6% excise tax for each year the excess remains in your account.

You may reduce the excess contributions by making a withdrawal equal to the excess. Earnings need not be withdrawn. To the extent that no earnings are withdrawn, the withdrawal will not be subject to income taxes or possible penalties for premature withdrawals before age 59½. Excess contributions may also be corrected in a subsequent year to the extent that you contribute less than your Roth IRA Contribution Limit for the subsequent year. As the prior excess contribution is reduced or eliminated, the 6% excise tax will become correspondingly reduced or eliminated for subsequent tax years.

CONVERSION OF EXISTING TRADITIONAL IRA

Can I convert an Existing Traditional IRA into a Roth IRA?

Yes, you can convert an existing Traditional IRA into a Roth IRA if you meet the eligibility requirements described below. Conversion may be accomplished in any of three ways: First, you can withdraw the amount you want to convert from your Traditional IRA and roll it over to a Roth IRA within 60 days. Second, you can establish a Roth IRA and then direct the custodian of your Traditional IRA to transfer the amount in your Traditional IRA you wish to convert to the new Roth IRA. Third, if you want to convert an existing Traditional IRA with State Street Bank and Trust Company as custodian to a Roth IRA, you may give us directions to convert; we will convert your existing account when the paperwork to establish your new Roth IRA is complete.

You are eligible to convert a Traditional IRA to a Roth IRA if, for the year of the conversion, your AGI is \$100,000 or less. The same limit applies to married and single taxpayers, and the limit is not indexed to cost-of-living increases. Married taxpayers are eligible to convert a Traditional IRA to a Roth IRA only if they file a joint income tax return; married taxpayers filing separately are not eligible to convert. However, if you file separately and have lived apart from your spouse for the entire taxable year, you are considered not married, and the fact that you are filing separately will not prevent you from converting.

If you accomplish a conversion by withdrawing from your Traditional IRA and rolling over to a Roth IRA within 60 days, the conversion eligibility requirements in the preceding sentence apply to the year of the withdrawal (even though the rollover contribution occurs in the following calendar year).

Caution: If you have reached age 70½ by the year when you convert another non-Roth IRA you own to a Roth IRA, be careful not to convert any amount that would be a required minimum distribution under the applicable age 70½ rules. Under current IRS regulations, required minimum distributions may not be converted.

What Happens if I change my Mind about Converting?

You can undo a conversion by notifying the custodian or trustee of each IRA (the custodian of the first IRA—the Traditional IRA you converted—and the custodian of the second IRA—the Roth IRA that received the conversion). The amount you want to unconvert by transferring back to the first custodian is treated for income tax purposes as if it had not been converted (however the transfers involved in the original conversion and in the transfer back are reportable to the IRS by the Custodian). This is called "recharacterization."

If you want to recharacterize a converted amount, you must do so before the due date (including any extensions

you receive) for your federal income tax return for the year of the conversion. Any net income (whether gain or loss) on the amount recharacterized must accompany it back to the Traditional IRA.

Under current IRS rules, you can recharacterize for any reason. For example, you would recharacterize if you converted early in a year and then turned out to be ineligible because your income was over the \$100,000 limit. Also, if you convert and then recharacterize during a year, you can then convert to a Roth IRA a second time if you wish, but you must wait until the later of the next tax year after your original conversion or until 30 days after your recharacterization. Under the current IRS rules, you are limited to one conversion of an account per year. If you convert an amount more than once in a year, any additional conversion transactions will be considered invalid and subject to the rules for excess contributions.

Note: Conversions from a Traditional IRA to a Roth IRA that failed because you did not meet the eligibility requirements (more than \$100,000 of AGI or married but not filing jointly) must be recharacterized before your tax filing deadline (with extensions) in order to avoid possible taxes and penalties. The IRS automatically grants to taxpayers who file their taxes by the April 15th deadline a six-month extension of time (until October 15) to recharacterize for the tax year covered by that filing.

(Caution: As you can see, these rules are very complex; be sure to consult a competent tax professional for assistance. The IRS has adopted these rules for conversions beginning January 15, 2000. Always check with your tax adviser for the latest developments.)

Under current IRS rules, recharacterization is not restricted to amounts you converted from a Traditional IRA to a Roth IRA. You can, for example, make an annual contribution to a Traditional IRA and recharacterize it as a contribution to a Roth IRA, or vice versa. You must make the election to recharacterize by the due date for your tax return for the year and follow the procedures summarized above.

What are the Tax Results from Converting?

The taxable amount in your Traditional IRA you convert to a Roth IRA will be considered taxable income on your federal income tax return for the year of the conversion. All amounts in a Traditional IRA are taxable except for your prior non-deductible contributions to the Traditional IRA.

If you convert a Traditional IRA (or a SEP IRA or SIMPLE IRA — see below) to a Roth IRA, under IRS rules income tax withholding will apply unless you elect not to have withholding. The Adoption Agreement or the Universal IRA Transfer of Assets Form has more information about withholding. However, withholding income taxes from the amount converted (instead of paying applicable income

taxes from another source) may adversely affect the anticipated financial benefits of converting. Consult your financial adviser for more information.

Can I Convert a SEP IRA or SIMPLE IRA Account to a Roth IRA?

If you have a SEP IRA as part of an employer simplified employee pension (SEP) program, or a SIMPLE IRA as part of an employer SIMPLE IRA program, you can convert the IRA to a Roth IRA. However, with a SIMPLE IRA account, this can be done only after the SIMPLE IRA account has been in existence for at least two years. You must meet the eligibility rules summarized above to convert.

Should I convert my Traditional IRA to a Roth IRA?

Only you can answer this question, in consultation with your tax or financial advisers. A number of factors, including the following, may be relevant. Conversion may be advantageous if you expect to leave the converted funds on deposit in your Roth IRA for at least five years and to be able to withdraw the funds under circumstances that will not be taxable (see below). The benefits of converting will also depend on whether you expect to be in the same tax bracket when you withdraw from your Roth IRA as you are now. Also, conversion is based upon an assumption that Congress will not change the tax rules for withdrawals from Roth IRAs in the future, but this cannot be guaranteed.

TRANSFERS/ROLLOVERS

Can I Transfer or Roll Over a Distribution I Receive from my Employer's Retirement Plan into a Roth IRA?

Distributions from qualified employer-sponsored retirement plans or 403(b) arrangements (for employees of tax-exempt employers) or eligible 457 plans (for employees of certain governmental employers) are not eligible for rollover or direct transfer to a Roth IRA. However, in certain circumstances it may be possible to make a direct rollover of an eligible distribution to a Traditional IRA and then to convert the Traditional IRA to Roth IRA (see above). Consult your tax or financial adviser for further information on this possibility.

Can I Make a Rollover from my Roth IRA to another Roth IRA?

You may make a rollover from one Roth IRA to another Roth IRA you have or you establish to receive the rollover. Such a rollover must be completed within 60 days after the withdrawal from your first Roth IRA. After making a rollover from one Roth IRA to another, you must wait a full year (365 days) before you can make another such rollover from the same Roth IRA. In addition, after Roth IRA assets are rolled over from one IRA to another, a second rollover of the same assets cannot be made for a full year. (However, you can instruct a Roth IRA custodian to transfer amounts directly to another Roth IRA custodian; such a direct transfer does not count as a rollover.)

How Do Rollovers Affect my Roth IRA Contribution Limits?

Rollover contributions, if properly made, do not count toward the IRA Contribution Limit. Also, you may make a rollover from one Roth IRA to another even during a year when you are not eligible to contribute to a Roth IRA (for example, because your AGI for that year is too high).

WITHDRAWALS

When can I make withdrawals from my Roth IRA?

You may withdraw from your Roth IRA at any time. If the withdrawal meets the requirements discussed below, it is tax-free. This means that you pay no federal income tax even though the withdrawal includes earnings or gains on your contributions while they were held in your Roth IRA.

When must I start making withdrawals?

There are no rules on when you must start making withdrawals from your Roth IRA or on minimum required withdrawal amounts for any particular year during your lifetime. Unlike Traditional IRAs, you are not required to start making withdrawals from a Roth IRA by the April 1 following the year in which you reach age 70½.

After your death, there are IRS rules on the timing and amount of distributions. In general, the amount in your Roth IRA must be distributed by the end of the fifth year after your death. However, distributions to a designated beneficiary that begin by the end of the year following the year of your death and that are paid over the life expectancy of the beneficiary satisfy the rules. Also, if your surviving spouse is your designated beneficiary, the spouse may defer the start of distributions until you would have reached age 70½ had you lived.

What are the requirements for a tax-free withdrawal?

To be tax-free, a withdrawal from your Roth IRA must meet two requirements. First, the Roth IRA must have been open for 5 or more years before the withdrawal. Second, at least one of the following conditions must be satisfied:

- You are age 59½ or older when you make the withdrawal.
- The withdrawal is made by your beneficiary after you die.
- You are disabled (as defined in IRS rules) when you make the withdrawal.
- You are using the withdrawal to cover eligible first time homebuyer expenses. These are the costs of purchasing, building or rebuilding a principal residence (including customary settlement, financing or closing costs). The purchaser may be you, your spouse or a child, grandchild, parent or grandparent of you or your spouse. An individual is considered a "first-time homebuyer" if the individual did not have (or, if married, neither spouse had) an ownership

interest in a principal residence during the two-year period immediately preceding the acquisition in question. The withdrawal must be used for eligible expenses within 120 days after the withdrawal (if there is an unexpected delay, or cancellation of the home acquisition, a withdrawal may be redeposited as a rollover).

There is a lifetime limit on eligible first-time homebuyer expenses of \$10,000 per individual.

For purposes of the 5-year rule, all your Roth IRAs are considered. As soon as the 5-year rule is satisfied for any Roth IRA, it is considered satisfied for all your Roth IRAs. For a Roth IRA that you started with annual contribution, the 5 year period starts with the year for which you make the initial annual contribution. For a Roth IRA that you set up with amounts rolled over or converted from a non-Roth IRA, the 5 year period begins with the year in which the conversion or rollover was made.

How Are Withdrawals From My Roth IRA Taxed if the Tax-Free Requirements are not Met?

If the qualified withdrawal requirements are not met, the tax treatment of a withdrawal depends on the character of the amounts withdrawn. To determine this, all your Roth IRAs (if you have more than one) are treated as one, including any Roth IRA you may have established with another Roth IRA custodian. Amounts withdrawn are considered to come out in the following order:

- First, all annual contributions.
- Second, all conversion amounts (on a first-in, first-out basis).
- Third, earnings (including dividends and gains).

A withdrawal treated as your own prior annual contribution amounts to your Roth IRA will not be considered taxable income in the year you receive it, nor will the 10% penalty apply. A withdrawal consisting of previously taxed conversion amounts also is not considered taxable income in the year of the withdrawal, and is also not subject to the 10% premature withdrawal penalty. To the extent that the nonqualified withdrawal consists of dividends or gains while your contributions were held in your Roth IRA, the withdrawal is includible in your gross income in the taxable year you receive it, and may be subject to the 10% withdrawal penalty.

As mentioned, for purposes of determining what portion of any withdrawal is includible in income, all of your Roth IRA accounts are considered as one single account. Therefore, withdrawals from Roth IRA accounts are not considered to be from earnings or interest until an amount equal to all prior annual contributions and, if applicable, all conversion amounts, made to all of an individual's Roth IRA accounts has been withdrawn. The following example illustrates this:

A single individual contributes \$1,000 a year to his Van Eck Global Roth IRA account and \$1,000 a year to the Brand X Roth IRA account over a period of ten years. At the end of 10 years his account balances are as follows:

	Principal Contributions	Earnings
Van Eck Global Roth IRA	\$10,000	\$10,000
Brand X Roth IRA	<u>\$10,000</u>	<u>\$7,000</u>
Total	\$20,000	\$17,000

At the end of 10 years, this person has \$37,000 in both Roth IRA accounts, of which \$20,000 represents his contributions (aggregated) and \$17,000 represents his earnings (aggregated). This individual, who is 40, withdraws the entire \$17,000 from his Brand X Roth IRA (not a qualified withdrawal). We look to the aggregate amount of all principal contributions – in this case \$20,000 – to determine if the withdrawal is from contributions, and thus non-taxable. In this example, there is no (\$0) taxable income as a result of this withdrawal because the \$17,000 withdrawal is less than the total amount of aggregated contributions (\$20,000). If this individual then withdrew \$15,000 from his Van Eck Global Roth IRA, \$3,000 would not be taxable (the remaining aggregate contributions) and \$12,000 would be treated as taxable income for the year of the withdrawal, subject to normal income taxes and the 10% premature withdrawal penalty (unless an exception applies).

Taxable withdrawals of dividends and gains from a Roth IRA are treated as ordinary income. Withdrawals of taxable amounts from a Roth IRA are not eligible for averaging treatment currently available to certain lump sum distributions from qualified employer-sponsored retirement plans, nor are such withdrawals eligible for capital gains tax treatment.

Amounts withdrawn may be subject to income tax withholding by the custodian unless you elect not to have withholding. See Part Three below for additional information on withholding.

Your receipt of any taxable withdrawal from your Roth IRA before you attain age 59½ generally will be considered as an early withdrawal and subject to a 10% penalty tax.

The 10% penalty tax for early withdrawal will not apply if any of the following exceptions applies:

- The withdrawal was a result of your death or disability.
- The withdrawal is one of a scheduled series of substantially equal periodic payments for your life or life expectancy (or the joint lives or life expectancies of you and your beneficiary).

If there is an adjustment to the scheduled series of payments, the 10% penalty tax will apply. For example, if you begin receiving payments at age 50 under a withdrawal program providing for substantially equal payments over your life expectancy, and at age 58 you elect to withdraw the remaining amount in your Roth IRA in a lump-sum, the 10% penalty tax will apply to the lump sum and to the amounts previously paid to you before age 59½ to the extent they were includible in your taxable income.

- The withdrawal is used to pay eligible higher education expenses. These are expenses for tuition, fees, books, and supplies required to attend an institution for post-secondary education. Room and board expenses are also eligible for a student attending at least half-time. The student may be you, your spouse, or your child or grandchild. However, expenses that are paid for with a scholarship or other educational assistance payment are not eligible expenses.
- The withdrawal is used to cover eligible first time home-buyer expenses (as described above in the discussion of tax-free withdrawals).
- The withdrawal does not exceed the amount of your deductible medical expenses for the year (generally speaking, medical expenses paid during a year are deductible if they are greater than 7½ of your adjusted gross income for that year).
- The withdrawal does not exceed the amount you paid for health insurance coverage for yourself, your spouse and dependents. This exception applies only if you have been unemployed and received federal or state unemployment compensation payments for at least 12 weeks; this exception applies to distributions during the year in which you received the unemployment compensation and during the following year, but not to any distributions received after you have been reemployed for at least 60 days.
- A distribution is made pursuant to an IRS levy to pay overdue taxes.

There is one additional time when the 10% penalty tax may apply. If you convert an amount from a non-Roth IRA to a Roth IRA, and then make a withdrawal that is treated as coming from that converted amount within five years after the conversion, the 10% penalty applies (unless there is an exception). This rule is the one exception to the usual Roth

IRA rule that, once the five year requirement is satisfied for one of your Roth IRAs, it is satisfied for all your Roth IRAs.

See the Table at the end of this Part for a summary of the rules on when withdrawals from your Roth IRA will be subject to income taxes or the 10% penalty tax.

What About the 15 percent Penalty Tax?

The rule imposing a 15% penalty tax on very large withdrawals from tax-favored arrangements (including IRAs, 403(b) arrangements and qualified employer-sponsored plans), or on excess amounts remaining in such tax-favored arrangements at your death, has been repealed. This 15% tax no longer applies.

Two Important Points: First, the Custodian will report withdrawals from your Roth IRA to the IRS on Form 1099-R as required and will complete Form 1099-R based on your Roth IRA account with the Custodian. However, since all Roth IRAs are considered together when determining the tax treatment of withdrawals, and since you may have other Roth IRAs with other custodians (about which we have no information) ***you have sole responsibility for correctly reporting withdrawals on your tax return.*** It is ***essential*** that you keep proper records and report the income taxes properly if you have multiple Roth IRAs. Second, the discussion of the tax rules for Roth IRAs in this Disclosure Statement is based upon the best available information. However, there may be changes in pending IRS proposed regulations or further legislation on the requirements for and tax treatment of Roth IRA accounts. Therefore, you should consult your tax adviser for the latest developments or for advice about how maintaining a Roth IRA will affect your personal tax or financial situation.

Note: In order to facilitate proper recordkeeping and tax reporting for your Roth IRA, the service company maintaining certain account records may require you to set up separate Roth IRAs to hold annual contributions and conversion amounts. In addition, the service company may require separate Roth IRAs for conversion amounts from different calendar years. Any such requirement will be noted in the Adoption Agreement for your Roth IRA or in the instructions for opening your Roth IRA.

Also, please see Part Three below which contains important information applicable to all Van Eck Global IRAs.

SUMMARY OF TAX RULES FOR WITHDRAWALS

The following table summarizes when income taxes or the 10% premature withdrawal penalty tax will apply to a withdrawal from your Roth IRA. Remember, income taxes or penalties apply or not depending on the type of contribution withdrawn. This is determined under the IRS rules described above, considering all of your Roth IRAs together (including any you may maintain with another trustee or custodian). Therefore, if you have multiple Roth IRAs, the tax treatment of a withdrawal will not necessarily follow from the type of contributions held in the particular Roth IRA account you withdrew from. Also, the income and penalty tax rules for Roth IRA withdrawals are extremely complex; the following table is only a summary and may not cover every possible situation. Consult the IRS or your personal tax adviser if you have a question about your individual situation.

Type of Contribution Withdrawn	Qualified Withdrawal	Not a Qualified Withdrawal	
	(the requirements for a qualified withdrawal are outlined above)	Exception to 10% tax applies (exceptions are listed above)	Exception to 10% tax does not apply
Annual Contribution Amounts	No income or penalty tax on withdrawal		
Amounts Converted from Another Form of IRA	No income or penalty tax on withdrawal.	No income or penalty tax on withdrawal.	No income tax on withdrawal. Penalty tax applies to taxable amounts included in the conversion if the withdrawal occurs within 5 years of conversion.
Earnings, Gains or Growth of Account	No income or penalty tax on withdrawal.	Income tax applies. No penalty tax.	Income <i>and</i> penalty tax apply.

The table summarizes the tax rules that may apply if you withdraw from your Roth IRA. What happens if you die and your beneficiary wants to make withdrawals from the account? The following is a summary of the rules.

- First, if your beneficiary is not your surviving spouse, withdrawals by the beneficiary will be subject to income taxes depending on the type of contribution withdrawn as summarized in the table. However, in determining what type of contribution the beneficiary is withdrawing, any Roth IRAs the beneficiaries owns in his or her own right are not considered (this is an exception to the normal rule that all Roth IRAs are considered together). A beneficiary will not be subject to the 10% premature withdrawal penalty because withdrawals following the original owner's death are an exception to the 10% penalty tax.
- Second, if your surviving spouse is the beneficiary, the spouse can elect either to receive withdrawals as beneficiary, or to treat your Roth IRA as the spouse's Roth IRA. If the spouse receives withdrawals as a beneficiary, the rules in the preceding paragraph generally apply to the spouse just as to any other beneficiary. If the spouse treats the Roth IRA as the spouse's own, there are a couple of special rules. First, the spouse will be treated as having had a Roth IRA for five years (one of the requirements for tax-free withdrawals) if either your Roth IRA or any of the spouse's Roth IRAs has been in effect for at least five years. Second, withdrawals will be subject to the 10% penalty tax unless an exception applies. Since the spouse has elected to treat your Roth IRA as the spouse's own Roth IRA, the exception for payments following your death will not apply.

Part Three: Rules for All IRAs (Traditional and Roth)

GENERAL INFORMATION

IRA Requirements

All IRAs must meet certain requirements. Contributions generally must be made in cash. The IRA trustee or custodian must be a bank or other person who has been approved by the Secretary of the Treasury. Your contributions may not be invested in life insurance or collectibles or be commingled with other property except in a common trust or investment fund. Your interest in the account must be nonforfeitable at all times. You may obtain further information on IRAs from any district office of the Internal Revenue Service.

May I Revoke My IRA?

You may revoke a newly established Traditional or Roth IRA at any time within seven days after the date on which you receive this Disclosure Statement. A Traditional or Roth IRA established more than seven days after the date of your receipt of this Disclosure Statement may not be revoked.

To revoke your Traditional or Roth IRA, mail or deliver a written notice of revocation to the Custodian at the address which appears at the end of this Disclosure Statement. Mailed notice will be deemed given on the date that it is postmarked (or, if sent by certified or registered mail, on the date of certification or registration). If you revoke your Traditional or Roth IRA within the seven-day period, you are entitled to a return of the entire amount you originally contributed into your Traditional or Roth IRA, without adjustment for such items as sales charges, administrative expenses or fluctuations in market value.

INVESTMENTS

How Are My IRA Contributions Invested?

You control the investment and reinvestment of contributions to your Traditional or Roth IRA. Investments must be in one or more of the Fund(s) available from time to time as listed in the Adoption Agreement for your Traditional or Roth IRA or in an investment selection form provided with your Adoption Agreement or from the Fund Distributor or Service Company. You direct the investment of your IRA by giving your investment instructions to the Distributor or Service Company for the Fund(s). Since you control the investment of your Traditional or Roth IRA, you are responsible for any losses; neither the Custodian, the Distributor nor the Service Company has any responsibility for any loss or diminution in value occasioned by your exercise of investment control. Transactions for your Traditional or Roth IRA will generally be at the applicable public offering price or net asset value for shares of the Fund(s) involved next established after the Distributor or the Service Company (whichever may apply) receives proper investment instructions from you; consult the current prospectus for the Fund(s) involved for additional information.

Before making any investment, read carefully the current prospectus for any Fund you are considering as an investment for your Traditional IRA or Roth IRA. The prospectus will contain information about the Fund's investment objectives and policies, as well as any minimum initial investment or minimum balance requirements and any sales, redemption or other charges.

Because you control the selection of investments for your Traditional or Roth IRA and because mutual fund shares fluctuate in value, the growth in value of your Traditional or Roth IRA cannot be guaranteed or projected.

Are There Any Restrictions on the Use of my IRA Assets?

The tax-exempt status of your Traditional or Roth IRA will be revoked if you engage in any of the prohibited transactions listed in Section 4975 of the tax code. Upon such revocation, your Traditional or Roth IRA is treated as distributing its assets to you. The taxable portion of the amount in your IRA will be subject to income tax (unless, in the case of a Roth IRA, the requirements for a tax-free withdrawal are satisfied). Also, you may be subject to a 10% penalty tax on the taxable amount as a premature withdrawal if you have not yet reached the age of 59½. There may also be prohibited transaction penalty taxes.

Any investment in a collectible (for example, rare stamps) by your Traditional or Roth IRA is treated as a withdrawal; the only exception involves certain types of government-sponsored coins or certain types of precious metal bullion.

What Is A Prohibited Transaction?

Generally, a prohibited transaction is any improper use of the assets in your Traditional or Roth IRA. Some examples of prohibited transactions are:

- Direct or indirect sale or exchange of property between you and your Traditional or Roth IRA.
- Transfer of any property from your Traditional or Roth IRA to yourself or from yourself to your Traditional or Roth IRA.

Your Traditional or Roth IRA could lose its tax exempt status if you use all or part of your interest in your Traditional or Roth IRA as security for a loan or borrow any money from your Traditional or Roth IRA. Any portion of your Traditional or Roth IRA used as security for a loan will be treated as a distribution in the year in which the money is borrowed. This amount may be taxable and you may also be subject to the 10% premature withdrawal penalty on the taxable amount.

FEES AND EXPENSES

Custodian's Fees

The fees charged by the Custodian for maintaining either a Traditional IRA or a Roth IRA are listed in the Adoption Agreement.

General Fee Policies

- Fees may be paid by you directly, or the Custodian may deduct them from your Traditional or Roth IRA.
- Fees may be changed upon 30 days written notice to you.
- The full annual maintenance fee will be charged for any calendar year during which you have a Traditional or Roth IRA with us. This fee is not prorated for periods of less than one full year.
- The Custodian may charge you for its reasonable expenses for services not covered by its fee schedule.

Other Charges

- There may be sales or other charges associated with the purchase or redemption of shares of a Fund in which your Traditional IRA or Roth IRA is invested. Before investing, be sure to read carefully the current prospectus of any Fund you are considering as an investment for your Traditional IRA or Roth IRA for a description of applicable charges.

TAX MATTERS

What IRA Reports does the Custodian Issue?

The Custodian will report all withdrawals to the IRS and the recipient on the appropriate form. For reporting purposes, a direct transfer of assets to a successor custodian or trustee is not considered a withdrawal (except for such a transfer that effects a conversion of a Traditional IRA to a Roth IRA, or a recharacterization of a Roth IRA back to a Traditional IRA).

The Custodian will report to the IRS the year-end value of your account and the amount of any rollover (including conversions of a Traditional IRA to a Roth IRA) or a regular annual contribution made during a calendar year, as well as the tax year for which a contribution is made. Unless the Custodian receives an indication from you to the contrary, it will treat any amount as a contribution for the tax year in which it is received. It is **most important** that a contribution between January and April 15th for the prior year be clearly designated as such.

What Tax Information Must I Report to the IRS?

You must file Form 5329 with the IRS for each taxable year for which you made an excess contribution or you take a

premature withdrawal that is subject to the 10% penalty tax, or you withdraw less than the minimum amount required from your Traditional IRA. If your beneficiary fails to make required minimum withdrawals from your Traditional

or Roth IRA after your death, your beneficiary may be subject to an excise tax and be required to file Form 5329.

For Traditional IRAs, you must also report each nondeductible contribution to the IRS by designating it a nondeductible contribution on your tax return. Use Form 8606. In addition, for any year in which you make a nondeductible contribution or take a withdrawal, you must include additional information on your tax return. The information required includes: (1) the amount of your nondeductible contributions for that year; (2) the amount of withdrawals from Traditional IRAs in that year; (3) the amount by which your total nondeductible contributions for all the years exceed the total amount of your distributions previously excluded from gross income; and (4) the total value of all your Traditional IRAs as of the end of the year. If you fail to report any of this information, the IRS will assume that all your contributions were deductible. This will result in the taxation of the portion of your withdrawals that should be treated as a nontaxable return of your nondeductible contributions.

Which Withdrawals Are Subject to Withholding?

Roth IRA

If you indicate on your distribution form or instructions that your Roth IRA distribution is not taxable (See "What are the requirements for a tax-free withdrawal?"), no federal income tax will be withheld. If you do not indicate that your distribution is not taxable, Federal income tax may be withheld at a flat rate of 10% of the withdrawal, unless you elect not to have tax withheld. Withdrawals from a Roth IRA are not subject to the mandatory 20% income tax withholding that applies to most distributions from qualified plans or 403(b) accounts that are not directly rolled over to another plan or IRA.

Traditional IRA

Federal income tax will be withheld at a flat rate of 10% from any withdrawal from your Traditional IRA, unless you elect not to have tax withheld. Withdrawals from a Traditional IRA are not subject to the mandatory 20% income tax withholding that applies to most distributions from employer plans that are not directly rolled over to another plan or IRA.

ACCOUNT TERMINATION

You may terminate your Traditional IRA or Roth IRA at any time after its establishment by sending a completed withdrawal form (or other withdrawal instructions in a form acceptable to the Custodian), or a transfer authorization form, to:

Van Eck Global
P.O. Box 218407
Kansas City, MO 64121-8407

Your Traditional IRA or Roth IRA with Van Eck Global will terminate upon the first to occur of the following:

- The date your properly executed withdrawal form or instructions (as described above) withdrawing your total Traditional IRA or Roth IRA balance is received and accepted by the Custodian or, if later, the termination date specified in the withdrawal form.
- The date the Traditional IRA or Roth IRA ceases to qualify under the tax code. This will be deemed a termination.
- The transfer of the Traditional IRA or Roth IRA to another custodian/trustee.

Any outstanding fees must be received prior to such a termination of your account.

The amount you receive from your IRA upon termination of the account will be treated as a withdrawal, and thus the rules relating to Traditional IRA or Roth IRA withdrawals will apply. For example, if the IRA is terminated before you reach age 59½, the 10% early withdrawal penalty may apply to the taxable amount you receive.

IRA DOCUMENTS

Traditional IRA

The terms contained in Articles I to VII of Part One of the Van Eck Global Universal Individual Retirement Custodial Account document have been promulgated by the IRS in Form 5305-A for use in establishing a Traditional IRA Custodial Account that meets the requirements of Code Section 408(a) for a valid Traditional IRA. This IRS approval relates only to the form of Articles I to VII and is not an approval of the merits of the Traditional IRA or of any investment permitted by the Traditional IRA.

Roth IRA

The terms contained in Articles I to VII of Part Two of the Van Eck Global Universal Individual Retirement Account Custodial Agreement have been promulgated by the IRS in Form 5305-RA for use in establishing a Roth IRA Custodial Account that meets the requirements of Code Section 408A for a valid Roth IRA. This IRS approval relates only to the form of Articles I to VII and is not an approval of the merits of the Roth IRA or of any investment permitted by the Roth IRA.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For additional information you may write to the following address or call the following telephone number.

Van Eck Global
P.O. Box 218407
Kansas City, MO 64121-8407

800-544-4653

PRIVACY NOTICE

State Street Bank and Trust Company is pleased to be custodian for your Traditional or Roth Individual Retirement Custodial Account. We recognize the importance of safeguarding the nonpublic personal information of our IRA customers. Our policies and practices are designed to achieve this goal.

We collect nonpublic personal information about our IRA customers from the following sources:

- information we receive from you on applications or other forms, such as name, address, age, social security number, and name of beneficiary; and
- information about your transactions with us, our affiliates and others, such as the purchase and sale of securities and account balances.

We do not disclose nonpublic personal information about our present or former IRA customers to third parties, except as required by law.

We restrict access to nonpublic personal information about our IRA customers to employees and service providers involved in administering and servicing these accounts. We maintain physical, electronic, and procedural safeguards that comply with federal standards to guard the nonpublic personal information of our account customers.

Van Eck Global UNIVERSAL INDIVIDUAL RETIREMENT ACCOUNT CUSTODIAL AGREEMENT

Part One: Provisions Applicable to Traditional IRAs

The following provisions of Articles I to VII are in the form promulgated by the Internal Revenue Service in Form 5305-A (Rev. March 2002) for use in establishing an Individual Retirement Custodial Account.

Article I.

Except in the case of a rollover contribution described in section 402(c), 403(a)(4), 403(b)(8), 408(d)(3), or 457(e)(16), an employer contribution to a simplified employee pension plan as described in section 408(k), or a recharacterized contribution described in section 408A(d)(6), the Custodian will accept only cash contributions up to \$3,000 per year for tax years 2002 through 2004. That contribution limit is increased to \$4,000 for tax years 2005 through 2007 and \$5,000 for 2008 and thereafter. For individuals who have reached the age of 50 before the close of the tax year, the contribution limit is increased to \$3,500 per year for tax years 2002 through 2004, \$4,500 for 2005, \$5,000 for 2006 and 2007, and \$6,000 for 2008 and thereafter. For tax years after 2008, the above limits will be increased to reflect a cost-of-living adjustment, if any.

Article II.

The Depositor's interest in the balance in the Custodial Account is nonforfeitable.

Article III.

1. No part of the custodial account funds may be invested in life insurance contracts, nor may the assets of the Custodial Account be commingled with other property except in a common trust fund or common investment fund (within the meaning of section 408(a)(5)).

2. No part of the custodial account funds may be invested in collectibles (within the meaning of section 408(m)) except as otherwise permitted by section 408(m)(3) which provides an exception for certain gold, silver and platinum coins, coins issued under the laws of any state, and certain bullion.

Article IV.

1. Notwithstanding any provisions of this agreement to the contrary, the distribution of the Depositor's interest in the Custodial Account shall be made in accordance with the following requirements and shall otherwise comply with section 408(a)(6) and the Regulations thereunder, the provisions of which are herein incorporated by reference.
2. The Depositor's entire interest in the Custodial Account must be, or begin to be, distributed not later than the Depositor's required beginning date, April 1 following the calendar year in which the Depositor reaches age 70½. By that date, the Depositor may elect, in a manner acceptable to the Custodian, to have the balance in the Custodial Account distributed in:
- (a) A single-sum or
 - (b) Payments over a period not longer than the life of the depositor or the joint lives of the depositor and his or her designated beneficiary.

3. If the Depositor dies before his or her entire interest is distributed to him or her, the remaining interest will be distributed as follows:
- (a) If the Depositor dies on or after the required beginning date and:
 - (i) The designated beneficiary is the depositor's surviving spouse, the remaining interest will be distributed over the surviving spouse's life expectancy as determined each year until such spouse's death, or over the period of paragraph (a)(iii) below if longer. Any interest remaining after the spouse's death will be distributed over such spouse's remaining life expectancy as determined in the year of the spouse's death and reduced by 1 for each subsequent year, or, if distributions are being made over the period in paragraph (a)(iii) below, over such period.
 - (ii) The designated beneficiary is not the depositor's surviving spouse, the remaining interest will be distributed over the beneficiary's remaining life expectancy as determined in the year following the death of the depositor and reduced by 1 for each subsequent year, or over the period in paragraph (a)(iii) below if longer.
 - (iii) There is no designated beneficiary, the remaining interest will be distributed over the remaining life expectancy of the depositor as determined in the year of the depositor's death and reduced by 1 for each subsequent year.
 - (b) If the Depositor dies before the required beginning date, the remaining interest will be distributed in accordance with (i) below or, if elected or there is no designated beneficiary, in accordance with (ii) below:
 - (i) The remaining interest will be distributed in accordance with paragraphs (a)(i) and (a)(ii) above (but not over the period in paragraph (a)(iii), even if longer), starting by the end of the calendar year following the year of the depositor's death. If, however, the designated beneficiary is the depositor's surviving spouse, then this distribution is not required to begin before the end of the calendar year in which the depositor would have reached age 70½. But, in such case, if the depositor's surviving spouse dies before distributions are required to begin, then the remaining interest will be distributed in accordance with (a)(ii) above (but not over the period in paragraph (a)(iii), even if longer), over such spouse's designated beneficiary's life expectancy, or in accordance with (ii) below if there is no such designated beneficiary.
 - (ii) The remaining interest will be distributed by the end of the calendar year containing the fifth anniversary of the depositor's death.
4. If the depositor dies before his or her entire interest has been distributed and if the designated beneficiary is not the depositor's surviving spouse, no additional contributions may be accepted in the account.
5. The minimum amount that must be distributed each year, beginning with the year containing the depositor's required beginning date, is known as the "required minimum distribution" and is determined as follows:
- (a) The required minimum distribution under paragraph 2(b) for any year, beginning with the year the depositor reaches age 70½, is the depositor's account value at the close of business on December 31 of the preceding year divided by the distribution period in the uniform lifetime table in Regulations section 1.401(a)(9)-9. However, if the depositor's designated beneficiary is his or her surviving spouse, the required minimum distribution for a year shall not be more than the depositor's account value at the close of business on December 31 of the preceding year divided by the number in the joint and last survivor table in Regulations section 1.401(a)(9)-9. The required minimum distribution for a year under this paragraph (a) is determined using the depositor's (or, if applicable, the depositor and spouse's) attained age (or ages) in the year.
 - (b) The required minimum distribution under paragraphs 3(a) and 3(b)(i) for a year, beginning with the year following the year of the depositor's death (or the year the depositor would have reached age 70½, if applicable under paragraph 3(b)(i)) is the account value at the close of business on December 31 of the preceding year divided by the life expectancy (in the single life table in Regulations section 1.401(a)(9)-9) of the individual specified in such paragraphs 3(a) and 3(b)(i).
 - (c) The required minimum distribution for the year the depositor reaches age 70½ can be made as late as April 1 of the following year. The required minimum distribution for any other year must be made by the end of such year.
6. The owner of two or more traditional IRAs may satisfy the minimum distribution requirements described above by taking from one traditional IRA the amount required to satisfy the requirement for another in accordance with the regulations under section 408(a)(6).
- Article V.**
1. The Depositor agrees to provide the Custodian with information necessary to prepare any reports required under section 408(i) and Regulations sections 1.408-5 and 1.408-6.

2. The Custodian agrees to submit to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and Depositor the reports prescribed by the IRS.

Article VI.

Notwithstanding any other articles which may be added or incorporated, the provisions of Articles I through III and this sentence will be controlling. Any additional articles that are not consistent with section 408(a) and the related regulations will be invalid.

Article VII.

This agreement will be amended as necessary to comply with the provisions of the Code and the related regulations. Other amendments may be made with the consent of the persons whose signatures appear on the Adoption Agreement.

Part Two: Provisions Applicable to Roth IRAs

The following provisions of Articles I to VII are in the form promulgated by the Internal Revenue Service in Form 5305-RA (March 2002) for use in establishing a Roth Individual Retirement Custodial Account.

Article I.

Except in the case of a rollover contribution described in section 408A(e), a recharacterized contribution described in section 408A(d)(6), or an IRA Conversion Contribution, the Custodian will accept only cash contributions up to \$3,000 per year for tax years 2002 through 2004. That contribution limit is increased to \$4,000 for tax years 2005 through 2007 and \$5,000 for 2008 and thereafter. For individuals who have reached the age of 50 before the close of the tax year, the contribution limit is increased to \$3,500 per year for tax years 2002 through 2004, \$4,500 for 2005, \$5,000 for 2006 and 2007, and \$6,000 for 2008 and thereafter. For tax years after 2008, the above limits will be increased to reflect a cost-of-living adjustment, if any.

Article II.

1. The annual contribution limit described in Article I is gradually reduced to \$0 for higher income levels. For a single Depositor, the annual contribution is phased out between adjusted gross income (AGI) of \$95,000 and \$110,000; for a married Depositor filing jointly, between AGI of \$150,000 and \$160,000; and for a married Depositor filing separately, between AGI of \$0 and \$10,000. In case of a conversion, the Custodian will not accept IRA Conversion Contributions in a tax year if the Depositor's AGI for the tax year the funds were distributed from the other IRA exceeds \$100,000 or if the Depositor is married and files a separate return. Adjusted gross income is defined in section 408A(c)(3) and does not include IRA Conversion Contributions.
2. In the case of a joint return, the AGI limits in the preceding paragraph apply to the combined AGI of the depositor and his or her spouse.

Article III.

The Depositor's interest in the balance in the custodial account is nonforfeitable.

Article IV

1. No part of the custodial funds may be invested in life insurance contracts, nor may the assets of the custodial account

be commingled with other property except in a common trust fund or common investment fund (within the meaning of section 408(a)(5)).

2. No part of the custodial funds may be invested in collectibles (within the meaning of section 408(m)) except as otherwise permitted by section 408(m)(3), which provides an exception for certain gold, silver, and platinum coins, coins issued under the laws of any state, and certain bullion.

Article V.

1. If the Depositor dies before his or her entire interest is distributed to him or her and the Depositor's surviving spouse is not the designated beneficiary, the remaining interest will be distributed in accordance with (a) below or, if elected or there is no designated beneficiary, in accordance with (b) below:
 - (a) The remaining interest will be distributed, starting by the end of the calendar year following the year of the depositor's death, over the designated beneficiary's remaining life expectancy as determined in the year following the death of the depositor.
 - (b) The remaining interest will be distributed by the end of the calendar year containing the fifth anniversary of the depositor's death.
2. The minimum amount that must be distributed each year under paragraph 1(a) above is the account value at the close of business on December 31 of the preceding year divided by the life expectancy (in the single life table in Regulations section 1.401(a)(9)-9) of the designated beneficiary using the attained age of the beneficiary in the year following the year of the depositor's death and subtracting 1 from the divisor for each subsequent year.
3. If the Depositor's surviving spouse is the designated beneficiary, such spouse will then be treated as the Depositor.

Article VI.

1. The Depositor agrees to provide the Custodian with all information necessary to prepare any reports required by sections 408(i) and 408A(d)(3)(E), Regulations section 1.408-5 and 1.408-6, or other guidance published by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS).
2. The Custodian agrees to submit to the IRS and Depositor the reports prescribed by the IRS.

Article VII.

Notwithstanding any other articles which may be added or incorporated, the provisions of Articles I through IV and this sentence will be controlling. Any additional articles inconsistent with section 408A, the related regulations, and other published guidance will be invalid.

Article VIII.

This agreement will be amended as necessary to comply with the provisions of the Code, the related regulations, and other published guidance. Other amendments may be made with the consent of the persons whose signatures appear on the Adoption Agreement.

Part Three: Provisions Applicable to Both Traditional IRAs and Roth IRAs

Article IX

1. As used in this Article IX the following terms have the following meanings:

"Account" or "Custodial Account" means the individual retirement account established using the terms of either Part One or Part Two and, in either event, Part Three of this State Street Bank and Trust Company Universal Individual Retirement Account Custodial Agreement and the Adoption Agreement signed by the Depositor. The Account may be a Traditional Individual Retirement Account or a Roth Individual Retirement Account, as specified by the Depositor. See Section 24 below.

"Custodian" means State Street Bank and Trust Company.

"Fund" means any registered investment company which is advised, sponsored or distributed by Sponsor; provided, however, that such a mutual fund or registered investment company must be legally offered for sale in the state of the Depositor's residence.

"Distributor" means the entity which has a contract with the Fund(s) to serve as distributor of the shares of such Fund(s).

In any case where there is no Distributor, the duties assigned hereunder to the Distributor may be performed by the Fund(s) or by an entity that has a contract to perform management or investment advisory services for the Fund(s).

"Service Company" means any entity employed by the Custodian or the Distributor, including the transfer agent for the Fund(s), to perform various administrative duties of either the Custodian or the Distributor.

In any case where there is no Service Company, the duties assigned hereunder to the Service Company will be performed by the Distributor (if any) or by an entity specified in the second preceding paragraph.

"Sponsor" means Van Eck Securities Corp.

2. The Depositor may revoke the Custodial Account established hereunder by mailing or delivering a written notice of revocation to the Custodian within seven days after the Depositor receives the Disclosure Statement related to the Custodial Account. Mailed notice is treated as given to the Custodian on the date of the postmark (or on the date of Post Office certification or registration in the case of notice sent by certified or registered mail). Upon timely revocation, the Depositor's initial contribution will be returned, without adjustment for administrative expenses, commissions or sales charges, fluctuations in market value or other changes.

The Depositor may certify in the Adoption Agreement that the Depositor received the Disclosure Statement related to the Custodial Account at least seven days before the Depositor signed the Adoption Agreement to establish the Custodial Account, and the Custodian may rely upon such certification.

3. All contributions to the Custodial Account shall be invested and reinvested in full and fractional shares of one or more Funds. All such shares shall be issued and accounted for as book entry shares, and no physical shares or share certificate will be issued. Such investments shall be made in such proportions and/or in such amounts as Depositor from time to time in the Adoption Agreement or by other written notice to the Service Company (in such form as may be acceptable to the Service Company) may direct.

The Service Company shall be responsible for promptly transmitting all investment directions by the Depositor for the purchase or sale of shares of one or more Funds hereunder to the Funds' transfer agent for execution. However, if investment directions with respect to the investment of any contribution hereunder are not received from the Depositor as required or, if received, are unclear or incomplete in the opinion of the Service Company, the contribution will be returned to the Depositor, or will be held uninvested (or invested in a money market fund if

available) pending clarification or completion by the Depositor, in either case without liability for interest or for loss of income or appreciation. If any other directions or other orders by the Depositor with respect to the sale or purchase of shares of one or more Funds for the Custodial Account are unclear or incomplete in the opinion of the Service Company, the Service Company will refrain from carrying out such investment directions or from executing any such sale or purchase, without liability for loss of income or for appreciation or depreciation of any asset, pending receipt of clarification or completion from the Depositor.

All investment directions by Depositor will be subject to any minimum initial or additional investment or minimum balance rules applicable to a Fund as described in its prospectus.

All dividends and capital gains or other distributions received on the shares of any Fund held in the Depositor's Account shall be (unless received in additional shares) reinvested in full and fractional shares of such Fund (or of any other Fund offered by the Sponsor, if so directed).

In the event that any Fund held in the Custodial Account is liquidated or is otherwise made unavailable by the Sponsor as a permissible investment for a Custodial Account hereunder, the liquidation or other proceeds of such Fund shall be invested in accordance with the instructions of the Depositor; if the Depositor does not give such instructions, or if such instructions are unclear or incomplete in the opinion of the Service Company, the Service Company may invest such liquidation or other proceeds in such other Fund (including a money market fund if available) as the Sponsor designates, and neither the Service Company nor the Custodian will have any responsibility for such investment.

4. Subject to the minimum initial or additional investment, minimum balance and other exchange rules applicable to a Fund, the Depositor may at any time direct the Service Company to exchange all or a specified portion of the shares of a Fund in the Depositor's Account for shares and fractional shares of one or more other Funds. The Depositor shall give such directions by written or telephonic notice acceptable to the Service Company, and the Service Company will process such directions as soon as practicable after receipt thereof (subject to the second paragraph of Section 3 of this Article IX).
5. Any purchase or redemption of shares of a Fund for or from the Depositor's Account will be effected at the public offering price or net asset value of such Fund (as described in the then effective prospectus for such Fund) next established after the Service Company has transmitted the Depositor's investment directions to the transfer agent for the Fund(s).

Any purchase, exchange, transfer or redemption of shares

of a Fund for or from the Depositor's Account will be subject to any applicable sales, redemption or other charge as described in the then effective prospectus for such Fund.

6. The Service Company shall maintain adequate records of all purchases or sales of shares of one or more Funds for the Depositor's Custodial Account. Any account maintained in connection herewith shall be in the name of the Custodian for the benefit of the Depositor. All assets of the Custodial Account shall be registered in the name of the Custodian or of a suitable nominee. The books and records of the Custodian shall show that all such investments are part of the Custodial Account.

The Custodian shall maintain or cause to be maintained adequate records reflecting transactions of the Custodial Account. In the discretion of the Custodian, records maintained by the Service Company with respect to the Account hereunder will be deemed to satisfy the Custodian's recordkeeping responsibilities therefor. The Service Company agrees to furnish the Custodian with any information the Custodian requires to carry out the Custodian's recordkeeping responsibilities.

7. Neither the Custodian nor any other party providing services to the Custodial Account will have any responsibility for rendering advice with respect to the investment and reinvestment of Depositor's Custodial Account, nor shall such parties be liable for any loss or diminution in value which results from Depositor's exercise of investment control over his Custodial Account. Depositor shall have and exercise exclusive responsibility for and control over the investment of the assets of his Custodial Account, and neither Custodian nor any other such party shall have any duty to question his directions in that regard or to advise him regarding the purchase, retention or sale of shares of one or more Funds for the Custodial Account.
8. The Depositor may in writing appoint an investment adviser with respect to the Custodial Account on a form acceptable to the Custodian and the Service Company. The investment adviser's appointment will be in effect until written notice to the contrary is received by the Custodian and the Service Company. While an investment adviser's appointment is in effect, the investment adviser may issue investment directions or may issue orders for the sale or purchase of shares of one or more Funds to the Service Company, and the Service Company will be fully protected in carrying out such investment directions or orders to the same extent as if they had been given by the Depositor.

The Depositor's appointment of any investment adviser will also be deemed to be instructions to the Custodian and the Service Company to pay such investment adviser's fees to the investment adviser from the Custodial Account hereunder without additional authorization by the Depositor or the Custodian.

9. (a) Distribution of the assets of the Custodial Account shall be made at such time and in such form as Depositor (or the Beneficiary if Depositor is deceased) shall elect by written order to the Custodian. Depositor acknowledges that any distribution of a taxable amount from the Custodial Account (except for distribution on account of Depositor's disability or death, return of an "excess contribution" referred to in Code Section 4973, or a "rollover" from this Custodial Account) made earlier than age 59½ may subject Depositor to an "additional tax on early distributions" under Code Section 72(t) unless an exception to such additional tax is applicable. For that purpose, Depositor will be considered disabled if Depositor can prove, as provided in Code Section 72(m)(7), that Depositor is unable to engage in any substantial gainful activity by reason of any medically determinable physical or mental impairment which can be expected to result in death or be of long-continued and indefinite duration. It is the responsibility of the Depositor (or the Beneficiary) by appropriate distribution instructions to the Custodian to insure that any applicable distribution requirements of Code Section 401(a)(9) and Article IV above are met. If the Depositor (or Beneficiary) does not direct the Custodian to make distributions from the Custodial Account by the time that such distributions are required to commence in accordance with such distribution requirements, the Custodian (and Service Company) shall assume that the Depositor (or Beneficiary) is meeting any applicable minimum distribution requirements from another individual retirement arrangement maintained by the Depositor (or Beneficiary) and the Custodian and Service Company shall be fully protected in so doing.
- (b) The Depositor acknowledges (i) that any withdrawal from the Custodial Account will be reported by the Custodian in accordance with applicable IRS requirements (currently, on Form 1099-R), (ii) that the information reported by the Custodian will be based on the amounts in the Custodial Account and will not reflect any other individual retirement accounts the Depositor may own and that, consequently, the tax treatment of the withdrawal may be different than if the Depositor had no other individual retirement accounts, and (iii) that, accordingly, it is the responsibility of the Depositor to maintain appropriate records so that the Depositor (or other person ordering the distribution) can correctly compute all taxes due. Neither the Custodian nor any other party providing services to the Custodial Account assumes any responsibility for the tax treatment of any distribution from the Custodial Account; such responsibility rests solely with the person ordering the distribution.
10. The Custodian assumes (and shall have) no responsibility to make any distribution except upon the written order of

Depositor (or Beneficiary if Depositor is deceased) containing such information as the Custodian may reasonably request. Also, before making any distribution from or honoring any assignment of the Custodial Account, Custodian shall be furnished with any and all applications, certificates, tax waivers, signature guarantees, releases, indemnification agreements, and other documents (including proof of any legal representative's authority) deemed necessary or advisable by Custodian, but Custodian shall not be responsible for complying with any order or instruction which appears on its face to be genuine, or for refusing to comply if not satisfied it is genuine, and Custodian has no duty of further inquiry. Any distributions from the Account may be mailed, first-class postage prepaid, to the last known address of the person who is to receive such distribution, as shown on the Custodian's records, and such distribution shall to the extent thereof completely discharge the Custodian's liability for such payment.

11. (a) The term "Beneficiary" means the person or persons designated as such by the "designating person" (as defined below) on a form acceptable to the Custodian for use in connection with the Custodial Account, signed by the designating person, and filed with the Custodian. If, in the opinion of the Custodian or Service Company, any designation of beneficiary is unclear or incomplete, in addition to any documents or assurances the Custodian may request under Section 10, the Custodian or Service Company shall be entitled to request and receive such clarification or additional instructions as the Custodian in its discretion deems necessary to determine the correct Beneficiary(ies) following the Depositor's death. The form designating the Beneficiary(ies) may name individuals, trusts, estates, or other entities as either primary or contingent beneficiaries. However, if the designation does not effectively dispose of the entire Custodial Account as of the time distribution is to commence, the term "Beneficiary" shall then mean the designating person's estate with respect to the assets of the Custodial Account not disposed of by the designation form. The form last accepted by the Custodian before such distribution is to commence, provided it was received by the Custodian (or deposited in the U.S. Mail or with a reputable delivery service) during the designating person's lifetime, shall be controlling and, whether or not fully dispositive of the Custodial Account, thereupon shall revoke all such forms previously filed by that person. The term "designating person" means Depositor during his/her lifetime; after Depositor's death, it also means Depositor's spouse, but only if the spouse elects to treat the Custodial Account as the spouse's own Custodial Account in accordance with applicable provisions of the Code. (Note: Married Depositors who reside in a community property or marital property state (Arizona, California, Idaho, Louisiana, Nevada, New Mexico, Texas, Washington or Wisconsin), may need

to obtain spousal consent if they have not designated their spouse as the primary Beneficiary for at least half of their Account. Consult a lawyer or other tax professional for additional information and advice.)

- (b) Notwithstanding any provisions in this Agreement to the contrary, when and after the distribution from the Custodial Account to Depositor's Beneficiary commence, all rights and obligations assigned to Depositor hereunder shall inure to, and be enjoyed and exercised by, Beneficiary instead of Depositor.
 - (c) Notwithstanding Section 3 of Article V of Part Two above, if the Depositor's spouse is the sole Beneficiary on the Depositor's date of death, the spouse will not be treated as the Depositor if the spouse elects not to be so treated. In such event, the Custodial Account will be distributed in accordance with the other provisions of such Article IV, except that distributions to the Depositor's spouse are not required to commence until December 31 of the year in which the Depositor would have turned age 70½.
12. (a) The Depositor agrees to provide information to the Custodian at such time and in such manner as may be necessary for the Custodian to prepare any reports required under Section 408(i) or Section 408A(d)(3)(E) of the Code and the regulations thereunder or otherwise.
- (b) The Custodian or the Service Company will submit reports to the Internal Revenue Service and the Depositor at such time and manner and containing such information as is prescribed by the Internal Revenue Service.
 - (c) The Depositor, Custodian and Service Company shall furnish to each other such information relevant to the Custodial Account as may be required under the Code and any regulations issued or forms adopted by the Treasury Department thereunder or as may otherwise be necessary for the administration of the Custodial Account.
 - (d) The Depositor shall file any reports to the Internal Revenue Service which are required of him by law (including Form 5329), and neither the Custodian nor Service Company shall have any duty to advise Depositor concerning or monitor Depositor's compliance with such requirement.
13. (a) Depositor retains the right to amend this Custodial Account document in any respect at any time, effective on a stated date which shall be at least 60 days after giving written notice of the amendment (including its exact terms) to Custodian by registered or certified mail, unless Custodian waives notice as to such amendment. If the Custodian does not wish to con-

tinue serving as such under this Custodial Account document as so amended, it may resign in accordance with Section 17 below.

- (b) Depositor delegates to the Custodian the Depositor's right so to amend, provided (i) the Custodian does not change the investments available under this Custodial Agreement and (ii) the Custodian amends in the same manner all agreements comparable to this one, having the same Custodian, permitting comparable investments, and under which such power has been delegated to it; this includes the power to amend retroactively if necessary or appropriate in the opinion of the Custodian in order to conform this Custodial Account to pertinent provisions of the Code and other laws or successor provisions of law, or to obtain a governmental ruling that such requirements are met, to adopt a prototype or master form of agreement in substitution for this Agreement, or as otherwise may be advisable in the opinion of the Custodian. Such an amendment by the Custodian shall be communicated in writing to Depositor, and Depositor shall be deemed to have consented thereto unless, within 30 days after such communication to Depositor is mailed, Depositor either (i) gives Custodian a written order for a complete distribution or transfer of the Custodial Account, or (ii) removes the Custodian and appoints a successor under Section 17 below.
- Pending the adoption of any amendment necessary or desirable to conform this Custodial Account document to the requirements of any amendment to any applicable provision of the Internal Revenue Code or regulations or rulings thereunder (including any amendment to Form 5305-A or Form 5305-RA), the Custodian and the Service Company may operate the Depositor's Custodial Account in accordance with such requirements to the extent that the Custodian and/or the Service Company deem necessary to preserve the tax benefits of the Account.
- (c) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections (a) and (b) above, no amendment shall increase the responsibilities or duties of Custodian without its prior written consent.
 - (d) This Section 13 shall not be construed to restrict the Custodian's right to substitute fee schedules in the manner provided by Section 16 below, and no such substitution shall be deemed to be an amendment of this Agreement.
14. (a) Custodian shall terminate the Custodial Account if this Agreement is terminated or if, within 30 days (or such longer time as Custodian may agree) after resignation or removal of Custodian under Section 17, Depositor or Sponsor, as the case may be, has not appointed a successor which has accepted such appointment.

Termination of the Custodial Account shall be effected by distributing all assets thereof in a single payment in cash or in kind to Depositor, subject to Custodian's right to reserve funds as provided in Section 17.

- (b) Upon termination of the Custodial Account, this custodial account document shall have no further force and effect (except for Sections 15(f), 17(b) and (c) hereof which shall survive the termination of the Custodial Account and this document), and Custodian shall be relieved from all further liability hereunder or with respect to the Custodial Account and all assets thereof so distributed.
15. (a) In its discretion, the Custodian may appoint one or more contractors or service providers to carry out any of its functions and may compensate them from the Custodial Account for expenses attendant to those functions. In the event of such appointment, all rights and privileges of the Custodian under this Agreement shall pass through to such contractors or service providers who shall be entitled to enforce them as if a named party.
- (b) The Service Company shall be responsible for receiving all instructions, notices, forms and remittances from Depositor and for dealing with or forwarding the same to the transfer agent for the Fund(s).
 - (c) The parties do not intend to confer any fiduciary duties on Custodian or Service Company (or any other party providing services to the Custodial Account), and none shall be implied. Neither shall be liable (or assumes any responsibility) for the collection of contributions, the proper amount, time or tax treatment of any contribution to the Custodial Account or the propriety of any contributions under this Agreement, or the purpose, time, amount (including any minimum distribution amounts), tax treatment or propriety of any distribution hereunder, which matters are the sole responsibility of Depositor and Depositor's Beneficiary.
 - (d) Not later than 60 days after the close of each calendar year (or after the Custodian's resignation or removal), the Custodian or Service Company shall file with Depositor a written report or reports reflecting the transactions effected by it during such period and the assets of the Custodial Account at its close. Upon the expiration of 60 days after such a report is sent to Depositor (or Beneficiary), the Custodian or Service Company shall be forever released and discharged from all liability and accountability to anyone with respect to transactions shown in or reflected by such report except with respect to any such acts or transactions as to which Depositor shall have filed written objections with the Custodian or Service Company within such 60 day period.
- (e) The Service Company shall deliver, or cause to be delivered, to Depositor all notices, prospectuses, financial statements and other reports to shareholders, proxies and proxy soliciting materials relating to the shares of the Funds(s) credited to the Custodial Account. No shares shall be voted, and no other action shall be taken pursuant to such documents, except upon receipt of adequate written instructions from Depositor.
 - (f) Depositor shall always fully indemnify Service Company, Distributor, the Fund(s), Sponsor and Custodian and save them harmless from any and all liability whatsoever which may arise either (i) in connection with this Agreement and the matters which it contemplates, except that which arises directly out of the Service Company's, Distributor's, Fund's, Sponsor's or Custodian's bad faith, gross negligence or willful misconduct, (ii) with respect to making or failing to make any distribution, other than for failure to make distribution in accordance with an order therefor which is in full compliance with Section 10, or (iii) actions taken or omitted in good faith by such parties. Neither Service Company nor Custodian shall be obligated or expected to commence or defend any legal action or proceeding in connection with this Agreement or such matters unless agreed upon by that party and Depositor, and unless fully indemnified for so doing to that party's satisfaction.
 - (g) The Custodian and Service Company shall each be responsible solely for performance of those duties expressly assigned to it in this Agreement, and neither assumes any responsibility as to duties assigned to anyone else hereunder or by operation of law.
 - (h) The Custodian and Service Company may each conclusively rely upon and shall be protected in acting upon any written order from Depositor or Beneficiary, or any investment adviser appointed under Section 8, or any other notice, request, consent, certificate or other instrument or paper believed by it to be genuine and to have been properly executed, and so long as it acts in good faith, in taking or omitting to take any other action in reliance thereon. In addition, Custodian will carry out the requirements of any apparently valid court order relating to the Custodial Account and will incur no liability or responsibility for so doing.
16. (a) The Custodian, in consideration of its services under this Agreement, shall receive the fees specified on the applicable fee schedule. The fee schedule originally applicable shall be the one specified in the Adoption Agreement or Disclosure Statement, as applicable. The Custodian may substitute a different fee schedule at any time upon 30 days' written notice to Depositor.

The Custodian shall also receive reasonable fees for any services not contemplated by any applicable fee schedule and either deemed by it to be necessary or desirable or requested by Depositor.

- (b) Any income, gift, estate and inheritance taxes and other taxes of any kind whatsoever, including transfer taxes incurred in connection with the investment or reinvestment of the assets of the Custodial Account, that may be levied or assessed in respect to such assets, and all other administrative expenses incurred by the Custodian in the performance of its duties (including fees for legal services rendered to it in connection with the Custodial Account) shall be charged to the Custodial Account. If the Custodian is required to pay any such amount, the Depositor (or Beneficiary) shall promptly upon notice thereof reimburse the Custodian.
 - (c) All such fees and taxes and other administrative expenses charged to the Custodial Account shall be collected either from the amount of any contribution or distribution to or from the Account, or (at the option of the person entitled to collect such amounts) to the extent possible under the circumstances by the conversion into cash of sufficient shares of one or more Funds held in the Custodial Account (without liability for any loss incurred thereby). Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Custodian or Service Company may make demand upon the Depositor for payment of the amount of such fees, taxes and other administrative expenses. Fees which remain outstanding after 60 days may be subject to a collection charge.
17. (a) Upon 30 days' prior written notice to the Custodian, Depositor or Sponsor, as the case may be, may remove it from its office hereunder. Such notice, to be effective, shall designate a successor custodian and shall be accompanied by the successor's written acceptance. The Custodian also may at any time resign upon 30 days' prior written notice to Sponsor, whereupon the Sponsor shall notify the Depositor (or Beneficiary) and shall appoint a successor to the Custodian. In connection with its resignation hereunder, the Custodian may, but is not required to, designate a successor custodian by written notice to the Sponsor or Depositor (or Beneficiary), and the Sponsor or Depositor (or Beneficiary) will be deemed to have consented to such successor unless the Sponsor or Depositor (or Beneficiary) designates a different successor custodian and provides written notice thereof together with such a different successor's written acceptance by such date as the Custodian specifies in its original notice to the Sponsor or Depositor (or Beneficiary) (provided that the Sponsor or Depositor (or Beneficiary) will have a minimum of 30 days to designate a different successor).
- (b) The successor custodian shall be a bank, insured credit union, or other person satisfactory to the Secretary of the Treasury under Code Section 408(a)(2). Upon receipt by Custodian of written acceptance by its successor of such successor's appointment, Custodian shall transfer and pay over to such successor the assets of the Custodial Account and all records (or copies thereof) of Custodian pertaining thereto, provided that the successor custodian agrees not to dispose of any such records without the Custodian's consent. Custodian is authorized, however, to reserve such sum of money or property as it may deem advisable for payment of all its fees, compensation, costs, and expenses, or for payment of any other liabilities constituting a charge on or against the assets of the Custodial Account or on or against the Custodian, with any balance of such reserve remaining after the payment of all such items to be paid over to the successor custodian.
 - (c) Any Custodian shall not be liable for the acts or omissions of its predecessor or its successor.
18. References herein to the "Internal Revenue Code" or "Code" and sections thereof shall mean the same as amended from time to time, including successors to such sections.
19. Except where otherwise specifically required in this Agreement, any notice from Custodian to any person provided for in this Agreement shall be effective if sent by first-class mail to such person at that person's last address on the Custodian's records.
20. Depositor or Depositor's Beneficiary shall not have the right or power to anticipate any part of the Custodial Account or to sell, assign, transfer, pledge or hypothecate any part thereof. The Custodial Account shall not be liable for the debts of Depositor or Depositor's Beneficiary or subject to any seizure, attachment, execution or other legal process in respect thereof except to the extent required by law. At no time shall it be possible for any part of the assets of the Custodial Account to be used for or diverted to purposes other than for the exclusive benefit of the Depositor or his/her Beneficiary except to the extent required by law.
21. When accepted by the Custodian, this Agreement is accepted in and shall be construed and administered in accordance with the laws of the state where the principal offices of the Custodian are located. Any action involving the Custodian brought by any other party must be brought in a state or federal court in such state.
- If in the Adoption Agreement, Depositor designates that the Custodial Account is a Traditional IRA, this Agreement is intended to qualify under Code Section 408(a) as an individual retirement custodial account and to entitle Depositor to the retirement savings deduction under Code

Section 219 if available. If in the Adoption Agreement Depositor designates that the Custodial Account is a Roth IRA, this Agreement is intended to qualify under Code Section 408A as a Roth individual retirement Custodial Account and to entitle Depositor to the tax-free withdrawal of amounts from the Custodial Account to the extent permitted in such Code section.

If any provision hereof is subject to more than one interpretation or any term used herein is subject to more than one construction, such ambiguity shall be resolved in favor of that interpretation or construction which is consistent with the intent expressed in whichever of the two preceding sentences is applicable.

However, the Custodian shall not be responsible for whether or not such intentions are achieved through use of this Agreement, and Depositor is referred to Depositor's attorney for any such assurances.

22. Depositor should seek advice from Depositor's attorney regarding the legal consequences (including but not limited to federal and state tax matters) of entering into this Agreement, contributing to the Custodial Account, and ordering Custodian to make distributions from the Account. Depositor acknowledges that Custodian and Service Company (and any company associated therewith) are prohibited by law from rendering such advice.
23. If any provision of any document governing the Custodial Account provides for notice, instructions or other communications from one party to another in writing, to the extent provided for in the procedures of the Custodian, Service Company or another party, any such notice, instructions or other communications may be given by telephonic, computer, other electronic or other means, and the requirement for written notice will be deemed satisfied.
24. The legal documents governing the Custodial Account are as follows:
 - (a) If in the Adoption Agreement the Depositor designated the Custodial Account as a Traditional IRA under Code Section 408(a), the provisions of Part One and Part Three of this Agreement and the provisions of the Adoption Agreement are the legal documents governing the Depositor's Custodial Account.
 - (b) If in the Adoption Agreement the Depositor designated the Custodial Account as a Roth IRA under Code Section 408A, the provisions of Part Two and Part Three of this Agreement and the provisions of the Adoption Agreement are the legal documents governing the Depositor's Custodial Account.
 - (c) In the Adoption Agreement the Depositor must designate the Custodial Account as either a Roth IRA or a Traditional IRA, and a separate account will be established for such IRA. One Custodial Account may not

serve as a Roth IRA and a Traditional IRA (through the use of subaccounts or otherwise).

- (d) The Depositor acknowledges that the Service Company may require the establishment of different Roth IRA accounts to hold annual contributions under Code Section 408A(c)(2) and to hold conversion amounts under Code Section 408A(c)(3)(B). The Service Company may also require the establishment of different Roth IRA accounts to hold amounts converted in different calendar years. If the Service Company does not require such separate account treatment, the Depositor may make annual contributions and conversion contributions to the same account.
 - (e) The Depositor acknowledges that the Service Company may require the establishment of different Traditional IRA accounts to hold pre-tax amounts and any after-tax amounts.
25. This Agreement and the Adoption Agreement signed by the Depositor (as either may be amended) are the documents governing the Depositor's Custodial Account. Articles I through VII of Part One of this Agreement are in the form promulgated by the Internal Revenue Service as Form 5305-A. It is anticipated that, if and when the Internal Revenue Service promulgates changes to Form 5305-A, the Custodian will amend this Agreement correspondingly.
- Articles I through VIII of Part Two of this Agreement are in the form promulgated by the Internal Revenue Service as Form 5305-RA. It is anticipated that, if and when the Internal Revenue Service promulgates changes to Form 5305-RA, the Custodian will amend this Agreement correspondingly.
- The Internal Revenue Service has endorsed the use of documentation permitting a Depositor to establish either a Traditional IRA or Roth IRA (but not both using a single Adoption Agreement), and this Kit complies with the requirements of the IRS guidance for such use. If the Internal Revenue Service subsequently determines that such an approach is not permissible, or that the use of a "combined" Adoption Agreement does not establish a valid Traditional IRA or a Roth IRA (as the case may be), the Custodian will furnish the Depositor with replacement documents and the Depositor will if necessary sign such replacement documents. Depositor acknowledges and agrees to such procedures and to cooperate with Custodian to preserve the intended tax treatment of the Account.
26. If the Depositor maintains an Individual Retirement Account under Code Section 408(a), Depositor may convert or transfer such other IRA to a Roth IRA under Code Section 408A using the terms of this Agreement and the Adoption Agreement by completing and executing the

Adoption Agreement and giving suitable directions to the Custodian and the custodian or trustee of such other IRA. Alternatively, the Depositor may convert or transfer such other IRA to a Roth IRA by use of a reply card or by telephonic, computer or electronic means in accordance with procedures adopted by the Custodian or Service Company intended to meet the requirements of Code Section 408A, and the Depositor will be deemed to have executed the Adoption Agreement and adopted the provisions of this Agreement and the Adoption Agreement in accordance with such procedures.

In accordance with the requirements of Code Section 408A(d)(6) and regulations thereunder, the Depositor may recharacterize a contribution to a Traditional IRA as a contribution to a Roth IRA, or may recharacterize a contribution to a Roth IRA as a contribution to a Traditional IRA. The Depositor agrees to observe any limitations imposed by the Service Company on the number of such transactions in any year (or any such limitations or other restrictions that may be imposed by the Service Company or the IRS).

27. The Depositor acknowledges that he or she has received and read the current prospectus for each Fund in which his or her Account is invested and the Individual Retirement Account Disclosure Statement related to the Account. The Depositor represents under penalties of perjury that his or her Social Security number (or other Taxpayer Identification Number) as stated in the Adoption Agreement is correct.
28. If all required forms and information are properly submitted, State Street Bank and Trust Company will accept appointment as Custodian of the Depositor's Account. However, this Agreement (and the Adoption Agreement) is

not binding upon the Custodian until the Depositor has received a statement confirming the initial transaction for the Account. Receipt by the Depositor of a confirmation of the purchase of the Fund shares indicated in the Depositor's Adoption Agreement will serve as notification of State Street Bank and Trust Company's acceptance of appointment as Custodian of the Depositor's Account.

29. If the Depositor is a minor under the laws of his or her state of residence, then a parent or guardian shall exercise all powers and duties of the Depositor, as indicated herein, and shall sign the Adoption Agreement on behalf of the minor. The Custodian's acceptance of the Account on behalf of any Depositor who is a minor is expressly conditioned upon the agreement of the parent or guardian to accept the responsibility to exercise all such powers and duties, and all parties hereto so acknowledge. Upon attainment of the age of majority under the laws of the Depositor's state of residence at such time, the Depositor may advise the Custodian in writing (accompanied by such documentation as the Custodian may require) that he or she is assuming sole responsibility to exercise all rights, powers, obligations, responsibilities, authorities or requirements associated with the Account. Upon such notice to the Custodian, the Depositor shall have and shall be responsible for all of the foregoing, the Custodian will deal solely with the Depositor as the person controlling the administration of the Account, and the Depositor's parent or guardian thereafter shall not have or exercise any of the foregoing. (Absent such written notice from the Depositor, Custodian shall be under no obligation to acknowledge the Depositor's right to exercise such powers and authority and may continue to rely on the parent or guardian to exercise such powers and authority until notified to the contrary by the Depositor.)

[THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK]



Investment Adviser: Van Eck Associates Corporation
Distributor: Van Eck Securities Corporation
Account Assistance: 1.800.544.4653

vaneck.com

VEFIRA 09/10