

otherwise be entitled, provided the purpose in distributing the cash is to save the distributing corporation the trouble, expense, and inconvenience of issuing and transferring fractional shares (or scrip representing fractional shares), or issuing full shares representing the sum of fractional shares, and not to give any particular group of shareholders an increased interest in the assets or earnings and profits of the corporation.

(b) *Illustration.* The application of paragraph (a) of this section may be illustrated by the following example:

Example. Corporation X is a large corporation whose stock is widely held by the public, no one shareholder owning more than 10 percent of the outstanding stock. The stock is listed on a recognized exchange and is currently selling at less than \$75 per share. During the year the corporation pays a 3-percent stock dividend. Cash is paid to each shareholder in lieu of a fractional share to which he would otherwise be entitled. The distribution of cash in lieu of fractional shares is not intended to give any particular group of shareholders an increased interest in the assets or earnings and profits of the corporation, but is intended to save the corporation the trouble, expense, and inconvenience of issuing and transferring scrip representing fractional shares. The general rule, and not the exception, applies in this situation.

(Sec. 305(c), 83 Stat. 614; 26 U.S.C. 305(c))

[T.D. 7039, 35 FR 7012, May 2, 1970]

§ 13.11 Revocation of election to report income on the installment basis.

(a) *In general.* Under section 453(c)(4) taxpayers who are dealers in personal property and who elected installment-basis income reporting, subject to the provisions of section 453(c)(1) (relating to change from accrual to installment basis), may revoke their previously made election.

(b) *Time and manner of revoking election.* The revocation by a taxpayer may be made by filing an amended return on an appropriate form or forms, such as Form 1040X for an individual taxpayer, for the year of change (the first year for which income was computed using the installment basis) and for each subsequent year for which a return was filed using the installment basis. The taxpayer should indicate on such amended returns that he is revoking an election to report income on the

installment basis. Such revocation must be made within 3 years from the last date prescribed for the filing of the return for the year of change including any extension of time granted the taxpayer. In reporting income on the amended returns described in this section, the taxpayer shall use the accrual method of accounting.

[T.D. 7044, 35 FR 8823, June 6, 1970]

PART 14a—TEMPORARY INCOME TAX REGULATIONS RELATING TO INCENTIVE STOCK OPTIONS

AUTHORITY: 26 U.S.C. 7805.

§ 14a.422A-1 Questions and answers relating to incentive stock option transitional rules.

The following questions and answers relate to the application of incentive stock option (ISO) treatment to certain previously granted stock options, pursuant to section 422A of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, as added by section 251 of the Economic Recovery Tax Act of 1981 (95 Stat. 172) (ERTA):

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF SECTION 422A AND ITS TRANSITIONAL RULES

Q-1: What is the significance of new section 422A of the Code entitled "Incentive Stock Options?"

A-1: Prior to the enactment of section 422a, the tax treatment of employee stock options generally was governed by section 83 of the Code and the regulations thereunder. Under those rules, the value of a stock option constituted ordinary income to the employee when granted only if the option itself had a readily ascertainable fair market value at that time. If the option did not have a readily ascertainable value when granted, it did not constitute ordinary income at that time. Instead, when the option was exercised, the difference between the value of the stock at exercise and the option price constituted ordinary income to the employee. An employer who granted a stock option generally was allowed a business expense deduction equal to the amount includible in the employee's income in its corresponding taxable year.

Section 422A provides for incentive stock options (ISO's). Under this new provision there will be no tax consequences when an ISO is either granted or exercised, and the employee generally will be taxed at capital gains rates when and if the stock received on exercise of the option is sold. Similarly, no