

§ 240.16a-12

broad-based participation, does not discriminate in favor of employees of the issuer, and operates on substantially the same terms for all plan participants.

[61 FR 30393, June 14, 1996]

§ 240.16a-12 Domestic relations orders.

The acquisition or disposition of equity securities pursuant to a domestic relations order, as defined in the Internal Revenue Code or Title I of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act, or the rules thereunder, shall be exempt from section 16 of the Act.

[61 FR 30393, June 14, 1996]

§ 240.16a-13 Change in form of beneficial ownership.

A transaction, other than the exercise or conversion of a derivative security or deposit into or withdrawal from a voting trust, that effects only a change in the form of beneficial ownership without changing a person's pecuniary interest in the subject equity securities shall be exempt from section 16 of the Act.

[61 FR 30393, June 14, 1996]

EXEMPTION OF CERTAIN TRANSACTIONS FROM SECTION 16(B)

SOURCE: Sections 240.16b-1 through 240.16b-8 appear at 56 FR 7270, Feb. 21, 1991, unless otherwise noted.

§ 240.16b-1 Transactions approved by a regulatory authority.

(a) Any purchase and sale, or sale and purchase, of a security shall be exempt from section 16(b) of the Act, if the transaction is effected by an investment company registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80a-1 *et seq.*) and both the purchase and sale of such security have been exempted from the provisions of section 17(a) (15 U.S.C. 80a-17(a)) of the Investment Company Act of 1940, by rule or order of the Commission.

(b) Any purchase and sale, or sale and purchase, of a security shall be exempt from the provisions of section 16(b) of the Act if:

(1) The person effecting the transaction is either a holding company registered under the Public Utility Hold-

17 CFR Ch. II (4-1-03 Edition)

ing Company Act of 1935 (15 U.S.C. 79a *et seq.*) or a subsidiary thereof; and

(2) Both the purchase and the sale of the security have been approved or permitted by the Commission pursuant to the applicable provisions of that Act and the rules and regulations thereunder.

[56 FR 7270, Feb. 21, 1991, as amended at 61 FR 30404, June 14, 1996]

§ 240.16b-2 [Reserved]

§ 240.16b-3 Transactions between an issuer and its officers or directors.

(a) *General.* A transaction between the issuer (including an employee benefit plan sponsored by the issuer) and an officer or director of the issuer that involves issuer equity securities shall be exempt from section 16(b) of the Act if the transaction satisfies the applicable conditions set forth in this section.

(b) *Definitions.* (1) A *Discretionary Transaction* shall mean a transaction pursuant to an employee benefit plan that:

(i) Is at the volition of a plan participant;

(ii) Is not made in connection with the participant's death, disability, retirement or termination of employment;

(iii) Is not required to be made available to a plan participant pursuant to a provision of the Internal Revenue Code; and

(iv) Results in either an intra-plan transfer involving an issuer equity securities fund, or a cash distribution funded by a volitional disposition of an issuer equity security.

(2) An *Excess Benefit Plan* shall mean an employee benefit plan that is operated in conjunction with a Qualified Plan, and provides only the benefits or contributions that would be provided under a Qualified Plan but for any benefit or contribution limitations set forth in the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or any successor provisions thereof.

(3)(i) A *Non-Employee Director* shall mean a director who:

(A) Is not currently an officer (as defined in §240.16a-1(f)) of the issuer or a parent or subsidiary of the issuer, or otherwise currently employed by the