The City of Houston<br>Deferred Compensation Program

PEBSBCO ${ }^{\prime \prime}$
Nationwide Retirement Solutions
a Nationwide Financial company

## Volume 8, Number 4

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## Enhancements to Houston Deferred Compensation Program -

The City of H ouston Deferred C ompensation Committee is pleased to announce some enhancements to your PEBSCO -administered deferred compensation program that took effect D ecember 1, 1999. The following is an overview of the enhancements and/or changes that took place:
-Lower Fee. Effective D ecember 1st, the charges to your account were reduced from an asset fee of $0.50 \%$ to either $0.05 \%$ or $0.30 \%$ based on which fund(s) you are invested. The underlying fund management fees will remain the same. The list at the end of this article indicates what the fee is, based on the fund option.
-Variable Annuity to M utual Funds. The
funding options available to you prior to December 1st will continue, however, the funds in the variable annuity prior to December 1st were moved outside of a variable annuity environment to straight mutual funds. This will result in shares being reflected on your statements for those mutual funds instead of a share equivalent. The only funds remaining in the group variable annuity are those in the LifeD esign series. No changes were made to your current fixed fund option, the $N$ ationwide Fixed Annuity.
> - N ew Toll-Free C ustomer Service number. As of December 1st, the new toll-free customer service number for PEBSCO is 1-800-750-3427. The TTD number for the hearing impaired is 1 -800-995-4457. We will also now offer new extended customer service hours of from 7:00 a.m.
to 7:00 p.m. C entral Time. You should have already received a new C ity of H ouston D eferred CompTalk brochure. The PIN number that you have already established will need to be re-established using this new tollfree line.

- N ew Statement Format. Beginning with your 4th quarter statement, you will receive your account balance information in a new format. This new statement format will provide the following benefits:
- Disclose any fees that are being deducted from your account - Report the number of mutual fund shares in your account
- Provide a graph depicting your
allocation of assets among five major asset classes

Enhancements, cont. on back page

## Shares 101-

## H ow to Read, C alculate and U nderstand your Investment Returns

Lately, there have been quite a few enhancements to the H ouston plan. One of the recent enhancements is the change in reporting from U nit Values/Share Equivalency to Shares. W here possible, PEBSCO has taken the M utual Funds from the Variable Annuity in which you are invested and has begun trading directly with the mutual fund houses themselves. W hat this means to you is that we will now be reporting "Shares" on your statements and you will now be buying shares from the fund company.

D aily business newspapers, such as Investors D aily and the W all Street Journal, are an easily accessible resource you can use to check the closing prices of the shares in which you are invested.
$N$ ewspapers will list the share price (simply put, the closing price of the share you are investigating) in fraction form, such as " $8 / 8$ ". Since most of us are used to discussing finances in terms of dollars and not fractions, try to think in terms of decimals instead of fractions. If the clos-

## How to read Your New Statement Format

Your quarterly statement has a new and improved look! The revised format provides a graphic illustration of your account balance by asset class, is letter-sized to fit your personal filing system, and your account information is provided in a format designed for ease of reading. We've included this guide to help familiarize you with the new format. If you have any questions about your new statement, please call the C ustomer Service C enter at 1-800-750-3427.



## Enhancements, cont. from front page

Should you have any questions regarding these enhancements, please contact your local PEBSC 0 representative at (713) 864-6073 or the new toll-free customer service center at 1-800-750-3427.

## FUND FEE CHART

The asset fee for the following funds is $\mathbf{0 . 0 5 \%}$ :
The Aggressive Portfolio (LifeD esign Series)
The M oderately Aggressive Portfolio (LifeD esign Series) The M oderate Portfolio (LifeD esign Series) The M oderately C onservative Portfolio (LifeD esign Series) The Conservative Portfolio (LifeD esign Series) Strong Common Stock Fund
Templeton Foreign Fund
Templeton G lobal Smaller Companies G rowth Fund Davis New York Venture Fund IN VESCO Equity Income Fund, Inc. American C entury: Twentieth Century G rowth American C entury: Twentieth C entury U Itra The Income Fund of America Bond Fund of America

## Shares, cont. from front page

ing price published in the newspaper is $85 / 8$, in terms of dollars it means $\$ 8.625$. The fractions listed in the Share Price simply represent 'percents' of a whole dollar. Thus, if you were to see a closing price of " $1 / 2$ ", divide the 1 by 2 and you get the decimal .50 , or, $\$ .50$. If you saw " $3 / 4$ ", divide the 3 by 4 and get $\$ .75$. If you saw a closing price of " $5 / 16$ ", you will come up with a closing price of $\$ .3125$. A stock at $65 / 16$ would be written in dollar/decimal form as $\$ 6.31$.

Shares owned are the number of shares that you currently own. This figure will constantly go up and down depending on the performance of the share. The Share Value is the share price multiplied by the numbers of shares owned. Prior to the conversion to shares, you probably noticed that there was a column heading titled "Insert C olumn H eading: i.e. Share Equivalency" on your statement. This column represented a conversion of the units that you held in the variable annuity wrapper into the equivalent number of shares that would have been held had you been investing directly in a mutual fund.

Now, under the new product offering, you actually do hold the shares. The units that were held in the variable annuity wrapper are now converted to shares. You will now be able to look at your statement and determine the number of shares that you own and compare this to the $N$ et Asset Value that is available in many publications, like the ones mentioned above.

There are still a few funds, like the LifeD esign Funds, that will remain inside the variable annuity wrapper. The reason that these funds will not be converted is due to the fact that they are not licensed to be sold as retail mutual funds and must be held within a variable annuity.

To see more about how shares are reflected on your statement, please see the article "H ow to Read Your Statement" in this issue. If you have any questions about this or any other topic regarding your retirement plan, always feel free to contact your plan representative.

## IVR Brochure Update

> Recently, you should have received a new City of H ouston IVR brochure. Please note, three of the funds on the fund code list (back of brochure, left panel) need to be updated to reflect the fund codes listed below. They are:

Fidelity M agellan-3624, Fidelity G rowth and Income-3474, N ationwide Fixed Account-9714

Interest Update

The Following annual effective interest yields apply to deposits into the
Nationwide ${ }^{8}$ Fixed Annuity
Option (G overnmental Plans Fixed Group Annuity Contract) underwritten by:
$N$ ationwide Life Insurance Company.
2000 G uarantee*
5.94\%

C urrent Yield**
January- M arch $2000 \quad 5.40 \%$

* To protect your contributions from dramatic fluctuations in current interest yields, the minimum guaranteed yield applies to all deposits (current year or previous) during 1999.
**N ationwide declares a current interest yield quarterly for the duration of that quarter.

Please call either of these resources if you have questions, need information or want to make a change in your deferred compensation account:

Your local PEBSCO Representative: PEBSCO
602 Sawyer St., Suite 110
H ouston, TX 77007
(713) 864-6073

8:00am - 5:00 pm (C entral Time)
M onday through Thursday, and
8:00am - 4:00 pm on Friday

The PEBSCO Service Center (toll free):
1-800-750-3427. The TTD for the hearing impaired is:
1-800-995-4457
7:00 am - 7:00 pm (Central Time) M onday through Friday
Securities offered through:
Nationwide Investment Services Corporation, Member NASD

