

## **Important Notice**

## Withdrawal Request

Thank you for your recent request to remove an unpriced position for your account. In order for us to process your request, we ask that you review the terms noted below and complete the authorization form located on the back of this notice. Upon receipt of the signed and dated form, Merrill Lynch will effectively remove the position from your account via one of the options listed below.

Merrill Lynch and Merrill Edge make no recommendation as to whether you should proceed with removing the position from your account. Furthermore, Merrill Lynch, Merrill Edge and its Financial Solutions Advisors do not provide tax, accounting, or legal advice. We recommend that you consult with your own tax or legal advisor as to any tax consequences that may arise as a result of the withdrawal.

There are several options for a security that is currently not trading or has no value:

**Worthless** — This term is used only when the issuer or its agent presents official documentation that states the security is worthless.

- If the position is both worthless and nontransferable (i.e., there is no active transfer agent), Merrill Lynch will purchase the shares referenced in the authorization section for a total purchase price of one dollar (\$1.00). By authorizing this transaction, the undersigned recognizes that the transfer books of the issuer of the security are currently closed. The undersigned further acknowledges that in selling the shares to Merrill Lynch, all right, title and interest will be transferred to Merrill Lynch and any ability to reclaim the shares will have been relinquished.
- If an active transfer agent is located for a worthless position, there are two options available depending on whether the position is eligible for Direct Registration. As of 2009, the Depository Trust Company (DTC) adopted a procedure whereby it will no longer accept requests from brokerage firms, banks or trust companies for the issuance of physical stock certificates for U.S. issuers that participate in the Direct Registration System (DRS).
  - For securities that are not DRS eligible, the physical certificate will be registered and shipped for a fee of \$500. This fee has been imposed by DTC for all U.S. issuers that have not elected to participate in the DRS, and will be debited from the account referenced in the authorization section of this form. In the event that there are insufficient funds, Merrill Lynch will not proceed with the removal of the shares referenced in the authorization section of this form. By authorizing this transaction, the undersigned acknowledges and agrees that the associated fees will be the sole responsibility of the account holder.
  - For securities that are DRS eligible, a statement of ownership will be provided as a cost of \$25. After the statement is received, you can request a certificate directly from the transfer agent, if available.

Merrill Edge is available through Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated ("MLPF&S"), and consists of the Merrill Edge Advisory Center (investment guidance) and self-directed online investing.

MLPF&S is a registered broker-dealer, Member SIPC and a wholly owned subsidiary of Bank of America Corporation. Investment products:

 **Notarial** — A notarial issue indicates that the issuer company's books are closed and there is no active transfer agent; therefore, the position is considered nontransferable. The company has not deemed itself "worthless" yet and is still undecided about what it wants to do. By authorizing the removal of the shares referenced in the authorization section of this form, Merrill Lynch will effectively abandon the position, and you acknowledge and agree that all right, title, and interest will be transferred to Merrill Lynch. You will receive no compensation for the transaction, and any ability to reclaim the shares will have been relinquished.

**Escrow** — A position deemed to be in escrow indicates that the company is in bankruptcy and is in the process of liquidating their assets. The escrow position has been set up by the paying agent pending such payments. It cannot show a price because it is not a tradable position, but it does represent the owner's entitlement to potential future payouts. By authorizing the removal of the shares referenced in the authorization section of this form, the undersigned acknowledges and agrees that they will forfeit all rights, including the right to potential future payouts, title, interest, and any ability to reclaim the shares that have been relinquished.

**Private Placement** — Private placement securities are not sold through a public offering and are not subject to a registration statement filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC); therefore, detailed financial information is not required to be disclosed. As such, Merrill Lynch is not able to provide a value. This is not an indication that the position is worthless. By authorizing the removal of a private placement, the undersigned recognizes potential tax consequences may arise. Furthermore, the undersigned acknowledges and agrees that Merrill Lynch and its employees have made no representation regarding the tax consequences attendant to this transaction or the inherent value of the shares, and that any determinations relating to these issues will be the sole responsibility of the undersigned. In addition, any fees resulting from the removal of this position will be the sole responsibility of the account holder. Fees will be debited from the account referenced in the authorization section of this form. In the event that there are insufficient funds, Merrill Lynch will not proceed with the removal of the shares referenced in the authorization section of this form.

## Authorization of Withdrawal

The undersigned hereby requests that Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated ("Merrill Lynch") remove the shares referenced below.

The undersigned acknowledges and agrees that Merrill Lynch and its employees have not solicited this transaction, have made no representations regarding the tax consequences attendant to this transaction or the inherent value of the shares, and that any determinations relating to these issues will be the sole responsibility of the undersigned.

In consideration of Merrill Lynch's processing the removal of the unpriced position, the undersigned hereby indemnifies and holds harmless from and against claims, liabilities, damages or expenses asserted by the undersigned (or by their heirs, successors, assigns and administrators of the undersigned) in connection with the removal of the shares by Merrill Lynch.

| Account number       | In the name of  |                  |
|----------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Security description | Security number | Number of shares |
| Client's signature   | Client's name   | Date             |
| Client's signature   | Client's name   | Date             |
| Client's signature   | Client's name   |                  |