

## News Release

**MEDIA CONTACT:** Mike Peterson  
330-908-4334  
[mike.peterson@schwab.com](mailto:mike.peterson@schwab.com)

### **SCHWAB TECHNOLOGY INVESTMENTS YIELD BENEFITS FOR BUNDLED DEFINED CONTRIBUTION PLANS**

*New capabilities increase automation, participant services, scale*

**SAN FRANCISCO – May 29, 2003** – Charles Schwab Corporate Services has announced system enhancements for its bundled defined contribution plans that benefit both plans and plan participants. The enhancements are part of a multi-year, multi-million dollar technology investment program in recordkeeping and database systems, and include improvements for payroll administration and termination distributions.

“As our business continues to grow, these investments help us to meet and exceed the expectations of our clients. Our goal is to simplify recordkeeping and associated services and deliver information in a way that is meaningful and convenient for participants,” said Ben Brigeman, senior vice president, Charles Schwab Corporate Services.

#### **Payroll Administration**

Increased automation in payroll processing enables Schwab to execute the investment of plan contributions faster. The system also sends plan sponsors e-mail confirmations when contributions are processed and alerts them if payroll files are tardy or if payroll file processing issues require their attention.

Sponsors can also track, by plan or by division, the status of contributions online, and can elect to have e-mail notifications sent to multiple contacts to help assure information can be acted upon if necessary. Enhancements also include increased database flexibility so plan sponsors can choose from a broader array of formats when sending payroll files.

#### **Termination Distributions**

Schwab has also enhanced the termination distribution process by adding online capabilities and faster distribution processing for sponsors and participants. For plan sponsors, a streamlined termination notice process on [schwabplan.com](http://schwabplan.com) requires less data input and helps save time.

For participants, enhancements include more online resources to help simplify the distribution process, direct deposit of distributions, and improved confirmation statements that include more transaction details and tax withholding information. Later this year, Schwab plans to introduce additional capabilities including online and phone-initiated distributions and IRA rollovers for participants.

#### **About Charles Schwab Corporate Services**

Charles Schwab Corporate Services provides individual investing support services through employers, including employee retirement and stock option plans, IRA rollovers and individual/personal accounts. Charles Schwab Corporate Services also offers retirement plan services including recordkeeping and

## **SCHWAB INVESTMENTS/Page 2**

related services through Schwab Retirement Plan Services, Inc., proprietary retirement plan recordkeeping systems through Schwab Retirement Technologies<sup>™</sup>, trustee and custodial services through The Charles Schwab Trust Company, and the Schwab Personal Choice Retirement Account<sup>®</sup> (PCRA) (self-directed brokerage account through Charles Schwab & Co., Inc.). Total client assets in employer-sponsored retirement plans at Schwab equaled \$90 billion at the end of March 2003. Schwab Retirement Plan Services, Inc., Schwab Retirement Technologies' and The Charles Schwab Trust Company are affiliates of Charles Schwab & Co., Inc., and are wholly owned subsidiaries of The Charles Schwab Corporation.

The Charles Schwab Corporation (NYSE:SCH), through Charles Schwab & Co., Inc. (Member SIPC/NYSE), U.S. Trust Corporation, CyberTrader, Inc. (Member SIPC/NASD) and its other operating subsidiaries, is one of the nation's largest financial services firms.

###

(0503-9143)