FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

Notice of Proposals to Engage in Permissible Nonbanking Activities or to Acquire Companies that are Engaged in Permissible Nonbanking Activities

The companies listed in this notice have given notice under section 4 of the Bank Holding Company Act (12 U.S.C. 1843) (BHC Act) and Regulation Y (12 CFR Part 225) to engage *de novo*, or to acquire or control voting securities or assets of a company, including the companies listed below, that engages either directly or through a subsidiary or other company, in a nonbanking activity that is listed in § 225.28 of Regulation Y (12 CFR 225.28) or that the Board has determined by Order to be closely related to banking and permissible for bank holding companies. Unless otherwise noted, these activities will be conducted throughout the United States.

Each notice is available for inspection at the Federal Reserve Bank indicated. The notice also will be available for inspection at the offices of the Board of Governors. Interested persons may express their views in writing on the question whether the proposal complies with the standards of section 4 of the BHC Act. Additional information on all bank holding companies may be obtained from the National Information Center website at www.ffiec.gov/nic/.

Unless otherwise noted, comments regarding the applications must be received at the Reserve Bank indicated or the offices of the Board of Governors not later than February 16, 2001.

A. Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia (Michael E. Collins, Senior Vice President) 100 North 6th Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19105–1521:

1. TheBancorp.com, Inc., Wilmington, Delaware; to acquire G&L Holding Group, Inc., Pensacola, Florida, and thereby engage in owning, controlling or operating a savings association, pursuant to § 225.28(b)(4)(ii) of Regulation Y.

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, January 17, 2001.

Robert deV. Frierson,

Associate Secretary of the Board.

[FR Doc. 01–1909 Filed 1–22–01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6210–01–S

FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

Revised Jurisdictional Thresholds for Section 8 of the Clayton Act

AGENCY: Federal Trade Commission.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Federal Trade Commission announces the revised thresholds for interlocking directorates required by the 1990 amendment of Section 8 of the Clayton Act. Section 8 prohibits, with certain exceptions, one person from serving as a director or officer of two competing corporations if two thresholds are met. Competitor corporations are covered by Section 8 if each one has capital, surplus, and undivided profits aggregating more than $10,000,000, with the exception that no corporation is covered if the competitive sales of either corporation are less than $1,000,000. Section 8(a)(5) requires the Federal Trade Commission to revise those thresholds annually, based on the change in gross national product. The new thresholds, which take effect immediately, are $18,142,000 for Section 8(a)(1), and $1,814,200 for Section 8(a)(2)(A).

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 23, 20001.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: H. Gabriel Dagen, Bureau of Competition, Office of Accounting and Financial Analysis, (202) 326–2573. (Authority: 15 U.S.C. 19(a(5)).

By direction of the Commission.

Donald S. Clark,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 01–2045 Filed 1–22–01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6750–01–M

FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

Public Roundtable on Dispute Resolution for Online Business-to-Consumer Contracts

AGENCY: Federal Trade Commission.

ACTION: Notice announcing Public Forum.

SUMMARY: The Federal Trade Commission (the ''FTC'') will hold a roundtable discussion on (1) recommendations by business and consumer groups on alternative dispute resolution (ADR) for online consumer disputes; and (2) a proposed provision in the Preliminary Draft Convention on Jurisdiction and Foreign Judgments in Civil and Commercial Matters being negotiated by the Hague Conference on Private International Law that provides special jurisdiction rules for international consumer contracts.

DATE AND LOCATION: The roundtable will be held on Tuesday, February 6, 2001, beginning at 9:30 a.m., at the Federal Trade Commission, Room 432, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW., Washington, DC. Registration is not required. Requests for participation as a panelist should be directed to Maneesha Mithal, Attorney, Bureau of Consumer Protection, Federal Trade Commission, phone: (202) 326–2771, facsimile: (202) 326–3392, e-mail: mmithal@ftc.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Maneesha Mithal, Attorney, Bureau of Consumer Protection, Federal Trade Commission, phone: (202) 326–2771, facsimile: (202) 326–3392, e-mail: *mmithal@ftc.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The electronic marketplace, which has opened the door to international business-to-consumer transactions on an unprecedented scale, provides enormous benefits. For consumers, it offers 24-hour access to sellers around the globe; for businesses, it offers access to a worldwide market. For both business and consumers, it offers tremendous efficiencies. This online marketplace also has created challenges; among them, how best to resolve disputes involving cross-border consumer transactions. Consumers must be confident that they will have access to redress for problems arising in the online marketplace. In many instances, consumers face unique difficulties in resolving problems arising out of online transactions, such as language and cultural differences, inconvenience and expense that may result from the distance between the parties, and problems with litigation, including difficulties in establishing jurisdiction, determining the applicable law, and enforcing judgments. In addition to facing similar burdens, businesses must determine where they could be subject to jurisdiction and which laws might apply to them, which could significantly increase the cost of doing business online.

The FTC has held two workshops on these and related issues. The first, in June 1999, explored questions related to core consumer protections; online disclosures that consumers need to feel safe when shopping online; jurisdiction; applicable law; and the roles of the private sector and international bodies in addressing consumer protection issues. The findings from this workshop informed the OECD voluntary Guidelines on Consumer Protection in Electronic Commerce, which were issued in December 1999. The Guidelines encouraged industry, government and consumers to work together to develop inexpensive, easy-to-understand and acceptable ADR mechanisms. The FTC's Bureau of Consumer Protection issued a report on this first workshop in September 2000, which can be found at <*http://*