DATE: June 6, 2003

SUBJECT: Interagency Paper on Sound Practices to Strengthen the Resilience of the U.S. Financial System

HIGHLIGHTS: The Federal Reserve Board, U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, and Office of the Comptroller of the Currency have published the attached Interagency Paper on Sound Practices to Strengthen the Resilience of the U.S. Financial System. The white paper is part of the interagency effort to improve the resilience of the private-sector clearing and settlement infrastructure after September 11 and ensure the smooth operation of the financial system in the event of a wide-scale disruption. The sound practices apply most directly to organizations that are deemed to present a type of systemic risk to U.S. financial markets should they not be able to complete open transactions. Nevertheless, all banking organizations and other financial market participants are encouraged to review and consider implementation of the sound practices, particularly if a firm's transaction levels approach those deemed to be significant.


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