

Press Releases

October 27, 1999

OTS 99-73 - Aetna Granted Federal Thrift Charter by OTS

Office of Thrift Supervision

FOR RELEASE at 1:45 p.m. EDT

For further information

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OTS 99-73

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Aetna Granted Federal Thrift Charter by OTS

WASHINGTON, D.C., Oct. 27, 1999 - Aetna Inc., a Hartford, Connecticut-based provider of financial and insurance services, has received permission from the Office of Thrift Supervision (OTS) to organize Aetna Trust Company, a federal savings bank, to offer trust services. Aetna becomes a unitary thrift holding company.

Aetna plans to use the federal thrift as a special purpose institution that will provide trustee, custodian and record-keeping services to self-directed employee retirement and deferred compensation plans and to individual IRA plan clients. Although Aetna currently operates a state-chartered trust company, Aeltus Trust, that provides trust services for institutional clients only, operations of Aetna Trust and Aeltus Trust will be kept separate, and they will operate out of separate offices.

Any material change to Aetna Trust's approved business plan will require OTS approval, and before beginning operations, the thrift is to develop a functioning oversight program that consists of comprehensive audit, compliance management and risk management programs. During the first 18 months of operations, the thrift also must clear all written agreements with third-party service providers and provide appropriate oversight of their activities.

The institution is subject to anti-tying restrictions, regulations pertaining to conflicts of interest, corporate opportunity and interagency policies governing the sale of insured and uninsured products. OTS reserves the authority to have examiners, without identifying themselves, check the appropriateness of the institution's product marketing disclosures. At least 40 percent of the thrift's directors must be individuals who are not officers of employees of the holding company or affiliates, and at least one member is to be independent of the thrift, holding company and affiliates.

[Approval Order](#)

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The Office of Thrift Supervision (OTS), a bureau of the U.S. Treasury, regulates and supervises the nation's thrift industry. OTS' mission is to ensure the safety and

soundness of thrift institutions and to support their role as home mortgage lenders and providers of other community credit and financial services. For copies of news releases or other documents visit the OTS web page at www.ots.treas.gov.