

Buy Side

TECHNOLOGY WEEK

Volume 1, Number 17 • November 30, 1998

INSIDE:

- ▶ *The Depository Trust Company is now a Participant of Deutsche Borse Clearing AG, creating a two-way interface link.*

IN BRIEF:

- ▶ *Financimetrics launches Equity System for risk attribution*
- ▶ *Chase Manhattan plans to launch first global custody-related application*
- ▶ *First Data announces appointments of three senior-level executives*

MFS Investment Management The First on Merrin's Sybase Platform

Massachusetts Financial Services (MFS) Investment Management is the first to roll out the Sybase version of the Merrin Financial Trading Platform (MFTP). With some \$90 billion in managed assets, the Boston-based investment advisor first looked around for a replacement of its trading platform before giving Merrin the nod. Migrating to a Sybase relational database from Btrieve may be just what Merrin needs to regain some of the ground it has lost to competitors over the past few years.

MFS Investment Management brought the Sybase flavor of MFTP into full production last

month to replace the Btrieve-based version of Merrin, which the firm had online since October 1994. "This offers a much better data structure to access," says Thomas Jackson, vice president of investment operations at MFS Investment Management. "You have an open database on the back end so you can do all sorts of reporting much simpler than you could with the Btrieve version." The firm runs Merrin's platform on a Compaq ProLiant Windows NT server.

Sometimes, says Jackson, it's the little things that stick out the most. "For instance,

Continued on page 2

Mentor Investment Deploys Antares

Richmond, Va.-based Mentor Investment Group recently went live with SS&C Technologies' Antares trade order management system. Currently paralleling Antares with its incumbent manually based processes, Mentor plans to bring the vendor's trade management system into full production at the beginning

of next year. The investment advisor plans to integrate Antares with SS&C's Camra portfolio management and accounting system, which is already online.

At Mentor, Antares is not taking the place of another trade order management system. "But it is replacing a whole lot of manual labor,"

says Mark Royer, vice president of client services at Mentor. At the firm, SS&C's systems support some \$13 billion in assets under management.

"Trading and volume are becoming increasing large, and the ability to effectively manage accounts the old fashioned way just doesn't cut it

Continued on page 2

Davis Advisors Moves Up to Open Trader

Davis Selected Advisors is gearing up to roll out Thomson Investment Software's (TIS) OpenTrader 5.0 workflow and execution system early next year. OpenTrader, released in September, is the upgraded and renamed version of TIS' TradeView. The Santa Fe, New Mexico-based mutual fund investment manager has used TradeView, as

well as the vendor's Portia portfolio management and accounting system, since early last year to support over \$20 billion in assets under management.

"With the 5.0 enhancements we are able to change the blotter, opt for different blotter schemes, add a portfolio ticker within the

Continued on page 3

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Wall Street &
Technology

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