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PORTFOLIO SYSTEMS

State Farm Insurance to convert to Pam for Mutual Funds for \$3 billion employee portfolio.



MARKET DATA & NEWS

Australian Westpac Investment Management dumps Knight-Ridder's Equinet for Reuters' Beacon.

Datastream International closes agreements for third-party data with I/B/E/S and Morgan Stanley.



RESEARCH & ANALYTICS

Bloomberg to release Applix link soon; Informix up next.



CALENDAR



MANAGEMENT BRIEFS

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AEGON'S MELSON TO ACQUIRE MAGNUS FROM NEW YORK LIFE

CHICAGO, Ill.-based Melson Technologies Inc. has signed a letter of intent to purchase investment management software vendor Magnus Software Corp. from New York Life Insurance Co. Melson Technologies—a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Netherlands-based holding company Aegon Insurance Group—entered into negotiations with New York Life in early May. The purchase of the Atlanta-based Magnus would broaden the range of asset management tools Melson Technologies currently sells.

"We entered into a letter of intent to acquire selected assets and liabilities from Magnus Software," confirms a Melson Technologies official. The official would not comment further on the status of the deal. Officials at Magnus decline to comment. However, a source close to the negotiations says Melson Technologies is in the process of performing due diligence in advance of finalizing the deal. The source says the sale of Magnus could be consummated within the next two months.

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NICHOLAS APPLEGATE MOVES TO REPLACE STANDALONES

SAN DIEGO-based Nicholas Applegate Capital Management (NACM), with nearly \$14 billion in assets under management, has replaced standalone terminals from Shark Information Services Corp. with proprietary software that allows portfolio managers and traders to view stock quotes on PCs. NACM has also decreased the number of Bridge Information Systems Inc. terminals it relies on as part of the firmwide data consolidation efforts.

Since the firm went live with its homegrown Next Computer Inc.based platform last year (IMT, March 4, 1994), NACM has sought to decrease its reliance on standalone services and to integrate information onto its local area network to allow data manipulation and modeling.

According to NACM's director of investment technology Duncan Wilcox, NACM replaced Shark three or four months ago with a proprietary application called Quotemonitor. Quotemonitor displays real time