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# NATIONAL TRUST TAPS PORTIA, FOLLOWING GLOBAL PLUS PICK

TORONTO-based National Trust Co. has selected Thomson Financial Services Inc.'s Portia to support its portfolio managers, traders and administrators. The trust company, which plans to go live with the Microsoft Corp. Windows-based version of Thomson's portfolio management and accounting system by December, is scheduled to install Portia in place of its mainframe-based incumbent—Financial Models Corp.'s Pacer. National Trust chose Thomson's system in the first quarter.

Though the trust company's decision to go with Portia is a victory for Thomson, the win is by no means a coup for the vendor. Earlier this year, in a deal that was much larger in size, National Trust selected Premier Solutions Ltd.'s Global Plus multicurrency asset management system for its pension and custodial, personal trust and investment management business personnel (*IMT*, Aug. 19).

While National Trust plans to deploy Thomson's Portia in favor of

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# THE CNA LIKES SYBASE STANDARD... AND MULLS REPLACING OSCARS

CNA FINANCIAL Corp.'s CNA Insurance Companies unit has opted to shift all the databases supporting its information systems enterprise-wide to Sybase Inc.'s relational database management software. While details of the decision remain sketchy at press time, the shift will have an impact on at least two key applications supporting the insurance company's investment management operations.

According to Dan Fitzgerald, CNA Insurance's director of investment systems, within the next few weeks, CNA will replace the Microsoft Corp.-provided SQL server supporting its proprietary order-entry system with a Sybase SQL server. Meanwhile, by the time it begins wide deployment of Sybase technologies, CNA Insurance expects to have replaced its mainframe-based Sungard Data Systems Inc.-supported investment management system, known as Oscars.

Fitzgerald, and other CNA officials, decline to elaborate on the port-