



News Release

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THE SPARK INSTITUTE UPDATES 403(b) PLANS INFORMATION SHARING BEST PRACTICES

SIMSBURY, CT, February 14 – Following a recent two-week public comment period on a draft version, The SPARK Institute has released a final updated version of its information sharing best practices for 403(b) plans,” said Larry Goldbrum, General Counsel. “This update of Version 1.04 reflects certain industry developments that occurred since it was originally published in June 2009,” said Goldbrum. He said there were no significant changes to the draft as a result of public comments. The effective date of the updated version is October 1, 2011. The document is posted on The SPARK Institute website at <http://www.sparkinstitute.org/comments-and-materials.php>.

The SPARK Institute represents the interests of a broad based cross section of retirement plan service providers and investment managers, including banks, mutual fund companies, insurance companies, third party administrators, trade clearing firms and benefits consultants. Through the combined expertise of its member companies, the Institute provides research, education, testimony and comments on pending legislative and regulatory issues to members of Congress and relevant government agency officials. Collectively, its members serve approximately 70 million participants in 401(k) and other defined contribution plans.

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