

ARS Settlement Information

On September 17, 2008, Credit Suisse Securities (USA) LLC (“Credit Suisse”) announced agreements in principle with the New York State Attorney General’s Office (“NYAG”) and a coalition of other state regulators represented by the North American Securities Administrators Association (“NASAA”) Task Force concerning the firm’s sales of auction rate securities (“ARS”). Credit Suisse has finalized its agreement in principle with the NYAG by entering into an Assurance of Discontinuance (“Assurance”), which is linked below. The Assurance contains detailed information on important issues, including:

- The clients who are eligible for repurchase of their ARS by Credit Suisse.
- The relief for eligible clients who may have sold their ARS below par between February 14, 2008 and September 9, 2008.
- Reimbursement for certain eligible client loan expenses.
- An arbitration process for eligible clients to arbitrate certain consequential damages claims.

Pursuant to those agreements, Credit Suisse has offered to repurchase at par eligible ARS held by individual investors, charities, and certain small businesses (defined in the Assurance as “Eligible Investors”). To date, Credit Suisse has repurchased substantial amounts of ARS from Eligible Investors.

Credit Suisse’s has been providing reports to NASAA and the NYAG regarding Credit Suisse’s ongoing efforts to restore liquidity for ARS.

If you have any questions concerning your eligibility for an offer to purchase your ARS, or any question regarding the settlements, please contact your Relationship Manager or call our toll-free customer assistance line at (800) 647-2516.

Some key provisions of the settlement are discussed below.

Eligibility

To be eligible to receive an offer from Credit Suisse to repurchase your non-auctioning ARS, you must be an *Eligible Investor* who purchased *Eligible ARS* in a *Credit Suisse Account*. Each of those terms is defined below.

“*Eligible Investors*” generally are:

- Natural persons (including their IRA accounts, testamentary trust and estate accounts, custodian UGMA and UTMA accounts, and guardianship accounts);
- Charities, endowments or foundations with Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)(3) status; and
- Certain Small Businesses that had \$10 million or less in assets in their accounts with Credit Suisse household position(s) as of February 13, 2008.

“*Eligible ARS*” are auction rate securities purchased on or before February 13, 2008, into Credit Suisse Accounts.

“*Credit Suisse Accounts*” means accounts on the books and records of Credit Suisse’s Private Banking USA business.

Please note: If the ARS you hold in your account at Credit Suisse were purchased at another firm, you should contact that firm to determine whether that firm is offering to purchase your ARS.

Opt-In Process - Action Required

The settlement purchase offer is an opt-in process. Eligible investors must act to take advantage of the terms of this offer. Credit Suisse has made efforts to notify eligible investors of the offer and terms of the settlement, and is continuing to do so. If you believe that you are eligible for this offer, you should contact Credit Suisse promptly. If you have any questions regarding your eligibility please contact your Relationship Manager or call our toll-free customer assistance line.

Offer Period for Buy-Back of ARS

Credit Suisse’s offer to repurchase ARS expired on December 11, 2008.

If you did not accept the buy-back offer by December 11, 2008 but wish to do so now, you should contact us immediately. Credit Suisse will continue to repurchase Eligible ARS up to and including December 31, 2010 from Eligible Investors who can establish good cause (such as incapacity or failure to receive notice) for not accepting the offer to repurchase prior to December 11, 2008.

Investors whose eligible ARS are not held in a Credit Suisse account must allow additional time to deliver the ARS and related bid rights to Credit Suisse before that date. Please refer to your offer letter for details. Note that this time frame is for the buy-back provision only. Other terms of the settlement may operate under different time frames.

Relief for Eligible Customers Who Sold Below Par

Eligible investors who sold Eligible ARS for less than par between February 14, 2008 and September 9, 2008 are entitled to relief from Credit Suisse for the difference between par and the price at which they sold the ARS. Please contact your Relationship Manager or the toll-free customer assistance line listed above if you believe you may be entitled to this relief and have not already been contacted by Credit Suisse. Be prepared to provide documentation of your purchase and sale of ARS.

Reimbursement for Related Loan Expenses

Credit Suisse has also agreed to provide compensation to Eligible Investors who took out loans (other than margin loans) from Credit Suisse between February 14, 2008 and December 11, 2008 against their non-auctioning ARS purchased from Credit Suisse, if the interest they paid Credit Suisse on the ARS-backed

loan exceeded the interest and dividends they received on the ARS. Please contact your Relationship Manager or the toll-free customer assistance line listed above if you believe you may be entitled to this relief and have not already been contacted by Credit Suisse.

Special Arbitration Procedures

Eligible investors who believe they have suffered consequential damages caused by their inability to access funds consisting of ARS purchased from Credit Suisse on or before February 13, 2008 may participate in a special arbitration procedure, conducted under the auspices of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority ("FINRA"). A description of certain rules and requirements for these special arbitrations are set forth in the settlement agreement with the NYAG (see link to settlement agreement below). Additional information on the special arbitration process is also available at the FINRA's website:

www.finra.org/arbitrationmediation/P117440

Institutional Investors

With regard to institutional investors not covered by the offer to purchase provisions of the settlements, Credit Suisse has agreed to work with issuers and other interested parties including regulatory and governmental entities, to facilitate such parties providing liquidity solutions for these investors.