## Dechert-Hampe & Company Employees' Savings and Profit Sharing Plan

## Compensation & Capital's Financial Planning Commentary as of September 30, 2014 "Ouch! Stock Market Drops BIG! Does Anyone Win When Stocks Sell Off??"

History has it that Octobers are a very scary month for stock market investors. Fact is, we haven't experienced a frightening October since 2008. That long, placid interlude has lulled investors. Well, *Booo!* Triggered by what the financial media has dubbed "The Four E's of Fear" (**E**conomic downturn, **E**uro-Russian tensions, **E**urasian civil wars, and **E**bola in the U.S.) frightening Octobers are back. As of this Oct 16<sup>th</sup> writing, all global stock markets except one have given back all of their previously comfortable 2014 gains. Only the U.S. S&P500 index (tracking the largest 500 corporations domiciled in the U.S.) remains in positive territory, and then, only fractionally so.

That long period of easy-going Octobers and strong consistent gains throughout the past five years had comforted most retirement plan investors to feel that the stock market was "back on their side." Remember, stalwart retirement plan investors who chose to stay invested throughout the 2008-09 stock market crash, had generally recovered all of their paper losses by late 2012. The markets then amicably added around another 30% to their plan accounts through August, 2014. Talk of "rigged" markets and "lost decades" had seemingly succumbed to the trash heap of mass media hyperbole.

But that loving feeling has a way of quickly evaporating when our chips are going South. It feeds a fresh inclination to believe that *your* loss has got to be someone else's gain. Makes us think that someone has figured out a way to game the system against committed (though possibly naïve?) 401(k) plan savers. Maybe some super-rich hedge fund tycoon on his yacht off the French Riviera? So who does win when stocks sell off? Please stick with us; the answer will likely surprise you.

First off, it's not <u>all</u> hedge fund guys. Though there is certainly some "zero-sum game" gambling activity in every financial market, all stock markets exist principally to facilitate the ability of individual companies to create value by operating their businesses. Remember, the shares of company stock that you buy in your 401(k) plan's mutual funds are very small portions of the ownership of many, many individual corporations. Those shares were originally purchased directly from those corporations by investors that entrusted their dollars to each corporation's management. Those original dollars financed the creation and sale of their products. And, if successful, those efforts resulted in profits, increasing market share, and ultimately provided stock dividends and a higher market value of the stock shares for the investors. The original transaction is essentially the only time that the corporation received any of the purchase proceeds of their stock.

Which leads to the second, albeit no less important, function of stock markets. That is to provide an orderly means by which those stock shares can be valued (or priced) minute-by-minute according to the opinion of all investors. That opinion is driven both by micro factors related purely to each corporation's ability to create value through their operations, and by macroeconomic factors such as "The Four E's of Fear." That consensus opinion determines how much you pay per share to purchase a piece of these corporations (as packaged into a mutual fund) each time that your ongoing payroll deduction contributions get invested by your Plan. When fear grips the markets, you pay less – sometimes a lot less! When all seems rosy, you pay more.

So: Does anyone win when stocks sell off? Yes: Any 401(k) plan investor that has chosen a mix of mutual funds that's appropriate to their personal risk profile. If you have based that mix upon how far in the future your retirement savings will begin to be spent, then Fear is your friend. Fear drives down stock prices. And the largest profits in any portfolio are always generated by your payroll deduction contribution purchases that were made at the lowest prices.

## **Dechert-Hampe & Company Employees' Savings and Profit Sharing Plan**

Compensation & Capital's September 30, 2014
Retirement Saving and Investing "Action Points"

## <u>Current Market Performance Through a Long-Term Lens – Your Weapons Against Risk:</u>

It can clearly be emotionally challenging to invest when so much seems uncertain. That said, it's important to always remember that an overly giddy <u>or</u> gloomy perspective can get investors into trouble. And that over time uncertainty diminishes, markets digest the outcomes, new concerns replace the old ones, and market valuations adjust to reflect the new circumstances that investors feel they face.

That's why successful long-term investors stay focused on what they know:

- Acknowledge uncertainty and your own emotional tendencies by choosing an appropriate combination of asset classes (stocks vs. bonds vs. cash) for your Plan account. We've written frequently about the proper way to choose this "Strategic Asset Allocation" or your "SAA." As we alluded to in the last paragraph of our opposite page Commentary, your SAA should be primarily determined by the length of time you expect to continue contributions to your retirement savings, prior to drawdown of those savings to help fund retirement living expenses. In short, the longer you expect to be saving, the more market fluctuations (risk) you will be able to absorb without negatively impacting your financial well-being. And therefore the more stock exposure you should build into your investment mix. For example, savers with timeframes of about two market cycles (say 10-14 years or so) should have no more than 70% of their account in stocks. More comprehensive pointers for SAA determination are on the Plan Investing >> Vanguard Select Funds Venue tab of www.planspecs.com/dhc.
- Keep your account balance's fund mix reasonably in line with your previously determined appropriate SAA mix to each of the Select Funds. You can view this comparison on the Fund Balances page under the secure Participant Login tab of <a href="www.planspecs.com/dhc">www.planspecs.com/dhc</a>. Rebalance by submitting a "Vanguard Funds Existing Balance Re-Mix Request" form if any fund's percentage of your total account varies from your SAA-determined mix by 3% or more.
- Avoid the pitfalls of trying to time bull or bear markets by directing your ongoing payroll
  contributions and annual profit sharing to that same appropriate SAA. This process of socalled "Dollar Cost Averaging" allows you to spread market volatility risks across many small
  purchases during a wide variety of market conditions. And that process creates a far more
  realistic base of initial purchase prices from which your lifetime savings can grow.
- Rely on the Plan's independent investment advisor (engaged by the Trustees) to select, monitor, and recommend replacements as necessary to your Vanguard Select Funds options. The advisor's responsibility is to make available a well-diversified set of mutual funds with industry-low investing costs run by high-quality portfolio management teams. The track record of this fund mix (detailed in the tables of these quarterly participant memos) consistently produces, on average, trailing returns in the upper third of its constituent funds' category peer rankings.

Ken Burns' recent documentary profiling the Roosevelts closed an episode with this quote from FDR's 1945 inaugural speech: "Things in life will not always run smoothly. Sometimes we will be rising toward the heights, then all will seem to reverse itself and start downward. The great fact to remember is that the trend of civilization itself is forever upward; that a line drawn through the middle of the peaks and the valleys of the centuries always has an upward trend." As with modern day investing...

<u>Dechert-Hampe & Co Employees' Savings and Profit Sharing Plan Vanguard Funds Performance Specifics and Comparatives</u>

(All for periods ended September 30, 2014)

A fund with a 15<sup>th</sup> Ranking outperformed 85% of its peers.

\*\*Remember: Past performance is absolutely NOT a guarantee of future performance!

(2) "OER" or Operating Expense Ratio: Annual % of fund assets paid for fund operations and mgmt.

outperformed 85% of its peers.	•		•	_		•		paid for fund	d operations a	and mgmt.
NAME OF VANGUARD SELECT VENUE FUND	Securities	Morningstar <sup>™</sup> Category <u>Percentile <sup>(1)</sup> Ranking Past</u>			Total Return Performance for			Average Annualized Total Return for:		
Morningstar Category Name	Type(s)	<u>1 Year</u>	10 Years	OER <sup>(2)</sup>	Past Qtr	<u>12 Mos</u>	3 Yrs	<u>5 Yrs</u>	<u>10 Yrs</u>	<u>15 Yrs</u>
PRIME MONEY MARKET - VMMXX	Money Market	15th	16th	0.16%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	1.7%	2.1%
Money Market Funds >>		Category Avera	ige >>	0.17%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	1.4%	1.8%
TOTAL BOND MARKET INDEX ADMIRAL - VBTLX	Bonds	62nd	45th	0.08%	0.2%	3.9%	2.3%	4.0%	4.6%	5.4%
Intermediate Bond Funds >>		Category Avera	ige >>	0.88%	-0.1%	4.3%	3.4%	4.8%	4.5%	5.3%
INFLATION PROTECTED SECURITIES ADM - VAIP	x Bonds	23rd	20th	0.10%	-2.0%	1.5%	1.2%	4.4%	4.5%	N/A
Inflation-Protected Bond Funds >>		Category Avera	ige >>	0.79%	-2.2%	0.9%	0.9%	3.7%	4.0%	5.9%
WELLINGTON ADMIRAL - VWENX	onds & Stocks	s 8th	5th	0.18%	0.1%	13.3%	15.9%	11.6%	8.4%	7.9%
Moderate Allocation Funds >>		Category Avera	ige >>	0.94%	-1.3%	9.8%	13.3%	9.8%	6.3%	5.4%
WINDSOR II ADMIRAL - VWNAX	Stocks	32nd	28th	0.28%	-0.2%	17.7%	22.8%	14.8%	8.0%	7.1%
Large-Cap U.S. Value Stock Funds >>	•	Category Avera	ige >>	1.15%	-0.6%	16.4%	21.4%	13.7%	7.2%	6.3%
500 INDEX ADMIRAL - VFIAX	Stocks	18th	26th	0.05%	1.12%	19.7%	23.0%	15.7%	8.1%	4.9%
Large-Cap U.S. Blend Stock Funds >>		Category Avera	ige >>	1.10%	-0.1%	16.8%	21.6%	14.1%	7.5%	5.2%
SELECTED VALUE - VASVX	Stocks	54th	11th	0.43%	-4.1%	13.6%	24.3%	16.7%	10.2%	10.9%
Mid-Cap U.S. Value Stock Funds >>		Category Avera	ige >>	1.25%	-3.4%	13.6%	22.9%	15.0%	8.7%	9.4%
MORGAN GROWTH ADMIRAL - VMRAX	Stocks	42nd	37th	0.25%	1.3%	17.0%	21.7%	15.5%	8.7%	5.4%
Large-Cap U.S. Growth Stock Funds >	·>	Category Avera	ige >>	1.22%	0.7%	16.2%	21.3%	14.6%	8.3%	4.6%
MID-CAP GROWTH INVESTOR - VMGRX	Stocks	39th	18th	0.51%	-1.5%	11.4%	20.7%	16.1%	10.6%	8.7%
Mid-Cap U.S. Growth Stock Funds >>		Category Avera	ige >>	1.33%	-2.3%	10.1%	20.1%	14.8%	9.1%	7.5%
EXPLORER ADMIRAL - VEXRX	Stocks	18th	37th	0.34%	-4.6%	6.9%	22.6%	16.4%	9.2%	9.2%
Small-Cap U.S. Growth Stock Funds:	<b>&gt;&gt;</b>	Category Avera	ige >>	1.40%	-5.8%	2.8%	20.1%	14.8%	8.6%	7.4%
INTERNATIONAL GROWTH ADMIRAL - VWILX	oreign Stocks	38th	19th	0.35%	-4.9%	4.5%	15.2%	8.5%	8.1%	5.6%
Foreign Large Growth Stock Funds >>		Category Avera	ige >>	1.23%	-5.6%	3.8%	13.1%	6.2%	6.3%	4.3%
EMERGING MARKETS INDEX ADMIRAL - VEMAX	Foreign Stock	ks 28th	30th	0.15%	-2.4%	6.2%	7.7%	4.3%	10.4%	9.2%
Diversified Emerging Markets Stock Fo	unds >>	Category Avera	ige >>	1.59%	-3.5%	4.8%	7.9%	4.3%	9.8%	9.2%
ENERGY ADMIRAL - VGELX	Energy Stocks	35th	10th	0.32%	-10.1%	8.5%	13.1%	8.0%	10.9%	12.9%
Energy Sector Stock Funds >>		Category Avera	ige >>	1.54%	-10.2%	7.9%	13.8%	7.1%	9.5%	10.9%

<u>Dechert-Hampe & Co Employees' Savings and Profit Sharing Plan Vanguard Funds Performance Specifics and Comparatives</u>

(All for periods ended September 30, 2014)

A fund with a 43<sup>rd</sup> Ranking outperformed 57% of its peers.

Remember: Past performance is absolutely NOT a guarantee of future performance!

(2) "OER" or Operating Expense
Ratio: Annual % of fund assets
paid for fund operations and mgmt.

outperformed 57% of its peers.	•			•		/	•		paid for fund	d operations a	and mgmt.
VANGUARD INDEXED AUTO-BALANCED	FUND Securities	→ Mor Perce	rningstar <sup>™</sup> entile <sup>(1)</sup> Ra	<sup>l</sup> Category nking Past		Total Return Performance for			Average Annualize Total Return for:		<u> </u>
Morningstar Category Name	Type(s)		1 Year	5 Years	OER (2)	Past Qtr	<u>12 Mos</u>	3 Yrs	<u>5 Yrs</u>	<u>10 Yrs</u>	<u>15 Yrs</u>
TARGET RETIREMENT INCOME - VTINX	Target Date 2000-2	2010	43rd	44th	0.16%	-0.4%	6.5%	7.4%	7.0%	5.5%	N/A
Retirement Income Funds >>		Catego	ory Average	? >>	0.51%	-1.2%	5.9%	7.8%	6.9%	4.5%	4.0%
TARGET RETIREMENT 2010 - VTENX	Target Date 2000-2	2010	23rd	30th	0.16%	-0.5%	7.6%	9.6%	8.2%	N/A	N/A
Target Date 2000-2010 Funds >	>	Catego	ory Average	>>	0.55%	-1.34%	6.4%	8.9%	7.3%	5.0%	3.7%
TARGET RETIREMENT 2015 - VTXVX	Target Date 2011-2	2015	6th	11th	0.16%	-0.7%	9.1%	11.7%	9.2%	6.3%	N/A
Target Date 2011-2015 Funds >	>	Catego	ory Average	? >>	0.47%	-1.4%	6.9%	9.8%	7.8%	5.4%	3.5%
TARGET RETIREMENT 2020 - VTENX	Target Date 2016-2	2020	4th	8th	0.16%	-0.8%	10.1%	13.3%	10.0%	N/A	N/A
Target Date 2016-2020 Funds >	>	Catego	ory Average	>>	0.54%	-1.6%	7.5%	10.9%	8.4%	5.5%	3.7%
TARGET RETIREMENT 2025 - VTXVX	Target Date 2021-2	2025	6th	18th	0.17%	-1.0%	10.8%	14.6%	10.6%	6.7%	N/A
Target Date 2021-2025 Funds >	>	Catego	ory Average	>>	0.47%	-1.7%	8.7%	13.1%	9.6%	6.4%	N/A
TARGET RETIREMENT 2030 - VTENX	Target Date 2026-2	2030	5th	12th	0.17%	-1.2%	11.5%	15.9%	11.2%	N/A	N/A
Target Date 2026-2030 Funds >	>	Catego	ory Average	>>	0.54%	-1.9%	9.0%	13.7%	9.7%	6.0%	3.9%
TARGET RETIREMENT 2035 - VTXVX	Target Date 2031-2	2035	6th	10th	0.18%	-1.4%	12.2%	17.2%	11.8%	7.2%	N/A
Target Date 2031-2035 Funds >	>	Catego	ory Average	>>	0.47%	-2.1%	9.9%	15.5%	10.7%	6.7%	N/A
TARGET RETIREMENT 2040 - VTENX	Target Date 2036-2	2040	6th	7th	0.18%	-1.5%	12.7%	17.9%	12.1%	N/A	N/A
Target Date 2036-2040 Funds >	>	Catego	ory Average	? >>	0.53%	-2.1%	9.9%	15.4%	10.5%	6.3%	3.6%
TARGET RETIREMENT 2045 - VTXVX	Target Date 2041-2	2045	7th	9th	0.18%	-1.5%	12.7%	17.9%	12.1%	7.6%	N/A
Target Date 2041-2045 Funds >	>	Catego	ory Average	>>	0.47%	-2.2%	10.4%	16.9%	11.1%	7.6%	N/A
TARGET RETIREMENT 2050 - VTENX	Target Date 2046-2	2050	6th	9th	0.18%	-1.5%	12.7%	17.9%	12.1%	N/A	N/A
Target Date 2046-2050 Funds >	<b>&gt;&gt;</b>	Catego	ory Average	? >>	0.52%	-2.2%	10.3%	16.0%	10.7%	6.7%	N/A
TARGET RETIREMENT 2055 - VTXVX	Target Date 205	1+	10th	n/a	0.18%	-1.5%	12.7%	17.9%	N/A	N/A	N/A
Target Date 2051+ Funds >>		Catego	ory Average	? >>	0.46%	-2.2%	10.8%	17.2%	10.7%	N/A	N/A
LIFE STRATEGY CONSERVATIVE - VSCGX	Conservative Alloc	ation	20th	36th	0.15%	-0.4%	8.1%	9.3%	7.6%	5.6%	5.2%
Conservative Allocation Funds >	>	Catego	ory Average	>>	0.86%	-1.5%	6.5%	8.3%	7.1%	5.2%	5.0%
LIFE STRATEGY GROWTH - VASGX	Aggressive Alloca	tion	27th	30th	0.17%	-1.3%	11.8%	16.2%	11.2%	7.0%	5.1%
Aggressive Allocation Funds >>		Catego	ory Average	? >>	0.91%	-1.9%	10.7%	15.6%	10.6%	6.5%	5.3%
<del></del>		_	•								