



# LETTER

Version 7.20

## 2010 COLA updates

Here are the new limits for 2010:

401(k) Deferrals	\$16,500
Annual DC Limit	\$49,000
Annual Compensation Limit	\$245,000
Defined Benefit Limit	\$195,000
Catch-up Contribution Limit	\$5,500
HCE Threshold	\$110,000
Social Security Wage Base	\$106,800

Please review the paperwork I am sending along with the Nov. '09 update for more details and or click on File, Bulletin Board at the main Incompass Screen.

All of these COLA additions have been added to this update, version 7.20.. Of interest, for 2010 almost all of the COLA amounts did not change.

Remember also, that the Incompass System maintains all COLA updates by year back to the beginning of any limitations.

## Microsoft Windows 7

On 10/22/09 Microsoft released their latest version of a Windows Operating System. As with Vista, this software comes in two major versions. There is a 32bit version and a 64bit version. We have tested both now.

For those of you that have a Vista machine, we recommend upgrading to Windows 7. We also recommend that you upgrade to the 32bit version because some software does not run well using the 64bit version.

## FLASH DRIVES!

Flash drives have truly become the latest in easy to use storage media. They are so much better than CD's or DVD's because of their read/write and rewrite capability. With that said, we would like to suggest a method of helping you manage your plans.

The Incompass system is written so all DC plans are maintained in a single file on your computer. The same is true for DB plans also. Should you wish to extract an individual plan from the DC master file, you would extract the plan via Administrative Functions, Option X, then use Option C or K. Option C is not recommended for what we are discussing here, but, Option K is. With Option K, you can copy (does not remove the client from the DC Master File) the individual plan to the removable Flash drive. Further, if this is a combo of a Profit Sharing and a Money Purchase plan, and/or Comparability Plan all can be copied to the Flash Drive. This also applies to 401(k) plans. It does not matter if it is a single plan, or, a multi fund plan. All can be copied to the Flash Drive. The option will also allow you to copy all DC reports to this same file. This can be very beneficial when you have completed work for the plan year. Further, since the system always creates the same file name, you can use "My Computer" in your version of Windows to find (browse) the file (DC.ARC) right click on DC.ARC, select RENAME, and change the name to something meaningful to you. IE: ABC Co. 12345 (your plan number) 12-31-08 (the plan year end).

This is just an example, You can rename it whatever you wish.

My example would look like:

ABC Co\_12345\_12-31-08.arc

The underscores can be helpful, but some prefer dashes or spaces.

Of course for reversing this procedure, please consider the following. You can rename the file back to DC.ARC and have the Incompass system pull it back into your DC master file or you can renumber the plan to another number. Flash Drives come in many sizes. Originally, they were 128mb, then 256mb etc. Now you can shop at Walmart, Costco, Staples etc., and find packages of multiple 4GB or more. Flash Drives are up to 32GB now but I would suggest that this is overkill. Further, you must deal with how the Flash Drive is formatted. The entire Incompass System, DC and DB together takes up less than 25 mb until you load your master files. On my computer, my master files contain 482 plans of both DC and DB.

The master files for these total 45 mb, so a 1 gb Flash Drive would easily hold all of these and much more.

## **DID YOU KNOW**

Each version of Windows causes unique problems with the display of software. IE: If you run Microsoft Word or Excel using Windows 98 or Windows 2000 etc., the appearance can be different from what you are used to. Also, if you receive a Word document or Excel file written in Office 2007, Microsoft has changed the extension which causes Office 2003 to not recognize the file. Microsoft Word 2003 will not read a file created by Microsoft Word 2007. If you have Microsoft Word 2007 and want to stay compatible with Word 2003, then do a 'Save As' and change the saved document as Word 2003. The appearance can change with the Incompass Software also. This can be especially true with Windows XP and Windows Vista, and Windows 7. Windows 7 according to many testing groups is a much better OS than Vista. If you plan to change operating systems, it can be very helpful to yourself and to us to let us know. We can help by sending you setup programs that will allow you to transition smoothly. We have been

testing Windows 7, and discovered that moving from a menu screen to a program screen sometimes does not work with the keyboard, but, does with the mouse. Of course, we are working on determining what is causing this.

We discovered that certain parameters within Windows operating systems can change the size of the display of Incompass screens. This was perplexing since we did not change the screen size, the Windows operating system did. We have updates to correct this, so if you are struggling with an Incompass screen that is too small to work with, let us know.

## **PDF CONVERTED REPORTS**

All reports created by the Incompass System can now be converted to Adobe Acrobat format known as PDF format. This is a valuable tool in that Adobe Acrobat is usually loaded onto any new computer, or, downloadable from the Internet free of charge.

This gives you the flexibility of storing, retrieving, and or printing these reports as required, or, transmitting them as an 'attached' file(s) using your email.

There is a detailed explanation of this procedure inside the system.

From the main Incompass screen, click on MANUAL or click on your Adobe Reader Icon independent of the Incompass System; then, follow the instructions to wherever you have the system installed. Usually this is your C:\ drive. From there, click on \INC directory, and look for PDF\_INC.PDF.

Please notice that there are many other PDF formatted files to help with using the Incompass System.