

Penbridge Advisors to introduce U.S. pension industry's first defined benefit expense benchmarks report

First wave of plan expense data to be collected August through December 2014

STAMFORD, CT, July 31, 2014 — The first tool to enable corporate defined benefit plan sponsors to compare the expenses of their own plan with those of similar plans will be launched by Penbridge Advisors in early 2015. The inaugural **Penbridge Defined Benefit Expense Benchmarks Report** will be based on expense data collected from participating plan sponsors during an initial survey fielding period beginning August 1 and running through year-end.

“The Report will be an invaluable tool to help plan sponsors and fiduciaries make informed decisions involving the cost of maintaining their DB plan,” said Steve Keating, Principal, Penbridge Advisors. He noted that the Report also will make it easier for plan fiduciaries to comply with ERISA regulations that require all fees paid by a plan to be reasonable.

The **Penbridge DB Expense Survey** is designed to capture all DB plan expenses, whether paid by the plan or directly by the plan sponsor. Expense categories include Trust and Custody, Administration, Actuarial, Investment Management, Investment Advisory (discretionary and non-discretionary), Total PBGC Premiums, Legal, Plan Audit, Insurance (operational) and Other. The Report will contain percentile analysis showing a plan's relative ranking to similar plans for each of the categories as well as for the total plan.

“Plan sponsors and fiduciaries need access to unbiased and comparable expense benchmarking data for their DB plans,” according to Robert Goldbloom, Principal, Penbridge Advisors. He added that plan sponsors, in their settlor role, can also use the expense data to help evaluate the financial implications of pension risk transfer.

To participate in the survey, plan sponsors are asked to fill out a registration form at www.penbridgeadvisors.com/DB_Expense_Survey_Registration. Plan-specific responses will remain completely confidential. Respondents to the survey during the initial August-December fielding period will receive, at no charge, a customized DB Expense Benchmarks Report for each plan on which they submit information.

For more information

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About Penbridge Advisors

Penbridge Advisors provides pension plans with information and advisory services on the U.S. pension risk transfer (PRT) market and products. Penbridge provides free access to the industry's only PRT database, currently used by more than 300 plan sponsors and advisory firms. Penbridge's advisory services include plan termination pricing and underwriting assessments and customized buy-out price monitoring services to help plan sponsors decide on PRT strategy and timing. Penbridge also delivers PRT education workshops to corporate boards, C-level executives and pension plan committees. In addition to working with plan sponsors directly, Penbridge partners with select advisory firms to provide integrated PRT services and solutions. Penbridge also supports investment consultants and asset managers by integrating PRT analytics into their liability-driven investment mandates.

To access the Penbridge PRT Database, please visit www.penbridgeadvisors.com/join