

Q & A concerning the McDATA distribution

1. Where can I find more information about EMC's distribution of McDATA Class A common stock to EMC stockholders?

After January 24, 2001, the record date for the distribution of McDATA Class A common stock by EMC, EMC will mail an information statement to EMC stockholders of record as of 5:00 PM Eastern time on the record date. The information statement will include the ratio of shares of McDATA Class A common stock to be distributed for each share of EMC common stock, as well as information on McDATA and the tax treatment of the distribution.

2. Where can I find more information about McDATA?

Information about McDATA is available on McDATA's web site at www.mcdata.com

3. Who should I call with questions about my stock account or stock certificates?

If you hold shares in a brokerage or bank account, contact your representative at that bank or brokerage firm. If you hold share certificates issued by EMC in your name, contact Equiserve, the transfer agent for EMC common stock.

4. When do I need to own EMC common stock in order to receive McDATA Class A common stock in the distribution?

You must be an owner of record of EMC common stock by 5:00 PM Eastern time on January 24, 2001, the record date, in order to receive McDATA Class A common stock in the distribution. You should be aware that if you sell shares of EMC common stock between January 25, 2001 and February 7, 2001, you may also be selling your right to receive McDATA Class A common stock in the distribution.

5. How many shares of McDATA Class A common stock will I be entitled to receive in the distribution?

The McDATA Class A common stock will be distributed to EMC stockholders in the amount of .03680690155687 of a share of McDATA Class A common stock for each share of EMC common stock.

6. Will I receive fractional shares of McDATA Class A common stock in the distribution?

No. The distribution agent will not deliver any fractional shares of McDATA Class A common stock in connection with the distribution. Instead, the distribution agent will aggregate all fractional shares and sell them on behalf of those holders who otherwise would be entitled to receive a fractional share. Such holders will then receive a cash payment in an amount equal to their pro rata share of the total net proceeds of that sale.

7. How will I receive shares of McDATA Class A common stock?

Ownership of the McDATA Class A common stock received by EMC stockholders will be registered in book-entry form. Each EMC stockholder will receive a stock distribution statement from the distribution agent for the distribution indicating the number of full shares of McDATA Class A common stock that have been credited to that EMC stockholder. Each EMC stockholder will also receive a cash payment for any fractional shares of McDATA Class A common stock.

8. If I hold my EMC shares through my stockbroker, bank or other nominee, how will my shares of McDATA Class A common stock be credited to me?

If you hold your EMC common stock through a stockbroker, bank or other nominee, that firm will credit your McDATA Class A common stock to your account.

9. Will the trading price of either EMC common stock or McDATA Class B common stock affect the number of shares I receive?

No, the trading prices of the stocks will not affect the number of shares to which you are entitled. McDATA Class B common stock currently trades on the Nasdaq National Market under the symbol "MCDT."

10. Will the number of shares of EMC common stock I own increase or decrease after the distribution?

The distribution will not change the number of shares of EMC common stock that you own.

11. Will I be entitled to receive the McDATA stock dividend for all shares of EMC common stock that I own?

You must be a stockholder of EMC as of 5:00 PM Eastern time on January 24, 2001, the record date, to receive shares of McDATA Class A common stock. This means that you must own EMC common stock in either certificate form or in your brokerage or bank account.

12. If a mutual fund I am invested in holds EMC common stock, will I be entitled to receive McDATA Class A common stock?

If you hold a mutual fund that owns EMC common stock, you need to check with your mutual fund advisor to see how the distribution will be treated by the mutual fund.

13. What is the difference between McDATA Class A and Class B common stock?

McDATA has two classes of common stock, A and B. EMC stockholders will receive McDATA Class A common stock, which has the same relative rights as the McDATA Class B common stock, except that each share of Class A common stock is entitled to one vote per share and each share of Class B common stock is entitled to one-tenth of one vote per share on matters submitted to a vote by McDATA stockholders. McDATA Class B common stock currently trades on the Nasdaq National Market under the symbol "MCDT", while McDATA Class A common stock will trade on the same market under the symbol "MCDTA" after the distribution date.

14. Why will there be different stock symbols for McDATA?

The difference in the stock symbols reflects the fact that after the distribution there will be two classes of McDATA common stock which are publicly traded: McDATA Class A common stock will trade under the symbol "MCDTA"; and McDATA Class B common stock will trade under the symbol "MCDT."

15. Why will there be different stock symbols for EMC between January 25, 2001 and February 7, 2001?

The difference in the stock symbols is due to the creation of two markets in EMC common stock: a "regular way" market and an "ex-distribution" market. Between the record date and the distribution date, the regular way market will trade EMC common stock under the ticker symbol "EMC" and include the entitlement to receive the dividend of McDATA Class A common stock. The ex-distribution market will trade EMC common stock under the ticker symbol "EMC WI" (i.e., without the distribution of McDATA Class A common stock) and will not include an entitlement to receive shares of

McDATA Class A common stock. Since the EMC common stock to be traded on the regular way market includes McDATA Class A common stock, the price of these shares will likely be higher than the price of the EMC WI shares.

The ex-distribution market will end at market close on February 7, 2001 and EMC will trade thereafter only under one ticker symbol, "EMC."

16. Why will the EMC WI price likely be different from the EMC price?

EMC common stock traded on the regular way market (under the symbol "EMC") will include the attached value of the shares of McDATA Class A common stock, so its price will likely be higher. EMC common stock traded on the ex-distribution market (under the symbol "EMC WI") will represent EMC common stock without the value of any shares of McDATA Class A common stock, so its price will likely be lower.

17. Is the distribution tax-free?

The U.S. Internal Revenue Service has ruled in a private letter that the distribution by EMC to EMC stockholders of McDATA Class A common stock will be free of U.S. federal income taxes. This means that for U.S. federal income tax purposes, EMC stockholders will not recognize a gain or loss when they receive shares of McDATA Class A common stock in the distribution. However, depending upon your cost basis in your EMC common stock, a gain or loss may be recognized upon sale of your McDATA Class A common stock. Any cash received in lieu of fractional shares will be taxable for U.S. federal income tax purposes.

International stockholders should consult with a personal tax advisor to determine the tax effects of this distribution. In many jurisdictions outside the United States, the distribution may be taxable.

18. Do I use the dates on which I purchased my shares of EMC common stock to determine the capital gain/loss holding period of the shares of McDATA Class A common stock I received in the distribution?

Yes. The purchase dates of your shares of EMC common stock are used to determine the holding periods of the distributed shares of McDATA Class A common stock.

19. For tax purposes, what percentage of the original cost of my EMC shares should be allocated to the McDATA shares I receive?

When calculating any gain or loss relating to your EMC common stock and McDATA Class A common stock for tax reporting purposes, the tax basis in shares of EMC common stock immediately prior to the distribution is allocated between your McDATA Class A common stock and EMC common stock in proportion of their relative fair market values on February 7, 2001, the distribution date.

The information statement that was mailed to EMC stockholders of record on January 24, 2001 contains information as to the tax treatment of the distribution