



WHAT'S NEW?

from the
Benefits and Entitlements Service Team (BEST)

8 Oct 03

Thrift Savings Plan Open Season Begins 15 October 2003. The TSP open season begins on 15 Oct 02 and runs through 31 Dec 03. Open season enrollments or changes made 15 Oct – 13 Dec will be effective 14 Dec 03 and reflected on 2 Jan 04 leave and earnings statements. Elections made 14 - 31 Dec 03 will be effective at the beginning of the pay period following the pay period in which the election was made. Effective with this open season, the maximum employee contribution rates are increasing. FERS employees may contribute 14 percent of their basic pay, and CSRS employees may contribute 9 percent. The maximum amount an employee may contribute to TSP in 2004 is \$13,000. Air Force-serviced civilian employees will use the BEST phone automated system or the EBIS web application to make open season enrollments or changes. For more information, go to the BEST Homepage and click on “Thrift Savings Plan.”

1 Oct 03

Thrift Savings Plan Rates of Return Posted for Sep 03. The following chart of G, F, C, S, and I Fund returns represent the change in their respective share prices for the month of Sep 03. The changes in share prices reflect net earnings after accrued TSP administrative expenses, trading costs and accrued investment managements fees have been deducted. Percentages in () are negative returns. For more information, including share costs, go to the TSP Homepage at www.tsp.gov and click on Rates of Returns.

	G Fund	F Fund	C Fund	S Fund	I Fund
September 2003	0.40%	2.68%	(1.14%)	(1.35%)	3.08%
<u>Last 12 Months</u> 10/1/2002 - 9/30/2003)	4.08%	5.49%	24.16%	32.78%	25.89%