

A Message from State Treasurer Richard H. Moore

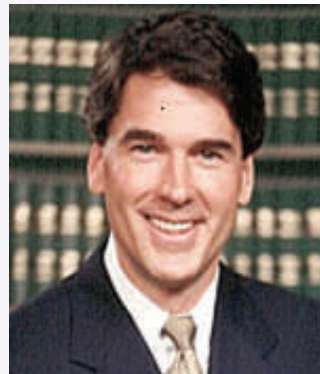
Welcome to the first edition of the *ORBIT Informer*. This publication will keep you up to speed on our state-of-the-art ORBIT system, which will **go live in October of 2007**.

ORBIT, which stands for Online Retirement Benefits through Integrated Technology, is designed to improve service to you and the more than 700,000 employees and retirees we serve.

ORBIT will provide you with online access to real-time information about your employees and place electronic reporting capabilities at your fingertips.

Your employees will have full **online access** to their personal retirement accounts, which will enable them to retrieve current service and contribution information from any computer 24 hours a day.

We look forward to working with you over the next



year to build ORBIT to provide the services you need.

I hope you find the *ORBIT Informer* helpful as we travel this journey together. Thank you for all you do for the 700,000 members of North Carolina's retirement systems.

ORBIT Link for Employers Only

Employers now have their own link for all things about ORBIT.

To check it out, go to www.myncretirement.com/orbitinfo.

You'll find information including:

- New file format
- Progress toward "go live" in Oct. 2007
- Regular ORBIT Update bulletins
- Archives of ORBIT publications
- If you're not already on the mailing list, you can also sign up for the *Retirement Monitor Update* and *ORBIT Informer* online
- And more!

Employer Education Services Unit is Here to Help

"Employers are at the heart of our business," says State Treasurer Richard H. Moore. "We've listened to their concerns and are responding with innovative programs like the Employer Education Services Unit (EESU)."

The EESU was created two years ago to serve as an advocate for employers and to provide education specifically designed to meet employers' needs. That means creating and developing training programs, as well as arranging and

delivering them.

Now fully staffed, the Unit is already training employers weekly in its initial programs: General Retirement (for state and local government employers) and Disability (for state government employers only). At the same time, EESU is developing new programs, including ORBIT training.

For more information, contact the EESU staff at eesu@nctreasurer.com





ORBIT Profile

Kristen Bierline

We want you to get to know us. So in each issue, we'll feature one of the people helping to make ORBIT work for you. We begin with Kristen, team lead for our Employer Education Services Unit.

When did you begin working for the Retirement Systems Division?

I began working for the Retirement Systems Division in 3/03.

What have you learned in your time working with the Retirement Systems Division?

I feel that working here allows me to serve a purpose by educating others with valuable retirement benefit information.

What do you like best about interacting with employers?

I really enjoy the opportunity to develop a relationship with them. It gives me a great deal of satisfaction when someone will refer a co-worker to a training class or tells him or her to call me knowing he or she will receive an accurate and prompt response.

What are some of your general goals in training employers with ORBIT?

Our main goal is to educate employers and get them enthused about this new opportunity that can eventually assist them in reducing their workload. I think that ORBIT will prove to be a priceless tool that will someday make us wonder how we functioned without it.

FAQs*



Q. What kind of help will we get to make the transition to ORBIT?

A. The Retirement Systems Division and the ORBIT Project Team are planning a two-pronged strategy to help prepare employers. The first is listening to your representatives on the Employer Council and its recently formed ORBIT subcommittee.

Second, we are undertaking an ongoing series of information, education and support activities geared toward employers.

Specifically, you can expect:

- Regular updates via the *Informer*, *ORBIT Update* memos and *Retirement Monitor Update*
- Hands-on training sessions prior to go live
- Online training sessions
- Electronic and printed guides and support materials.

Got a question? Email us at eesu@nctreasurer.com.

*Frequently Asked Questions

Why ORBIT?

Astronauts say that seeing the earth from space changes your perspective forever. And that's exactly what the NC Department of the State Treasurer is doing with ORBIT-getting away from the day-to-day pressures of running the state's retirement systems to take a fresh look at how business is done.

ORBIT is not just a technology project: it's an opportunity to change the way we do business to better serve you and your employees.



Countdown to ORBIT Go-Live

