

# Measuring What Matters in Your 401(k) Plan for Recruitment, Retention and Reward

March 25, 2015

The webinar will start at 12:00 pm CT



Brad Bechtel
Vice President
Employee Benefit Services





If you need HRCI/CPE credit, please participate in all polls throughout the presentation.





A recording of today's webinar will be emailed for your reference or to share with others.

**EMPLOYER SOLUTIONS** 

**#AGHUwebinars** 



For best quality, call in by phone instead of using your computer speakers.

AGH EMPLOYER SOLUTIONS



To ask questions during the presentation, use the question's box on the right side of your screen.

**AGH** EMPLOYER SOLUTIONS



Please provide your feedback at the end of today's presentation.

AGH EMPLOYER SOLUTIONS

# **About the Speaker**



**Brad Bechtel**Vice President, Employee Benefits

Leader of AGH's employee benefits services division

Experience as consultant to numerous Fortune 500 companies



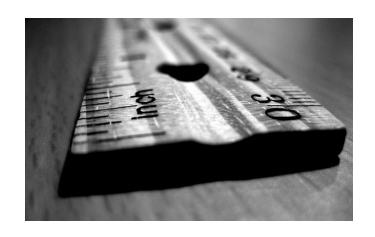
# **Today's Objectives**

- Understand plan design optimization and increased benefits to owners, highly compensated employees and the 'rank and file' employees.
- Learn how various plan contribution designs can be used to benefit different groups within the workforce.
- Differentiate between various plan designs which can meet the changing needs of the employer and workforce.



# **Measuring What Matters**

- Know your participants.
- Measure key areas.
- Use best practices.
- Communicate effectively.
- Have an impact in a tight-budget environment.



# **Measuring What Matters**

There is no guarantee that a diversified portfolio will outperform a non-diversified portfolio nor can asset allocation eliminate risk of fluctuating prices or enhance overall returns. These strategies will not ensure profit or guarantee against loss.

Any performance Information discussed will represent past performance. Past performance does not guarantee future results. Investment return and principal value will fluctuate so that investors' shares, when redeemed, will be more or less than their original cost. Investing in mutual funds are subject to the risks of their underlying investment holdings including possible loss of principle. Investments in specialized industry sectors carry additional risks, which are outlined in the prospectus.

Mutual funds are offered with a prospectus. Investors should consider the investment objectives, risks and charges and expenses of the investment company carefully before investing. The prospectus contains this and other information about the Investment company. You can obtain a prospectus from your financial representative. Read the prospectus carefully before investing.

Target-date funds, also known as lifecycle funds, are funds of funds that change the makeup of their portfolios over time in an attempt to meet goals you plan to reach at a specific time, such as retirement.

Typically, target-date funds are usually sold by a specific date, such as a '2025' fund. The farther away the redemption date is, the greater the risks the fund usually takes. As an example, a fund may contain a portfolio mix of equity, debt (fixed income) and cash equivalent investments with equities making up the largest portion of the portfolio. However, as the target date approaches, the fund will change its balance of investments to add more debt to emphasize conserving the value it has built up and to shift toward income producing investments based on its target date.

Investments in Target Retirement Funds are subject to the risks of their underlying investments. The fund will gradually shift its emphasis from more aggressive investments to more conservative ones. An investment in the Target Retirement Fund is not guaranteed at any time, including on or after the target date.



# **Polling Question #1**



Procrastination and inertia



Procrastination and inertia

Information overload and paralysis



Procrastination and inertia

Information overload and paralysis

Future willpower



Procrastination and inertia

Information overload and paralysis

Future willpower

Irrational investment decision making



Procrastination and inertia

Information overload and paralysis

Future willpower

Irrational investment decision making

Weighing losses more than gains



## Resulting Investment Behavior

- Poor diversification
- Lack of rebalancing
- Less-than-optimal number of funds
- Inadequate use of asset allocation funds



### Participation Rates: Other Variables

- Family income
- Education
- Gender
- Race



#### Source:

Employee Benefit Research Institute - Employment-Based Retirement Plan Participation: Geographic Differences and Trends, 2013



#### **Participation Rates: Race and Ethnicity**

#### Percentage of Participants by Earnings and Race/Ethnicity

Earnings	White	Black	Other	Hispanic
\$20,000-\$29,999	38%	37%	28%	24%
\$75,000 or more	71%	73%	67%	66%

#### Source:

Employee Benefit Research Institute - Employment-Based Retirement Plan Participation: Geographic Differences and Trends, 2013

**#AGHUwebinars** 



## **Participation Rates: Best Practices**

- Faster, less-restricted eligibility
- Automatic enrollment
- Targeted communications
- Mandatory educational meetings
- Simple enrollment forms





#### Participation Rates: Automatic Enrollment

- 50.2% of plans surveyed have automatic enrollment
  - 66% of plans with 5,000 or more participants
  - 19% of plans with fewer than 50 participants

#### Participation Rates: Automatic Enrollment

- 50.2% of plans surveyed have automatic enrollment
  - 66% of plans with 5,000 or more participants
  - 19% of plans with fewer than 50 participants
- 65.2% of plans have automatic escalation of contributions – "step-up"

#### Participation Rates: Automatic Enrollment

- 50.2% of plans surveyed have automatic enrollment
  - 66% of plans with 5,000 or more participants
  - 19% of plans with fewer than 50 participants
- 65.2% of plans have automatic escalation of contributions – "step-up"
- 72.1% of plans have target date fund as default investment option

## **Deferral Rates: Industry Averages**

- Automatic enrollment: 3%
- Highly Compensated Employees: 6.6%
- Non-highly Compensated Employees: 5.3%





#### **Deferral Rates: Best Practices**

- Automatic enrollment beginning at 4-6%
- "Step-up" deferral programs to 10%
- Stretching your match "Chasing the rabbit"
- Relaxed service requirements
- Less-restrictive vesting schedules





# Polling Question #2



# **Asset Allocation: Industry Norms**

- Average 19 funds
- Participation suffers with too many investment options
- Equities dominate at 48.9%
- Shift to target date funds
- Few plans match with company stock
- Few participants actively trade

#### Sources:

- 1. 57th Annual Survey of Profit Sharing and 401(k) Plans, Profit Sharing/401(k) Council of America, 2014
- 2. Columbia University, "Choice of Overload"
- 3. How America Saves 2014, The Vanguard Group, 2014



#### **Asset Allocation: Best Practices**

- Target date funds
- Default investment option
- Automatic rebalancing
- Offering employee investment advice



#### Sources:

1. Source: 57th Annual Survey of Profit Sharing and 401(k) Plans, Profit Sharing/401(k) Council of America, 2014

2. 2014 Hot Topics in Retirement, Aon Hewitt, 2014



#### **Participant Balances: Industry Norms**

- Average 401(k) participant balance:\$101,650
- Savings and investments amounts are low
- Standard of living projected to be lower for future retirees than for current retirees

#### Sources:

- 1. How America Saves 2014, The Vanguard Group, 2014
- 2. What are the Retirement Prospects of Middle-Class Americans, AARP Public Policy Study, 2013



#### Participant Balances: Best Practices

- Raise participation and deferral rates
- Offer profit sharing contribution
- Remind new employees of rollover option
- Remind terminating employees they can leave balances in plan





## Measuring with Outcomes in Mind

#### Data can serve as a tool and trigger.

- Income replacement ratio
- Financial information from other sources
- Loans, garnishments, hardship withdrawals





# Polling Question #3



# **Communicating Effectively**

#### Most commonly used:

- Intranet/Internet (90% of plans)
- Targeted mailings (79% of plans)





#### **Communication Initiatives in 2015-2016**

- Appreciation of plan (52%)
- Plan participation (63%)
- Diversification/fund usage (54%)
- Contribution levels (63%)
- Retirement income adequacy (47%)
   (Income Replacement Ratio)

#### Sources:

1. 2014 Hot Topics in Retirement, Aon Hewitt, 2014



#### **Communications Best Practices**

- Broad approach
  - One-on-one meetings
  - Web-based and other technology
  - Custom written material
  - Targeted mailings





# **Targeted Communications**

- Relevant to individuals
- Age-appropriate
- Personalized income projections and gap analysis
- Financial Wellness Programs (HelloWallet.com)



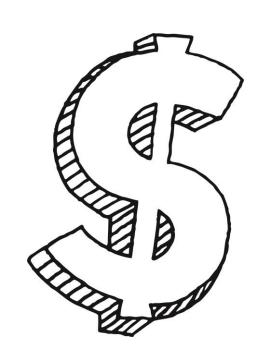


# **Polling Question #4**



# **Best Practices on a Budget**

- Simple enrollment
- Less restrictive eligibility
- Automatic enrollment
- "Step-up" programs
- Stretch match
- Target date fund options





## Best Practices on a Budget (cont.)

- Default allocations to target date funds
- Automatic rebalancing
- Targeted communications
- Mandatory meetings
- One-on-one advisor advice



## **Optimizing Your Plan: 6 Easy Steps**

- Understand relationship between "rank and file" and owner / highly compensated employees.
- 2. Get to know your employees and participants.
- 3. Use data.
- 4. Take the initiative.
- 5. Communicate effectively.
- 6. Use "best practices" on a tight budget.





# Thank you!

#### **Brad Bechtel**

Vice President, Employee Benefits Services

- brad.bechtel@aghemployersolutions.com
- linkedin.com/in/bechtelbrad
- <u>@bechtel\_brad</u>
- (316) 291-4131

Check out our other webinars! AGHUniversity.com Questions **NOT** related to today's content? <u>mike.ditch@aghlc.com</u>