

# How to defer (or eliminate) capital gains tax on the sale of your business

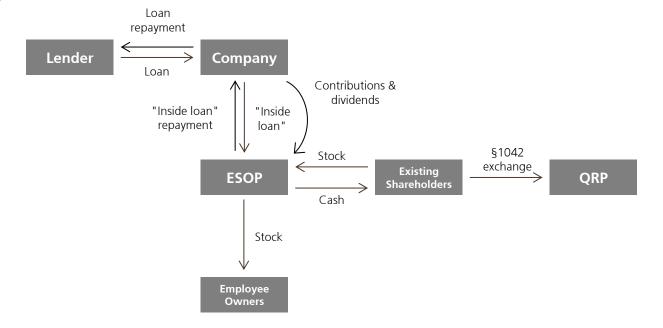
Internal Revenue Code §1042

The Capital ESOP Group



## The process: From start to finish

- 1. Company creates Employee Stock Ownership Plan (ESOP)
- 2. Company borrows funds from Lender
- 3. Company lends the proceeds to the ESOP through an "inside loan"
- 4. ESOP uses proceeds to purchase shares from existing shareholders
- 5. Existing shareholders have the option to elect §1042 and purchase QRP
- 6. Company makes tax-deductible contributions to the ESOP
- 7. ESOP repays the "inside loan" to the Company using the contributions and dividends
- 8. Company repays the Lender
- 9. Shares held by the ESOP are released to employee accounts as the "inside loan" is repaid





# Selling shareholder options\*

## Selling shareholder pays capital gains tax

Typically, an employee stock ownership plan (ESOP) sale is structured as a stock sale, as opposed to an asset sale. Therefore, each selling shareholder is taxed at their individual capital gains tax rate on the sale.

## **Selling shareholder elects Section 1042 treatment**

Under §1042 of the Internal Revenue Code (IRC), eligible shareholders can defer capital gains tax on eligible stock sold to an ESOP if the proceeds of the sale are reinvested in qualified replacement property (QRP). Taxes will not be owed until the taxpayer has a disposition of QRP. If structured properly, the taxpayer will avoid paying all long-term capital gains taxes, similar to the real estate provision IRC §1031 and life insurance §1035.



# Can I elect §1042 for the sale of my business?

In order to elect §1042, the company that is sponsoring the ESOP must be a C Corporation on the date of the stock sale. An S Corporation can convert to C status to enjoy the tax advantages of the §1042 election; however, there is a minimum 5-year waiting period before the company can convert back to an S Corporation.\*

**Publicly-traded corporations are** *not eligible* **to elect §1042.** However, the following taxpaying entities *are* qualified to elect §1042:

- Individual
- Trust
- Partnership



# Can I elect §1042 for the sale of my business?\*

If you meet the previous qualifications, you may be able to elect §1042 for the sale of your business. The following conditions must also be met:

- The ESOP must own at least 30% of the company after the transaction
- The selling shareholder must have held the stock for at least 3 years prior to the sale and must not have received the stock sold to the ESOP from:
  - A retirement plan
  - Pursuant to a stock option
  - As restricted stock
  - As a form of compensation
- Must be common stock having the highest voting and dividend rights or preferred stock convertible into such common stock
- The sale proceeds must be reinvested into QRP during the window starting 3 months prior to the sale and ending 12 months after the sale
- The company must be a non-publicly traded C Corporation



# What is Qualified Replacement Property (QRP)?\*

**Qualified Replacement Property (QRP) includes** common stock, preferred stock, bonds, and convertible bonds of "operating companies" incorporated in the United States.

An "operating company" must be a U.S. domiciled company with the following characteristics:

- At least 50% of its assets must be used in active conduct of a trade or business
- No more than 25% of its gross receipts can come from passive sources

## QRP does not include:

• Securities issued by U.S. government agencies, non-U.S. entities, U.S. subsidiaries of non-U.S. parents, FDIC-insured certificates of deposit, mutual funds, municipal bonds, or hedge funds

If the QRP is sold, redeemed, or matures, the taxpayer must recognize a capital gain (or loss) on the difference between the amount received and the tax basis in QRP. This basis is the purchase price of the QRP reduced by the amount of gain not recognized as a result of the §1042 election.



# What is Qualified Replacement Property (QRP)?\*

## **Eligible investments**

- Common stock
- Preferred stock
- Convertible bonds
- Corporate fixed rate bonds
- Corporate floating rate notes (FRNs)





## **Ineligible investments**

- Bank CDs
- US government bonds
- Municipal bonds
- Foreign securities
- Exchange traded funds (ETFs)
- Mutual funds
- Real estate investment trusts (REITs)
- Master Limited Partnerships (MLPs)



# What are my options as a selling shareholder?

The selling shareholder may want to consider "staggering" the sales of stock to better participate in the growth of the company while phasing out of ownership. This approach could considerably widen the one-year reinvestment window by creating a sequence of multiple reinvestment periods.

While Code §1042 does not technically allow for partial election, the same result can be obtained if the taxpayer makes a full election, reinvests all proceeds from the ESOP transaction in QRP, and then later divests a portion of the proceeds to trigger immediate taxation. If a taxpayer does not reinvest an amount equal to all sale proceeds in QRP, there will be a current tax applied to the non-QRP invested amounts, and the capital gain on this amount cannot be reduced by any basis component.



# What are my reinvestment options as a selling shareholder?

There are several reinvestment strategies available for the selling shareholder to fulfill the obligations of the §1042 election, including a passive (hold) strategy and an active reinvestment strategy.

The investment strategy should ultimately be decided based on consideration of the following factors:

- Treatment of other investment assets
- Overall business succession plan
- ESOP transaction design
- Liquid net worth of the seller
- The seller's estate plan
- Philanthropic goals



# What are my reinvestment options as a selling shareholder?

**Passive (hold) reinvestment strategy:** Purchase a portfolio of QRP securities that will be held constant over the lifetime of the selling shareholder. The selling shareholder can then choose to recognize the capital gain from the ESOP transaction through the disposition of some or all of the QRP. This strategy often generates income for the selling shareholder and provides the flexibility to decide whether to use margin.

Active reinvestment strategy: Invest a portion of the proceeds at closing (typically 10% of the total amount received in the sale to the ESOP) and enter into a monetization loan for the remaining amount. Then, use the proceeds of the monetization loan to purchase FRNs that satisfy §1042 requirements. This strategy enables selling shareholders to reinvest the remaining proceeds from the sale in other investments that may or may not qualify as QRP, but that can be traded freely without triggering capital gains taxation.

**Blended reinvestment strategy:** Combines both the passive and active strategies to further accommodate the selling shareholder's investment goals and objectives.



# Post-sale reinvestment strategies

#### **Passive**

- Portfolio of qualifying stocks and/or bonds designed to remain constant over the selling shareholder's lifetime
- Provides flexibility to use margin
- Capital gains realized on the ESOP transaction only if/when QRP is sold. QRP can be passed on to heirs—with a step up in cost basis—upon death of the selling shareholder
- Often generates income/yield for the selling shareholder

## **Blended**

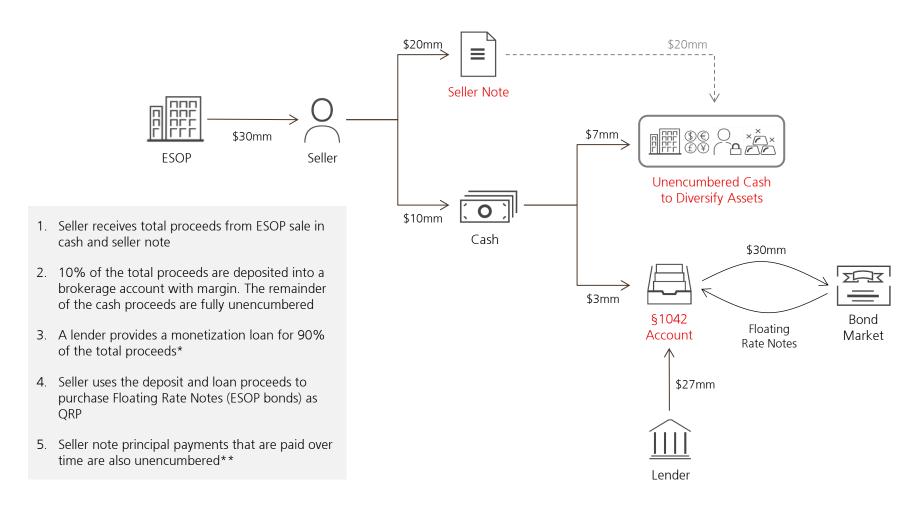
 Combines both the passive and active strategies to further accommodate the selling shareholder's investment goals and objectives

## **Active**

- Leveraged floating rate notes (FRNs) enables selling shareholder to diversify into a flexible portfolio
- Capital gains realized on the ESOP transaction only if/when QRP is sold. QRP can be passed on to heirs—with a step up in cost basis—upon death of the selling shareholder
- Provides the selling shareholder with greater liquidity and flexibility
- Use of leverage increases complexity and incurs higher expenses



# Active reinvestment strategy (Illustrative \$30mm example)





<sup>\*</sup>Subject to credit approval

<sup>\*\*</sup> Interest from the Seller Note is subject to applicable taxes. Neither UBS Financial Services Inc. nor its employees provide tax advice. You should consult your tax advisor regarding tax implications of this strategy This illustration is for demonstration purposes only. No representation is made that the shareholder will achieve results similar to those shown.

# What is a floating rate note?

A floating rate note, also known as an "FRN," "floater," or "ESOP bond" is a senior secured corporate debt instrument. Simply put, they are corporate bonds. What differentiates them from other corporate bonds is the combination of their long maturities, floating rate structure and put provisions.

These securities are used primarily by individuals who have sold stock to an ESOP and are looking to defer, or with proper planning, permanently avoid paying long-term capital gains taxes connected to the sale. These ESOP bonds are not readily available in the market, historically; they are available by new issue four to six times per year or very selectively in the secondary market.



# What is a floating rate note?

## What are some of the companies that have issued floating rate notes in the past?\*

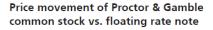
P&G, Colgate, UPS, Wells Fargo, Merck, 3M, US Bank, DuPont, and General Electric.

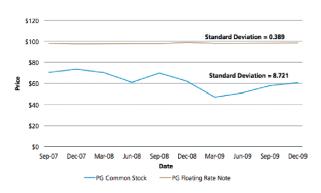
## Why is UBS comfortable lending up to 90% of the value of FRNs?

• FRNs usually have a rating of AA-/Aa3 or A+/A3 (investment grade). With most structures, the interest rate resets every 90 days, mitigating the interest rate risk. Typically, the bonds have a put feature, allowing the holder (owner) of the FRN to force the issuer to repurchase the note anywhere between 98% to 100% of the purchase price, helping to reduce liquidity risk.

## How long of a maturity do these notes usually have?\*

Maturities typically range from 40 to 50 years.

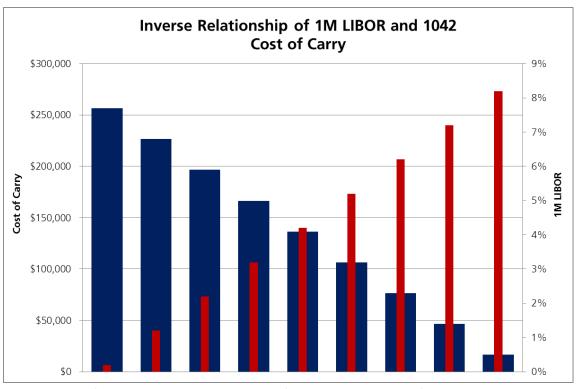




	PG Common	PG Floating			
Year	Stock	Rate Note			
9/28/07	70.34	98.08			
12/31/07	73.42	97.55			
3/31/08	70.07	97.66			
6/30/08	60.81	97.74			
9/30/08	69.69	97.73			
12/31/08	61.82	98.85			
3/31/09	47.09	98.03			
6/30/09	51.10	98.10			
9/30/09	57.92	98.20			
12/31/09	60.63	98.37			



# Impact of LIBOR rates on the 1042 cost of carry



Assumptions:							
Floating Rate Note Amount	\$30,000,000						
Loan Amount	\$27,000,000						
UBS Monetization Loan	0.75%						

Illustrative example of the relationship between LIBOR and the cost of carry in a 100% ESOP bond portfolio

1m LIBOR	0.20%	1.20%	2.20%	3.20%	4.20%	5.20%	6.20%	7.20%	8.20%
3m LIBOR	0.30%	1.30%	2.30%	3.30%	4.30%	5.30%	6.30%	7.30%	8.30%

Income from FRNs	\$0	\$300,000	\$600,000	\$900,000	\$1,200,000	\$1,500,000	\$1,800,000	\$2,100,000	\$2,400,000
Interest Expense	(\$256,500)	(\$526,500)	(\$796,500)	(\$1,066,500)	(\$1,336,500)	(\$1,606,500)	(\$1,876,500)	(\$2,146,000)	(\$2,416,500)
Cost of Carry	\$256,500	\$226,500	\$196,500	\$166,500	\$136,500	\$106,500	\$76,500	\$46,500	\$16,500



# How do I elect §1042 for the sale of my business?

The selling shareholder must reinvest sale proceeds within the "replacement period" – no earlier than 3 months before the ESOP transaction and no later than 12 months after.

Three "statements" must be filed with the IRS to successfully complete the §1042 election:

- **Statement of consent:** Requires the company to consent to the selling shareholder's election to defer taxes, as well as to the application of certain penalties if the shares purchased by the ESOP are sold within three years or are allocated to the selling shareholder(s) or their families.
- **Statement of election:** Confirms the intention of the selling shareholder(s) to elect non-recognition treatment with respect for the stock sale under Code §1042
- **Statement of purchase:** Completes tax-advantaged sale of qualified securities to the ESOP and declares that specific securities represent QRP with respect to the stock sold to the ESOP. This statement must be signed by the selling shareholder(s) and acknowledged by a notary public.



## Disposition of QRP\*

A disposition of QRP will trigger capital gains tax based on the taxpayer's basis in the original shares sold to the ESOP. Sale of the QRP would be considered a disposition, but the following events would *not* qualify as dispositions:

- Gift of QRP
- Transfer upon death of the QRP holder
  - The deferred tax can be completely avoided by holding the QRP to death, at which point the tax basis of the QRP is stepped up to its market value on the date of death
- Transfer of the QRP in connection with divorce
- Certain tax-free transactions between the QRP issuer and other companies

**Strategies can be employed** to continue deferring capital gains while diversifying into asset classes other than U.S. stocks and bonds, including:

- Transfers to grantor trusts (for example, a charitable remainder unitrust or CRUT)
- Borrowing against the QRP



## Next steps

We are not opposed to any specific §1042 strategy or lender. We are open to discussing and implementing all §1042 strategies and can work with outside lenders and advisors.

We prefer to meet with each shareholder individually, as our goal is to evaluate the best approach for each client.

#### Work with Selling Shareholders and advisors to refine goals

- Pay the tax vs. elect section 1042 Treatment
- Elect section 1042 Treatment for the entire sale and then liquidate some portion of QRP to pay tax now

## Decide on whether Active Reinvestment Strategy, Passive Strategy, or a Blended Approach is suitable for each shareholder

 Meet in person with our team to develop an understanding of risk tolerance, goals, and time horizon

#### Create execution timeline

- Timing of monetization loan
- Use of short-term commercial paper to bridge risk of premature death
- Organize syndication amongst shareholders to go to debt capital markets to market as a group
- **Be opportunistic**—There are unique conditions in the QRP/FRN secondary marketplace that may allow for opportunities to take advantage of price dislocations



## Let us know how we can help you



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## Important information

#### Disclosures

Information contained herein is of a general nature and is provided for informational purposes only. Laws governing ESOP transactions and the rules under Section 1042 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended ("Code"), are complex and persons considering an ESOP or Section 1042 transaction should seek professional guidance from their tax and legal advisors. Specific structures and decisions can only be developed based on a thorough review of the facts and circumstances relative to a particular company and its shareholders. Neither UBS Financial Services Inc. nor its employees provide tax or legal advice. In addition, shareholders who sell to an ESOP should understand the applicable rules of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended ("Code"), including requirements for qualified replacement property ("QRP") as defined by Code Section 1042. Shareholders should consult their tax and legal advisors regarding their personal circumstances.

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For designation disclosures visit https://www.ubs.com/us/en/designation-disclosures.html

#### **Active Reinvestment Strategy Considerations**

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QRP Considerations: Shareholders should understand the potential risks that may be associated with obtaining securities as QRP, sufficiency of available QRP in the market that satisfy the shareholder's investment objectives, limitations on UBS' ability to offer margin or financing for the purchase of a new-issue QRP where UBS has participated in the underwriting of such new issue, availability of QRP with put features and whether available QRP offers appropriate diversification. Further, for QRP that is a FRN, any payment on a FRN, including any repayment of principal, is subject to the creditworthiness of the issuer. Investors could lose their entire investment in the FRN if the issuer becomes insolvent. Shareholders who invest in QRP should consult with their tax and legal advisors regarding their personal circumstances.

Margin Loan Considerations: Margin loans are demand loans and are subject to credit approval and collateral maintenance requirements. The lender can demand repayment at any time without notice. If the required collateral value is not maintained, the lender can require you to post additional collateral, repay part or all of your loan and/or sell your securities. Failure to promptly meet a request for additional collateral or repayment or other circumstances (e.g., a rapidly declining market) could cause the lender to liquidate some or all of the collateral supporting the margin loan. Any required liquidations may result in adverse tax consequences.

It is important that you understand the ways in which we conduct business and the applicable laws and regulations that govern us. As a firm providing wealth management services to clients in the U.S., we are registered with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) as an investment adviser and a broker dealer, offering both investment advisory and brokerage services. Though there are similarities among these services, the investment advisory programs and brokerage accounts we offer are separate and distinct, differ in material ways and are governed by different laws and separate contracts. For more information, visit our website at **www.ubs.com/workingwithus** 

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