UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
DISTRICT OF MAINE

STANDING ORDER REGARDING THE ELECTRONIC FILING OF PLEADINGS AND PAPERS IN THE DISTRICT OF MAINE

Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure 5005(a)(2), 9029, 9036, and Local Rule 5005-4 authorize this Court to establish practices and procedures for the filing, signing, maintaining, and verifying of pleadings and papers by electronic means. By the Standing Order Regarding Administrative Procedures for Electronically Filed Cases, dated August 12, 2002, this Court has adopted the *Administrative Procedures for Filing, Signing, Maintaining, and Verifying Pleadings and Other Documents in the Electronic Case Filing (ECF) System* ("*Administrative Procedures*"), permitting, but not requiring, the electronic filing of pleadings, documents, and papers in this Court.

This Court has since the implementation of electronic filing reviewed the merits of requiring the electronic filing of pleadings, documents, and papers. Finding that requiring the electronic filing of pleadings, documents, and papers would greatly enhance the benefits available to both internal and external Court users,

It is ORDERED that

All pleadings, documents, and papers required to be filed with this Court shall be filed electronically over the internet using the Court's ECF System effective January 1, 2004. Filers filing pleadings, documents, and/or papers via paper may be issued an Order to Show Cause as to why they did not file electronically, and if so will be required to appear in person before this Court.

Exceptions to the requirement that all pleadings, documents, and papers be filed electronically include:

(1) Pleadings, documents, and/or papers filed by Parties without legal representation.

(2) Proofs of Claim filed by a creditor who is not a registered user of ECF.

(3) Documents permitted to be filed via paper by the *Administrative Procedures* (e.g., sealed documents).

This Order is effective November 7, 2003

JAMES B. HAINES, JR.
Chief U.S. Bankruptcy Judge

LOUIS H. KORNREICH
U.S. Bankruptcy Judge