

Edgar Filing: MFS SPECIAL VALUE TRUST - Form N-CSR

MFS SPECIAL VALUE TRUST
Form N-CSR
January 07, 2004

UNITED STATES

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM N-CSR

CERTIFIED SHAREHOLDER REPORT OF
REGISTERED MANAGEMENT INVESTMENT COMPANIES

Investment Company Act file number 811-5912

MFS SPECIAL VALUE TRUST

(Exact name of registrant as specified in charter)

500 Boylston Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02116

(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip code)

Stephen E. Cavan
Massachusetts Financial Services Company
500 Boylston Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

(Name and address of agents for service)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (617) 954-5000

Date of fiscal year end: October 31, 2003

Date of reporting period: October 31, 2003

ITEM 1. REPORTS TO STOCKHOLDERS.

MFS(R) Mutual Funds

ANNUAL REPORT 10/31/03

[graphic omitted]

MFS(R) SPECIAL VALUE TRUST

A path for pursuing opportunity

[logo] M F S(R)
INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT

MFS(R) PRIVACY POLICY: A COMMITMENT TO YOU

Edgar Filing: MFS SPECIAL VALUE TRUST - Form N-CSR

LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN	1
-----	-----
MFS ORIGINAL RESEARCH (R)	2
-----	-----
MANAGEMENT REVIEW	3
-----	-----
PERFORMANCE SUMMARY	6
-----	-----
DIVIDEND REINVESTMENT AND CASH PURCHASE PLAN	8
-----	-----
RESULTS OF SHAREHOLDER MEETINGS	9
-----	-----
PORTFOLIO OF INVESTMENTS	10
-----	-----
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS	21
-----	-----
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS	25
-----	-----
INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT	33
-----	-----
TRUSTEES AND OFFICERS	34
-----	-----
FEDERAL TAX INFORMATION	36
-----	-----
CONTACT INFORMATION	37

LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Dear Shareholders,

[Photo of Jeffrey L. Shames]

In our view, the past year has been a promising one for investors. Financial markets have improved steadily, spurred by indications of a global economic recovery.

These developments make this an encouraging time for MFS and for our shareholders. But we also think it's a time to reinforce the fundamentals of a sound investment strategy.

At MFS, we think in any market environment the best approach for investors is disciplined diversification. This method of investing involves three simple steps. First, allocate your holdings across the major asset classes. Second, diversify within each class so that you get exposure to different investment styles, such as growth and value, and market sectors, such as government and corporate bonds. Finally, to respond to the way market activity can shift the value of your accounts, rebalance your accounts on a routine schedule, such as once per year. Doing so will help you maintain your desired allocation across each asset class.

These investing fundamentals are often lost when markets are on an upswing. At such times, it's easy to be tempted to shift your holdings in the current, "hottest" performing investment. History suggests, however, that it is difficult to predict year after year what the best performing sector or market will be. While it is true that the past cannot offer any guarantees for the future, the markets historically have demonstrated the benefits of taking the prudent approach and spreading your assets across a variety of holdings. For investors with long-term goals such as college or retirement, a balanced approach usually makes the most sense. As always, your investment professional can help you

Edgar Filing: MFS SPECIAL VALUE TRUST - Form N-CSR

identify an appropriate mix of investments for your needs.

Respectfully,

/s/ Jeffrey L. Shames

Jeffrey L. Shames
Chairman
MFS Investment Management (R)

November 20, 2003

The opinions expressed in this letter are those of MFS and no forecasts can be guaranteed.

MFS ORIGINAL RESEARCH (R)

THE HUMAN SIDE OF MONEY MANAGEMENT

For nearly 80 years MFS has been offering investors clear paths to pursuing specific investment objectives. Today, millions of individuals and thousands of institutions all over the world look to MFS to manage their assets with insight and care.

Our success, we believe, has to do with the fact that we see investors as people with plans, not just dollars to invest.

When you invest with MFS, you invest with a company dedicated to helping you realize your long-term financial goals.

INVESTORS CHOOSE MFS FOR OUR

- o global asset management expertise across all asset classes
- o time-tested money management process for pursuing consistent results
- o full spectrum of investment products backed by MFS Original Research(R)
- o resources and services that match real-life needs

TURNING INFORMATION INTO OPPORTUNITY

Sound investments begin with sound information. MFS has been doing its own research and analyzing findings in-house for decades. The process we use to uncover opportunity is called MFS Original Research(R).

MFS ORIGINAL RESEARCH INVOLVES:

- o meeting with the management of 3,000 companies each year to assess their business plans and the managers' ability to execute those plans
- o making onsite visits to more than 2,000 companies annually to gain first-hand knowledge of their operations and products
- o analyzing financial statements and balance sheets
- o talking extensively with companies' customers and competitors
- o developing our own proprietary estimates of companies' earnings

Edgar Filing: MFS SPECIAL VALUE TRUST - Form N-CSR

MANAGEMENT REVIEW

MARKET ENVIRONMENT

Accommodative global monetary policies, an improving global economic environment, and low yields on government bonds created very favorable market conditions for the trust. This reporting period included an extraordinary confluence of events that ignited strong rallies in high-yield bonds, U.S. stocks, and emerging market debt securities. We would not expect to see these circumstances repeated in the near future.

Throughout the period, governments worldwide sought to stimulate sluggish local economies by maintaining low interest rates. This stimulative policy, along with increasing investor confidence, made it possible for cash-strapped companies to obtain the access to capital they needed to fuel their businesses. At the same time, U.S. economic conditions showed modest improvement that spilled over into overseas markets. These factors helped investors regain lost confidence in higher-risk securities such as high-yield bonds, U.S. stocks, and emerging market debt. We would add that investor's income needs were probably not being fulfilled from their conservative government investments.

PORTFOLIO COMPOSITION AS OF 10/31/03

High-Yield Corporates	48.3%
Domestic Equity	32.1%
Emerging Markets Debt	5.9%
Commercial Mortgage-Backed	4.5%
Cash & Other	4.1%
International Convertibles	2.0%
International Equity	1.9%
High-Grade Corporates	1.2%

The portfolio is actively managed, and current holdings may be different.

TRUST POSITIONING

Throughout the period, the top three investment allocations for the trust were high-yield corporate bonds, U.S. stocks, and emerging market debt, and those weightings changed very little from the beginning of the period.

The average quality of the trust's rated bonds at the end of the period was "B-", with roughly 45% of the trust's fixed-income holdings invested in securities with "B" and "CCC" ratings.

CONTRIBUTORS TO PERFORMANCE

The trust's high-yield securities, especially those in the lower-quality ranges, made the strongest contributions to return. Historically, high-yield bonds have tended to be more sensitive to economic conditions. When the economy began exhibiting positive signs in early 2003, high-yield issuers found it easier to access the capital markets to improve their liquidity and enhance their balance sheets. This renewed access to capital helped allay investor concerns about the group's ability to meet its future obligations, especially as the U.S. economy continued to improve in 2003.

The trust's overweighting in the cable and telecommunications industries and its bond investment selections in those groups added to strong returns. Both industries had fallen deeply out of favor with investors in 2002. Fall-out from

Edgar Filing: MFS SPECIAL VALUE TRUST - Form N-CSR

the WorldCom scandal, structural problems, and limited access to capital depressed bond prices. As the economy improved and the rate of corporate defaults declined, access to the capital markets improved for companies with high debt loads, and that improvement proved to be a watershed event for both industries.

Adelphia and Charter Communications, two strong contributors to trust performance, illustrate how important easing in the capital markets was. Adelphia had significant corporate governance problems and filed for bankruptcy during 2002. Charter Communications had accounting issues, and many investors feared it would file for bankruptcy. However, when capital became available to these companies and others like them, both Adelphia and Charter received the financing they needed to preserve their businesses and meet their future commitments. Other bonds that helped trust performance included those issued by Sprint affiliate Alamosa and Rural Cellular.

Performance from the trust's U.S. stock holdings ran a close second to its high-yield investments. Going into the period, we had purchased stock in companies such as Tyco International, which had also experienced corporate governance issues. Despite these problems, this large manufacturing conglomerate owned a wide range of very profitable businesses. We became increasingly attracted to the stock as its price approached a level that was well below what analysts thought the company would receive if it had to sell all its businesses. As a result, Tyco's stock made a significant contribution to trust performance when the market rallied.

Other stocks that performed well during the period included financial services company FleetBoston Financial, cable operator Comcast, satellite radio operator Sirius, and scrap metal company Metals Management. Metals Management was sold when it reached our price target.

DETRACTORS FROM TRUST PERFORMANCE

Not all of the trust's investments worked as well as those described above. Fleming, a food services company, had relied heavily on sales revenues from its relationship with K-Mart. K-Mart's bankruptcy filing ultimately led Fleming to default on its bonds. Durango, a Mexican paper company, also defaulted on its bonds during the reporting period. MMI, which makes fences and concrete accessories used in construction, was hurt by the slow economy. Packaging and tape manufacturer Fibermark experienced continued weakness in a number of its products and operating issues at one of its domestic facilities. These issues contributed to the decline in the price of the company's bonds.

Respectfully,

/s/ John F. Addeo

John F. Addeo
Portfolio Manager

The opinions expressed in this report are those of the portfolio manager and are current only through the end of the period of the report as stated on the cover. These views are subject to change at any time based on market and other conditions, and no forecasts can be guaranteed.

PERFORMANCE SUMMARY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 10/31/03

All results are historical. Investment return and principal value will fluctuate, and shares, when sold, may be worth more or less than their original

Edgar Filing: MFS SPECIAL VALUE TRUST - Form N-CSR

cost. More recent returns may be more or less than those shown. Past performance is no guarantee of future results.

PRICE SUMMARY

Year ended 10/31/03

	Date	Price
Net asset value	10/31/2002	\$7.50
	10/31/2003	\$9.80
New York Stock Exchange price	10/31/2002	\$7.25
	10/30/2003 (high)*	\$10.44
	11/14/2002 (low)*	\$7.22
	10/31/2003	\$10.40

*For the period November 1, 2002, through October 31, 2003.

Year ended 10/31/03

TOTAL RETURNS VS BENCHMARK

New York Stock Exchange price*	58.07%
Net asset value*	44.18%
Lehman Brothers High Yield Index#	33.77%

* Includes reinvestment of dividends and capital gains distributions.

Source: Standard & Poor's Micropal, Inc.

INDEX DEFINITION

LEHMAN BROTHERS HIGH YIELD INDEX - Measures the performance of the high-yield bond market.

It is not possible to invest directly in an index.

NOTES TO PERFORMANCE SUMMARY

The trust's shares may trade at a discount to net asset value. Shareholders do not have the right to cause the trust to repurchase their shares at net asset value. The trust's shares also may trade at a premium to their net asset value. When trust shares trade at a premium, buyers pay more than the asset value underlying trust shares, and shares purchased at a premium would receive less than the amount paid for them in the event of the trust's liquidation.

The trust's monthly distributions may include a return of capital to shareholders. Distributions that are treated for federal income tax purposes as a return of capital will reduce each shareholder's basis in his or her shares and, to the extent the return of capital exceeds such basis, will be treated as gain to the shareholder from a sale of shares. Returns of shareholder capital have the effect of reducing the trust's assets and increasing the trust's expense ratio.

Edgar Filing: MFS SPECIAL VALUE TRUST - Form N-CSR

The trust's target annual distribution rate is calculated based on the trust's average daily net asset value, not a fixed share price, and the trust's dividend amount will fluctuate with changes in the trust's average daily net asset value.

KEY RISK CONSIDERATIONS

The portfolio may invest in derivative securities, which may include futures and options. These types of instruments can increase price fluctuation.

Investments in high yield or lower-rated securities may provide greater returns but are subject to greater-than-average risk.

Because the portfolio invests in a limited number of companies a change in one security's value may have a more significant effect on the portfolio's value.

Government guarantees apply to the underlying securities only and not to the prices and yields of the portfolio.

These risks may increase share price volatility. Please see the prospectus for further information on these and other risk considerations.

INVESTMENT POLICY (FOREIGN SECURITIES)

The trust limits investment in securities of foreign issuers which are not traded on a U.S. exchange (excluding American Depository Receipts) to 10% of its total assets. For purposes of determining this investment limitation, foreign securities traded in U.S. markets which are well established and liquid (such as Rule 144A and Yankee Bond markets) are considered as being equivalent to U.S. exchange-traded securities, and therefore are not subject to this 10% limitation.

In accordance with Section 23(c) of the Investment Company Act of 1940, the trust hereby gives notice that it may from time to time repurchase shares of the trust in the open market at the option of the Board of Trustees and on such terms as the Trustees shall determine.

DIVIDEND REINVESTMENT AND CASH PURCHASE PLAN

MFS offers a Dividend Reinvestment and Cash Purchase Plan that allows you to reinvest either all of the distributions paid by the trust or only the long-term capital gains. Purchases are made at the market price unless that price exceeds the net asset value (the shares are trading at a premium). If the shares are trading at a premium, purchases will be made at a discounted price of either the net asset value or 95% of the market price, whichever is greater. Twice each year you can also buy shares. Investments in any amount over \$100 can be made in January and July on the 15th of the month or shortly thereafter.

If your shares are in the name of a brokerage firm, bank, or other nominee, you can ask the firm or nominee to participate in the plan on your behalf. If the nominee does not offer the plan, you may wish to request that your shares be re-registered in your own name so that you can participate.

There is no service charge to reinvest distributions, nor are there brokerage charges for shares issued directly by the trust. However, when shares are bought on the New York Stock Exchange or otherwise on the open market, each participant pays a pro rata share of the commissions. The automatic reinvestment of distributions does not relieve you of any income tax that may be payable (or required to be withheld) on the distributions.

Edgar Filing: MFS SPECIAL VALUE TRUST - Form N-CSR

To enroll in or withdraw from the plan, or if you have any questions, call 1-800-637-2304 any business day from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Eastern time. Please have available the name of the trust and your account and Social Security numbers. For certain types of registrations, such as corporate accounts, instructions must be submitted in writing. Please call for additional details. When you withdraw, you can receive the value of the reinvested shares in one of two ways: a check for the value of the full and fractional shares, or a certificate for the full shares and a check for the fractional shares.

 RESULTS OF SHAREHOLDER MEETING (unaudited) - 10/31/03

At the annual meeting of shareholders of MFS Special Value Trust, which was held on October 7, 2003, the following actions were taken:

ITEM 1. To elect a Board of Trustees.

	NUMBER OF SHARES	
NOMINEE	FOR	WITHHOLD AUTHORITY
John W. Ballen	6,205,044.792	89,854.791
William J. Poorvu	6,186,084.792	108,814.791
J. Dale Sherratt	6,207,754.639	87,144.944
Ward Smith	6,180,064.792	114,834.791

ITEM 2. To ratify the selection of independent public accountants for the current fiscal year.

	NUMBER OF SHARES
Affirmative	6,183,331.225
Against	46,363.000
Abstain	65,205.358

 PORTFOLIO OF INVESTMENTS - 10/31/03

The Portfolio of Investments is a complete list of all securities owned by your fund. It is categorized by broad-based asset classes.

Bonds - 58.7%

ISSUER	PRINCIPAL AMOUNT (000 Omitted)	\$ V

Edgar Filing: MFS SPECIAL VALUE TRUST - Form N-CSR

U.S. Bonds - 49.4%

 Advertising & Broadcasting - 2.5%

Emmis Communications Corp., 0s to 2006, 12.5s to 2011	\$343	\$314
Granite Broadcasting Corp., 10.375s, 2005	300	294
LBI Media Holdings, Inc., 0s to 2008, 11s to 2013##	875	542
XM Satellite Radio, Inc., 0s to 2005, 14s to 2009	225	192
XM Satellite Radio, Inc., 12s, 2010	280	311
		\$1,655

 Aerospace - 1.3%

BE Aerospace, Inc., 8.875s, 2011	\$475	\$427
Hexcel Corp., 9.875s, 2008	20	22
Hexcel Corp., 9.75s, 2009	310	323
K & F Industries, Inc., 9.625s, 2010	80	89
		\$862

 Airlines - 1.1%

Continental Airlines Pass-Through Trust, Inc., 8.307s, 2018	\$302	\$252
Continental Airlines Pass-Through Trust, Inc., 6.795s, 2020	506	426
Continental Airlines Pass-Through Trust, Inc., 7.566s, 2020	58	48
		\$727

 Apparel Manufacturers - 0.1%

Westpoint Stevens, Inc., 7.875s, 2005**	\$170	\$19
Westpoint Stevens, Inc., 7.875s, 2008**	640	73
		\$93

 Automotive - 2.9%

Advanced Accessory Systems LLC, 10.75s, 2011##	\$115	\$123
Collins & Aikman Products Co., 10.75s, 2011	275	231
Dura Operating Corp., 9s, 2009	260	237
Intermet Corp., 9.75s, 2009	325	325
Metaldyne Corp., 11s, 2012	365	306
Tenneco Automotive, Inc., 11.625s, 2009	290	300
TRW Automotive Acquisition Corp., 11.75s, 2013##	EUR 245	325

Edgar Filing: MFS SPECIAL VALUE TRUST - Form N-CSR

TRW Automotive Acquisition Corp., 11s, 2013##	\$20	23
Venture Holdings Trust, 11s, 2007**	375	22
Venture Holdings Trust, 12s, 2009**	150	
		\$1,897

Basic Industry - 0.6%		
Foamex LP/ Capital Corp., 10.75s, 2009	\$425	\$374

Broadcast & Cable TV - 4.8%		
Adelphia Communications Corp., 10.25s, 2011**	\$750	\$630
Charter Communications Holdings, 8.625s, 2009	365	292
Charter Communications Holdings, 0s to 2004, 9.92s to 2011	1,000	755
CSC Holdings, Inc., 8.125s, 2009	50	52
CSC Holdings, Inc., "B", 8.125s, 2009	155	161
FrontierVision Holding LP, 11.875s, 2007**	300	300
Insight Midwest, 9.75s, 2009	300	306
Mediacom Broadband LLC, 11s, 2013	575	600
		\$3,098

Building - 1.7%		
Dayton Superior Corp., 10.75s, 2008##	\$340	\$354
Formica Corp., 10.875s, 2009**	850	148
Interface, Inc., 9.5s, 2005	125	120
Interface, Inc., 10.375s, 2010	180	190
MMI Products, Inc., 11.25s, 2007	500	322
		\$1,137

Business Services - 0.6%		
Lucent Technologies, Inc., 6.45s, 2029	\$500	\$386

Chemicals - 4.4%		
Equistar Chemicals LP, 10.625s, 2011##	\$210	\$219
Huntsman ICI Holdings, 10.125s, 2009	750	714
IMC Global, Inc., 10.875s, 2013##	600	619
Johnsondiversey Holdings, Inc., 0s to 2007, 10.67s to 2013##	250	186

Edgar Filing: MFS SPECIAL VALUE TRUST - Form N-CSR

Koppers, Inc., 9.875s, 2013##	75	79
Lyondell Chemical Co., 9.625s, 2007	250	253
Lyondell Chemical Co., 10.875s, 2009	65	64
Lyondell Chemical Co., 11.125s, 2012	90	94
Rockwood Specialties Group, Inc., 10.625s, 2011##	300	322
Sovereign Specialty Chemicals, 11.875s, 2010	320	318
		\$2,871
Consumer Goods & Services - 2.1%		
American Safety Razor Co., 9.875s, 2005	\$500	\$495
Revlon Consumer Products Corp., 12s, 2005	140	137
Samsonite Corp., 10.75s, 2008	400	420
Sealy Mattress Co., 9.875s, 2007	275	283
		\$1,336
Containers - 1.0%		
Huntsman Packaging Corp., 13s, 2010	\$230	\$219
Pliant Corp., 13s, 2010	425	405
		\$625
Corporate Asset-Backed - 4.5%		
Anthracite CDO Ltd., 6s, 2037##	\$450	\$323
DLJ Mortgage Acceptance Corp., 8s, 2003+	803	803
Falcon Auto Dealership LLC, 3.875s, 2023 (Interest Only)	707	134
GMAC Commercial Mortgage Security, Inc., 6.02s, 2033	250	222
Morgan Stanley Capital I, Inc., Class D, 7.709s, 2039	1,070	1,021
Morgan Stanley Capital I, Inc., Class F, 7.709s, 2039	600	415
		\$2,919
Energy - Independent - 1.0%		
Belden & Blake Corp., 9.875s, 2007	\$390	\$368
Continental Resources, Inc., 10.25s, 2008	300	294
		\$663
Entertainment - 1.1%		
Six Flags, Inc., 9.75s, 2013	\$735	\$720

Edgar Filing: MFS SPECIAL VALUE TRUST - Form N-CSR

Forest & Paper Products - 1.0%

Buckeye Technologies, Inc., 8s, 2010	\$400	\$378
Fibermark, Inc., 10.75s, 2011	385	254
		\$632

Gaming & Lodging - 0.7%

Corrections Corp. of America, 7.5s, 2011	\$35	\$36
Resorts International Hotel, 11.5s, 2009	400	414
		\$450

Industrial - 0.9%

Blount, Inc., 13s, 2009	\$350	\$334
Motors & Gears, Inc., 10.75s, 2006	270	221
		\$555

Machinery & Tools - 1.1%

Columbus McKinnon Corp., 8.5s, 2008	\$225	\$200
Columbus McKinnon Corp., 10s, 2010##	20	21
United Rentals North America, Inc., 7.75s, 2013##	500	498
		\$720

Medical & Health Technology & Services - 1.3%

Alliance Imaging, Inc., 10.375s, 2011	\$200	\$211
Beverly Enterprises, Inc., 9.625s, 2009	245	263
Healthsouth Corp., 8.5s, 2008	260	230
Universal Hospital Services, Inc., 10.125s, 2011##	140	145
		\$850

Metals & Mining - 0.7%

Doe Run Resources Corp., 8.5s, 2008	\$458	\$160
Kaiser Aluminum & Chemical Corp., 9.875s, 2049**	200	170
Kaiser Aluminum & Chemical Corp., 12.75s, 2049**	465	69
U.S. Steel Corp., 9.75s, 2010	50	52
		\$452

Natural Gas - Pipeline - 0.2%

Edgar Filing: MFS SPECIAL VALUE TRUST - Form N-CSR

ANR Pipeline Co., 9.625s, 2021	\$125	\$141

Oil Services - 0.3%		
Dresser, Inc., 9.375s, 2011	\$185	\$190

Oils - 0.3%		
Citgo Petroleum Corp., 11.375s, 2011	\$150	\$169

Printing & Publishing - 0.9%		
Hollinger International Publishing, Inc., 11.875s, 2011##	\$85	\$93

Mail-Well Corp., 8.75s, 2008	325	327

R H Donnelley Finance Corp., 10.875s, 2012	150	178

		\$599

Stores - 2.3%		
Finlay Enterprises, Inc., 9s, 2008	\$495	\$496

J.Crew Operating Corp., 10.375s, 2007	150	154

J.Crew Operating Corp., 0s to 2005, 16s to 2008##	257	195

PCA LLC, 11.875s, 2009	180	196

Rite Aid Corp, 12.5s, 2006	40	46

Rite Aid Corp., 9.5s, 2011	125	140

Rite Aid Corp., 9.25s, 2013	250	268

		\$1,498

Supermarkets - 0.0%		
Fleming Cos., Inc., 9.25s, 2010**	\$125	\$19

Telecommunications - Wireline - 3.0%		
Qwest Capital Funding, Inc., 7.75s, 2006	\$225	\$223

Qwest Services Corp., 13.5s, 2010##	600	700

Qwest Services Corp., 8.875s, 2012##	110	124

Time Warner Telecommunications LLC, 9.75s, 2008	340	348

Worldcom, Inc., 7.5s, 2011**	1,580	580

		\$1,977

Utilities - Electric Power - 1.9%		

Edgar Filing: MFS SPECIAL VALUE TRUST - Form N-CSR

Dynegy, Inc., 6.875s, 2011	\$585	\$508
NRG Energy, Inc., 6.5s, 2006**	358	171
PSE&G Power LLC, 7.75s, 2007	50	50
Reliant Resources, Inc., 9.25s, 2010##	200	179
Reliant Resources, Inc., 9.5s, 2013##	340	302
		\$1,212
Wireless Communications - 5.1%		
Alamosa Holdings, Inc., 0s to 2005, 12.87s to 2010	\$750	\$585
Centennial Cellular Operating Co., 10.125s, 2013##	305	317
Crown Castle International Corp., 0s to 2004, 10.375s to 2011	929	952
MetroPCS, Inc., 10.75s, 2011##	335	331
Nextel Communications, Inc., 9.95s, 2008	225	236
Rural Cellular Corp., 9.75s, 2010	650	581
Triton PCS, Inc., 8.75s, 2011	345	331
		\$3,335
Total U.S. Bonds		\$32,175
Foreign Bonds - 9.3%		
Australia - 0.7%		
Burns Philip Capital Property Ltd., 9.75s, 2012 (Food & Non Alcoholic Beverages)##	\$425	\$433
Brazil - 1.8%		
Banco Nacional de Desenvolvi, 8.754s, 2008 (Quasi-Government)	\$292	\$284
Federal Republic of Brazil, 2.063s, 2012	579	486
Federal Republic of Brazil, 8s, 2014	188	175
Federal Republic of Brazil, 2s, 2024	62	49
Federal Republic of Brazil, 8.875s, 2024	254	210
		\$1,205
Bulgaria - 0.1%		
Republic of Bulgaria, 8.25s, 2015	\$44	\$50

Edgar Filing: MFS SPECIAL VALUE TRUST - Form N-CSR

Canada - 0.7%

Tembec Industry, Inc., 7.75s, 2012 (Forest & Paper Products)	\$500	\$463
--	-------	-------

Dominican Republic - 0.6%

Dominican Republic, 9.04s, 2013##	\$489	\$376
-----------------------------------	-------	-------

Ecuador - 0.3%

Republic of Ecuador, 7s, 2030	\$300	\$199
-------------------------------	-------	-------

France - 1.6%

Crown European Holdings S.A., 10.875s, 2013 (Containers)	\$350	\$399
--	-------	-------

Rhodia S.A., 8.875s, 2011 (Chemicals)##	700	623
---	-----	-----

\$1,022

Mexico - 0.5%

Corparacion Durango S.A. de C.V., 13.75s, 2009 (Forest & Paper Products)###**	\$258	\$152
---	-------	-------

Pemex Project Funding Master Trust, 8.625s, 2022 (Oil Services)	155	168
---	-----	-----

\$321

Norway - 0.6%

Ocean Rig Norway S.A., 10.25s, 2008 (Oil Services)	\$440	\$400
--	-------	-------

Panama - 0.4%

Republic of Panama, 9.375s, 2029	\$261	\$296
----------------------------------	-------	-------

Philippines - 0.1%

Republic of Philippines, 9.375s, 2017	\$57	\$60
---------------------------------------	------	------

Poland - 0.8%

PTC International Finance II S.A., 11.25s, 2009 (Wireless Communications)	\$500	\$546
---	-------	-------

Russia - 0.8%

AO Siberian Oil Co, 10.75s, 2009 (Energy - Integrated)	\$109	\$116
--	-------	-------

Gazprom, 9.625s, 2013 (Utilities - Gas)##	150	162
---	-----	-----

Tyumen Oil Co., 11s, 2007 (Oil Services)	200	227
--	-----	-----

\$506

Edgar Filing: MFS SPECIAL VALUE TRUST - Form N-CSR

Venezuela - 0.3%

Republic of Venezuela, 10.75s, 2013##	\$227	\$214
Total Foreign Bonds		\$6,095
Total Bonds (Identified Cost, \$38,845,040)		\$38,271

Stocks - 30.0%

ISSUER	SHARES	\$ V
U.S. Stocks - 28.4%		
Automotive - 0.9%		
Hayes Lemmerz International, Inc.	34,476	\$561
Banks & Credit Companies - 2.3%		
FleetBoston Financial Corp.	37,000	\$1,494
Basic Industry - 0.4%		
Thermadyne Holdings Corp.*	16,980	\$222
Broadcast & Cable TV - 5.0%		
Comcast Corp.*	30,400	\$991
Cumulus Media, Inc., "A"*	21,206	397
Sinclair Broadcast Group, Inc., "A"*	30,000	349
Sirius Satellite Radio, Inc.*	647,247	1,521
		\$3,259
Business Services - 0.0%		
Anacomp, Inc.*	30	
Chemicals - 0.0%		
Sterling Chemicals, Inc.*	1,212	\$20
Containers - 1.8%		
Owens Illinois, Inc.*	97,000	\$1,193
Electrical Equipment - 1.7%		
Tyco International Ltd.	51,500	\$1,075

Edgar Filing: MFS SPECIAL VALUE TRUST - Form N-CSR

Gaming & Lodging - 0.3%

Pinnacle Entertainment, Inc.* 23,675 \$207

General Merchandise - 2.5%

Sears, Roebuck & Co. 31,240 \$1,644

Metals & Mining - 1.7%

Alcoa, Inc. 27,140 \$856

Commonwealth Industries, Inc. 39,700 271

\$1,128

Oil Services - 5.1%

BJ Services Co.* 21,300 \$698

Cooper Cameron Corp.* 15,930 682

GlobalSantaFe Corp. 54,430 1,225

Noble Corp.* 20,890 717

\$3,323

Specialty Chemicals - 0.5%

Atlantis Plastics, Inc.* 35,250 \$314

Telephone Services - 2.2%

Adelphia Business Solutions* 40,000

NTL, Inc.* 6,317 389

Verizon Communications, Inc. 31,400 1,055

\$1,445

Utilities - Electric Power - 1.8%

Calpine Corp.* 255,060 \$1,175

El Paso Electric Co.* 800 9

\$1,185

Wireless Communications - 2.2%

AT&T Wireless Services, Inc.* 195,470 \$1,417

Total U.S. Stocks \$18,492

Edgar Filing: MFS SPECIAL VALUE TRUST - Form N-CSR

Foreign Stocks - 1.6%

Bermuda - 0.1%

Global Crossings Holdings Ltd., 10.5s, Preferred (Telecommunications - Wireline)**	10,525	\$84
---	--------	------

Canada - 0.1%

International Utility Structures, Inc. (Metals & Mining)*	254,700	\$57
---	---------	------

Netherlands - 0.5%

Completel Europe N.V. (Telephone Services)*	11,741	\$313
---	--------	-------

Sweden - 0.7%

Song Networks Holding AB (Telephone Services)	66,675	\$435
---	--------	-------

United Kingdom - 0.2%

Jazztel PLC (Telecommunications - Wireline)**	337,125	\$152
---	---------	-------

Total Foreign Stocks		\$1,043
----------------------	--	---------

Total Stocks (Identified Cost, \$25,895,392)		\$19,536
--	--	----------

Preferred Stocks - 3.5%

Advertising & Broadcasting - 1.0%

Spanish Broadcasting Systems, Inc., 10.75s###*	650	\$653
--	-----	-------

Automotive - 0.0%

Hayes Lemmerz International, Inc., 8s*	114	\$8
--	-----	-----

Broadcast & Cable TV - 2.5%

Paxon Communications Corp., 14.25s	175	\$1,645
------------------------------------	-----	---------

Telephone Services - 0.0%

NTL, Inc., 10.5s	10	
------------------	----	--

Total Preferred Stocks (Identified Cost, \$1,996,579)		\$2,306
---	--	---------

Convertible Bonds - 1.9%

ISSUER	PRINCIPAL AMOUNT (000 Omitted)	\$ V
--------	-----------------------------------	------

Edgar Filing: MFS SPECIAL VALUE TRUST - Form N-CSR

United Kingdom - 1.9%

 Business Services - 1.8%

Colt Telecom Group, 2s, 2006	EUR 1,000	\$1,184
------------------------------	-----------	---------

 Telecommunications - Wireline - 0.1%

Jazztel PLC, 12s, 2012**	EUR 98	\$66
		\$1,250

Total Convertible Bonds (Identified Cost, \$877,076)	\$1,250	
--	---------	--

 Convertible Preferred Stocks - 0.5%

ISSUER	SHARES	\$ V
--------	--------	------

 Netherlands - 0.5%

Completel Europe N.V. (Telecommunications - Wireline)*	117	\$301
--	-----	-------

 Sweden - 0.0%

Song Networks Holding AB (Telephone Services)	7,200	\$29
---	-------	------

Total Convertible Preferred Stocks (Identified Cost, \$36,126)	\$331	
--	-------	--

 Warrants - 0.0%

ISSUER	SHARES	\$ V
--------	--------	------

Anacomp, Inc. (Business Services)*	5,841	
------------------------------------	-------	--

Doe Run Resources Corp. (Metals & Mining)*	2	
--	---	--

Ono Finance PLC (Broadcast & Cable TV)*	1,000	
---	-------	--

Sterling Chemicals, Inc. (Chemicals)*	2,003	
---------------------------------------	-------	--

Thermadyne Holdings Corp. (Basic Industry)*	5,505	4
---	-------	---

Thermadyne Holdings Corp. (Basic Industry)*	3,330	3
---	-------	---

Total Warrants (Identified Cost, \$123,377)	\$8	
---	-----	--

 Collateral for Securities Loaned - 21.0%

Navigator Securities Lending Prime Portfolio, at Identified Cost	13,644,323	\$13,644
---	------------	----------

 Repurchase Agreement - 6.1%

ISSUER	PRINCIPAL AMOUNT (000 Omitted)	\$ V
--------	-----------------------------------	------

Edgar Filing: MFS SPECIAL VALUE TRUST - Form N-CSR

Goldman Sachs, dated 10/31/03, due 11/03/03, total to be received \$3,945,345 (secured by various U.S. Treasury and Federal Agency obligations in a jointly traded account), at Cost

\$3,945

\$3,945

Total Investments (Identified Cost, \$85,362,913)

\$79,294

Other Assets, Less Liabilities - (21.7)%

(14,098)

Net Assets - 100.0%

\$65,195

* Non-income producing security.

** Non-income producing security - in default.

SEC Rule 144A restriction.

+ Restricted security.

Abbreviations have been used throughout this report to indicate amounts shown in currencies other than U.S. dollar. A list of abbreviations is shown below.

EUR = Euro

See notes to financial statements.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

This statement represents your fund's balance sheet, which details the assets and liabilities composing the total value of your fund.

AT 10/31/03

ASSETS

Investments, at value including \$13,240,065 of securities on loan (identified cost, \$85,362,913)

\$79,294,291

Cash

13,704

Receivable for forward currency exchange contracts

20,507

Receivable for investments sold

225,074

Interest and dividends receivable

822,612

Other assets

11,655

Total assets

\$80,387

LIABILITIES

Payable to dividend disbursing agent

\$50,071

Payable for forward foreign currency exchange contracts

15,897

Payable for investments purchased

1,150,076

Edgar Filing: MFS SPECIAL VALUE TRUST - Form N-CSR

Collateral for securities loaned, at value	13,644,323	

Payable to affiliates		

Management fee	1,254	

Transfer and dividend disbursing agent fee	1,303	

Accrued expenses and other liabilities	329,426	

Total liabilities		\$15,192

Net assets		\$65,195

NET ASSETS CONSIST OF

Paid-in capital	\$75,125,520	

Unrealized depreciation on investments and translation of assets and liabilities in foreign currencies	(6,063,576)	

Accumulated net realized loss on investments and foreign currency transactions	(3,160,331)	

Accumulated distributions in excess of net investment income	(706,120)	

Total		\$65,195

Shares of beneficial interest outstanding (6,912,014 less 256,600 treasury shares)		6,655

Net asset value per share (net assets/shares of beneficial interest outstanding)		\$

See notes to financial statements.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

This statement describes how much your fund received in investment income and paid in expenses. It describes any gains and/or losses generated by fund operations.

FOR YEAR ENDED 10/31/03

INCOME

Interest	\$4,186,794	

Dividends	438,638	

Total investment income		\$4,625

Expenses		

Edgar Filing: MFS SPECIAL VALUE TRUST - Form N-CSR

Management fee	\$534,688	
Trustees' compensation	57,047	
Administrative fee	5,523	
Investor communication expense	42,492	
Transfer and dividend disbursing agent fee	15,501	
Custodian fee	26,429	
Printing	18,706	
Postage	3,251	
Auditing fees	42,581	
Legal fees	752	
Miscellaneous	20,283	
Total expenses		\$767,000
Fees paid indirectly	(16,923)	
Net expenses		\$750,077
Net investment income		\$3,875,000
REALIZED AND UNREALIZED GAIN (LOSS) ON INVESTMENTS		
Realized gain (loss) (identified cost basis)		
Investment transactions	\$631,307	
Foreign currency transactions	(301,920)	
Net realized gain on investments and foreign currency transactions		\$329,387
Change in unrealized appreciation		
Investments	\$16,635,382	
Translation of assets and liabilities in foreign currencies	23,924	
Net unrealized gain on investments and foreign currency translation		\$16,659,306
Net realized and unrealized gain on investments and foreign currency		\$16,988,693
Increase in net assets from operations		\$20,863,000

See notes to financial statements.

Edgar Filing: MFS SPECIAL VALUE TRUST - Form N-CSR

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

This statement describes the increases and/or decreases in net assets resulting from operations, distributions, and any shareholder transactions.

FOR YEARS ENDED 10/31	2003	2002
INCREASE (DECREASE) IN NET ASSETS		
OPERATIONS		
Net investment income	\$3,875,102	\$4,649
Net realized gain (loss) on investments and foreign currency transactions	329,387	(97)
Net unrealized gain (loss) on investments and foreign currency translation	16,659,306	(5,698)
Increase (decrease) in net assets from operations	\$20,863,795	\$ (1,146)
DISTRIBUTIONS DECLARED TO SHAREHOLDERS		
From net investment income	\$ (3,749,309)	\$ (4,852)
From net realized gain on investments and foreign currency transactions	(1,860,373)	
In excess of net investment income	--	(1,609)
Total distributions declared to shareholders	\$ (5,609,682)	\$ (6,461)
Net increase in net assets from trust share transactions	\$319,029	\$632
Total increase (decrease) in net assets	\$15,573,142	\$ (6,976)
NET ASSETS		
At beginning of period	\$49,622,351	\$56,598
At end of period (including accumulated distributions in excess of net investment income of \$706,120 and \$817,777, respectively)	\$65,195,493	\$49,622

See notes to financial statements.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

The financial highlights table is intended to help you understand the fund's financial performance (shorter, the period of the fund's operation). Certain information reflects financial results for returns in the table represent the rate by which an investor would have earned (or lost) on an in

Edgar Filing: MFS SPECIAL VALUE TRUST - Form N-CSR

reinvestment of all distributions). This information has been audited by the fund's independent auditor with the fund's financial statements, are included in this report.

FOR YEARS ENDED 10/31

	2003	2002	2001
Net asset value, beginning of period	\$7.50	\$8.63	\$11.67

INCOME FROM INVESTMENT OPERATIONS#(S)			
Net investment income	\$0.59	\$0.71	\$0.77

Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) on investments and foreign currency	2.56	(0.86)	(2.16)

Total from investment operations	\$3.15	\$(0.15)	\$(1.39)

LESS DISTRIBUTIONS DECLARED TO SHAREHOLDERS			
From net investment income	\$(0.57)	\$(0.74)	\$(0.77)

From net realized gain on investments and foreign currency transactions	(0.28)	--	--

In excess of net investment income	--	(0.24)	(0.06)

From paid-in capital	--	--	(0.82)

Total distributions declared to shareholders	\$(0.85)	\$(0.98)	\$(1.65)

Net asset value, end of period	\$9.80	\$7.50	\$8.63

Per share market value -- end of period	\$10.40	\$7.25	\$14.30

Total return (%)	58.07	(43.54)	16.99

RATIOS (%) TO AVERAGE NET ASSETS AND SUPPLEMENTAL DATA:			
Expenses##	1.34	1.56	1.53

Net investment income(S)	6.75	8.39	7.49

Portfolio turnover	94	137	49

Net assets at end of period (000 Omitted)	\$65,195	\$49,622	\$56,598

(S) As required, effective November 1, 2001, the trust adopted the provisions of the AICPA Audit Investment Companies and began amortizing premium and accreting discount on all debt securities. The year ended October 31, 2002 was to increase net investment income per share by \$0.02, decrease gains and losses per share by \$0.02, and increase the ratio of net investment income to average share, ratios, and supplemental data for periods prior to November 1, 2001 have not been restated presentation.

Per share data are based on average shares outstanding.

Ratios do not reflect reductions from fees paid indirectly.

See notes to financial statements.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Edgar Filing: MFS SPECIAL VALUE TRUST - Form N-CSR

(1) BUSINESS AND ORGANIZATION

MFS Special Value Trust (the trust) is organized as a Massachusetts business trust and is registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended, as a non-diversified closed-end management investment company.

(2) SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates. The trust can invest in high-yield securities rated below investment grade. Investments in high-yield securities involve greater degrees of credit and market risk than investments in higher-rated securities and tend to be more sensitive to economic conditions. The trust can invest in foreign securities. Investments in foreign securities are vulnerable to the effects of changes in the relative values of the local currency and the U.S. dollar and to the effects of changes in each country's legal, political, and economic environment.

INVESTMENT VALUATIONS - Bonds and other fixed income securities (other than short-term obligations) in the trust's portfolio are valued at an evaluated bid price on the basis of quotes from brokers and dealers or on the basis of valuations furnished by a pricing service. Prices obtained from pricing services utilize both dealer-supplied valuations and electronic data processing techniques which take into account appropriate factors such as institutional-size trading in similar groups of securities, yield, quality, coupon rate, maturity, type of issue, trading characteristics and other market data without exclusive reliance upon quoted prices or exchange or over-the-counter prices, since such valuations are believed to reflect more accurately the fair value of such securities. Equity securities in the trust's portfolio for which market quotations are available are valued at the last sale or official closing price on the primary market or exchange on which they are primarily traded or at the last quoted bid price for securities in which there were no sales during the day. If no sales are reported, as is the case for most securities traded over the counter, securities are valued on the basis of quotations obtained from brokers and dealers or on the basis of valuations furnished by a pricing service. Forward contracts will be valued using a pricing model taking into consideration market data from an external pricing source. Use of the pricing services has been approved by the Board of Trustees. Short-term obligations in the trust's portfolio are valued at amortized cost, which constitutes fair value as determined by the Board of Trustees. Short-term obligations with a remaining maturity in excess of 60 days will be valued upon dealer-supplied valuations. Portfolio investments for which market quotations are not readily available, or whose values have been materially affected by events occurring after the close of their primary markets, are valued at fair value as determined in good faith by or at the direction of the Board of Trustees.

REPURCHASE AGREEMENTS - The trust may enter into repurchase agreements with institutions that the trust's investment adviser has determined are creditworthy. Each repurchase agreement is recorded at cost. The trust requires that the securities collateral in a repurchase transaction be transferred to the custodian in a manner sufficient to enable the trust to obtain those securities in the event of a default under the repurchase agreement. The trust monitors, on a daily basis, the value of the collateral to ensure that its value, including accrued interest, is greater than amounts owed to the trust under each such repurchase agreement. The trust, along with other affiliated entities of

Edgar Filing: MFS SPECIAL VALUE TRUST - Form N-CSR

Massachusetts Financial Services Company (MFS), may utilize a joint trading account for the purpose of entering into one or more repurchase agreements.

FOREIGN CURRENCY TRANSLATION - Investment valuations, other assets, and liabilities initially expressed in foreign currencies are converted each business day into U.S. dollars based upon current exchange rates. Purchases and sales of foreign investments, income, and expenses are converted into U.S. dollars based upon currency exchange rates prevailing on the respective dates of such transactions. Gains and losses attributable to foreign currency exchange rates on sales of securities are recorded for financial statement purposes as net realized gains and losses on investments. Gains and losses attributable to foreign exchange rate movements on income and expenses are recorded for financial statement purposes as foreign currency transaction gains and losses. That portion of both realized and unrealized gains and losses on investments that results from fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates is not separately disclosed.

DEFERRED TRUSTEE COMPENSATION - Under a Deferred Compensation Plan (the Plan) independent Trustees may elect to defer receipt of all or a portion of their annual compensation. Deferred amounts are treated as though equivalent dollar amounts had been invested in shares of the trust or other MFS funds selected by the Trustee. Deferred amounts represent an unsecured obligation of the trust until distributed in accordance with the Plan. Included in other assets, and accrued expenses and other liabilities, is \$10,545 of Deferred Trustees' Compensation.

SECURITY LOANS - State Street Bank and Trust Company ("State Street"), as lending agent, may loan the securities of the trust to certain qualified institutions (the "Borrowers") approved by the trust. The loans are collateralized at all times by cash in an amount at least equal to the market value of the securities loaned. State Street provides the trust with indemnification against Borrower default. The trust bears the risk of loss with respect to the investment of cash collateral.

Cash collateral is invested in short-term securities. A portion of the income generated upon investment of the collateral is remitted to the Borrowers, and the remainder is allocated between the trust and the lending agent. On loans collateralized by U.S. Treasury securities, a fee is received from the Borrower, and is allocated between the trust and the lending agent. Income from securities lending is included in interest income on the Statement of Operations. The dividend and interest income earned on the securities loaned is accounted for in the same manner as other dividend and interest income.

FORWARD FOREIGN CURRENCY EXCHANGE CONTRACTS - The trust may enter into forward foreign currency exchange contracts for the purchase or sale of a specific foreign currency at a fixed price on a future date. Risks may arise upon entering into these contracts from the potential inability of counterparties to meet the terms of their contracts and from unanticipated movements in the value of a foreign currency relative to the U.S. dollar. The trust may enter into forward foreign currency exchange contracts for hedging purposes as well as for non-hedging purposes. For hedging purposes, the trust may enter into contracts to deliver or receive foreign currency it will receive from or require for its normal investment activities. The trust may also use contracts in a manner intended to protect foreign currency-denominated securities from declines in value due to unfavorable exchange rate movements. For non-hedging purposes, the trust may enter into contracts with the intent of changing the relative exposure of the trust's portfolio of securities to different currencies to take advantage of anticipated changes. The forward foreign currency exchange contracts are adjusted by the daily exchange rate of the underlying currency and any gains or losses are recorded as unrealized until the contract settlement date. On contract settlement date, the gains or losses are recorded as realized gains or losses on foreign currency transactions.

Edgar Filing: MFS SPECIAL VALUE TRUST - Form N-CSR

INVESTMENT TRANSACTIONS AND INCOME - Investment transactions are recorded on the trade date. Interest income is recorded on the accrual basis. All premium and discount is amortized or accreted for financial statement purposes in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. All discount is accreted for tax reporting purposes as required by federal income tax regulations. Dividends received in cash are recorded on the ex-dividend date. Dividend and interest payments received in additional securities are recorded on the ex-dividend or ex-interest date in an amount equal to the value of the security on such date. Legal fees and other related expenses incurred to preserve and protect the value of a security owned are added to the cost of the security; other legal fees are expensed. Capital infusions made directly to the security issuer, which are generally non-recurring, incurred to protect or enhance the value of high-yield debt securities, are reported as additions to the cost basis of the security. Costs that are incurred to negotiate the terms or conditions of capital infusions or that are expected to result in a plan of reorganization are reported as realized losses. Ongoing costs incurred to protect or enhance an investment, or costs incurred to pursue other claims or legal actions, are expensed.

For the year ended October 31, 2002, \$203,396 was reclassified from interest income to unrealized gain/loss due to accretion of discount on a debt security. As a result, previously reported amounts have been reclassified. Net investment income per share changed from \$0.74 to \$0.71 and the ratio of net investment income to average daily net assets changed from 8.76% to 8.39%. The reclassification had no effect on the trust's net assets, net asset value per share, market value per share, total return nor fixed rate distributions paid to shareholders.

FEES PAID INDIRECTLY - The trust's custody fee is reduced according to an arrangement that measures the value of cash deposited with the custodian by the trust. This amount is shown as a reduction of total expenses on the Statement of Operations.

TAX MATTERS AND DISTRIBUTIONS - The trust's policy is to comply with the provisions of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code) applicable to regulated investment companies and to distribute to shareholders all of its net taxable income, including any net realized gain on investments. Accordingly, no provision for federal income or excise tax is provided.

Distributions to shareholders are recorded on the ex-dividend date. The trust distinguishes between distributions on a tax basis and a financial reporting basis and only distributions in excess of tax basis earnings and profits are reported in the financial statements as distributions from paid-in capital. Differences in the recognition or classification of income between the financial statements and tax earnings and profits, which result in temporary over-distributions for financial statement purposes, are classified as distributions in excess of net investment income or net realized gains. Common types of book and tax differences that could occur include differences in accounting for currency transactions, derivatives, defaulted bonds, and amortization and accretion on debt securities.

The tax character of distributions declared for the years ended October 31, 2003 and October 31, 2002 was as follows:

	10/31/03	10/31/02
Distributions declared from:		
Ordinary income	\$5,543,609	\$6,461,758
Long-term capital gain	66,073	--

Edgar Filing: MFS SPECIAL VALUE TRUST - Form N-CSR

Total distributions declared	\$5,609,682	\$6,461,758
------------------------------	-------------	-------------

During the year ended October 31, 2003, accumulated distributions in excess of net investment income increased by \$14,136, accumulated net realized loss on investments and foreign currency transactions increased by \$108,068, and paid-in capital increased by \$122,204 due to differences between book and tax accounting for currency transactions, amortization and accretion on debt securities, and defaulted bonds. This change had no effect on the net assets or net asset value per share.

As of October 31, 2003, the components of distributable earnings (accumulated losses) on a tax basis were as follows:

Undistributed ordinary income	\$17,372
-----	-----
Unrealized depreciation	(9,228,515)
-----	-----
Other temporary differences	(718,884)
-----	-----

(3) TRANSACTIONS WITH AFFILIATES

INVESTMENT ADVISER - The trust has an investment advisory agreement with Massachusetts Financial Services Company (MFS) to provide overall investment advisory and administrative services, and general office facilities.

The management fee is computed daily and paid monthly at an annual rate of 0.68% of the trust's average daily net assets and 3.40% of investment income.

Management fees incurred for the year ended October 31, 2003 were 0.93% of average daily net assets on an annualized basis.

The trust pays compensation to the Independent Trustees ("Trustees") in the form of both a retainer and attendance fees, and pays no compensation directly to its Trustees who are officers of the investment adviser, or to officers of the trust, all of whom receive remuneration for their services to the trust from MFS. Certain officers and Trustees of the trust are officers or directors of MFS and MFS Service Center, Inc. (MFSC). The trust has an unfunded, defined benefit plan for inactive Trustees and an unfunded retirement benefit deferral plan for active Trustees. Included in Trustees' compensation is a net increase of \$40,206 as a result of the change in the trust's pension liability for active Trustees and a pension expense of \$7,799 for inactive trustees for the year ended October 31, 2003.

ADMINISTRATOR - The trust has an administrative services agreement with MFS to provide the trust with certain financial, legal, shareholder communications, compliance, and other administrative services. As a partial reimbursement for the cost of providing these services, the trust pays MFS an administrative fee not to exceed the following annual percentage rates of the trust's average daily net assets:

First \$2 billion	0.0175%
-----	-----
Next \$2.5 billion	0.0130%
-----	-----
Next \$2.5 billion	0.0005%
-----	-----
In excess of \$7 billion	0.0000%
-----	-----

Edgar Filing: MFS SPECIAL VALUE TRUST - Form N-CSR

TRANSFER AGENT - MFSC acts as registrar and dividend disbursing agent for the Trust. The agreement provides that the Trust will pay MFSC an account maintenance fee of no more than \$9.00 and a dividend services fee of \$0.75 per reinvestment and will reimburse MFSC for reasonable out-of-pocket expenses.

(4) PORTFOLIO SECURITIES

Purchases and sales of investments, other than U.S. government securities, purchased option transactions, and short-term obligations, aggregated \$51,726,210 and \$54,926,473, respectively.

The cost and unrealized appreciation and depreciation in the value of the investments owned by the trust as computed on a federal income tax basis, are as follows:

Aggregate cost	\$84,997,245

Gross unrealized depreciation	\$(12,972,261)

Gross unrealized appreciation	7,269,307

Net unrealized depreciation	\$(5,702,954)

(5) SHARES OF BENEFICIAL INTEREST

The trust's Declaration of Trust permits the Trustees to issue an unlimited number of full and fractional shares of beneficial interest. The Trustees have authorized 6,655,413.944 full and fractional shares of beneficial interest. Transactions in trust shares were as follows:

	Year ended 10/31/03	Year ended 10/31/02
	SHARES	SHARES
Shares issued to shareholders in reinvestment of distributions	35,268	63,689

(6) LINE OF CREDIT

The trust and other affiliated funds participate in an \$800 million unsecured line of credit provided by a syndication of banks under a line of credit agreement. Borrowings may be made for temporary financing needs. Interest is charged to each fund, based on its borrowings, at a rate equal to the bank's base rate. In addition, a commitment fee, based on the average daily unused portion of the line of credit, is allocated among the participating funds at the end of each quarter. The commitment fee allocated to the trust for the year ended October 31, 2003, was \$410. The trust had no borrowings during the year.

(7) FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The trust trades financial instruments with off-balance-sheet risk in the normal course of its investing activities in order to manage exposure to market risks such as interest rates and foreign currency exchange rates. These financial instruments include forward foreign currency exchange contracts. The notional or contractual amounts of these instruments represent the investment the trust has in particular classes of financial instruments and does not necessarily represent the amounts potentially subject to risk. The measurement of the risks associated with these instruments is meaningful only when all related and

Edgar Filing: MFS SPECIAL VALUE TRUST - Form N-CSR

offsetting transactions are considered.

Forward Foreign Currency Exchange Contracts

SALES

SETTLEMENT DATE	CONTRACTS TO DELIVER/ RECEIVE	IN EXCHANGE FOR	CONTRACTS AT VALUE
11/03/03 & 1/13/04	EUR	3,774,448	\$4,398,019
			----- \$4,398,019 =====
			----- \$4,377,512 =====

PURCHASES

11/03/03	EUR	1,887,224	\$2,206,874
			----- \$2,206,874 =====
			----- \$2,190,977 =====

At October 31, 2003 the trust had sufficient cash and/or securities to cover any commitments under these contracts.

(8) RESTRICTED SECURITIES

The trust may invest not more than 20% of its total assets in securities which are subject to legal or contractual restrictions on resale. At October 31, 2003, the trust owned the following restricted securities, excluding securities issued under Rule 144A, constituting 1.23% of net assets which may not be publicly sold without registration under the Securities Act of 1933. The trust does not have the right to demand that such securities be registered. The value of these securities is determined by valuations furnished by dealers or by a pricing service, or if not available, in good faith at the direction of the Trustees.

DESCRIPTION	DATE OF ACQUISITION	PRINCIPAL AMOUNT	COST
DLJ Mortgage Acceptance Corp., 8s, 2003	4/6/01	803,000	\$484,738

(9) CHANGE IN ACCOUNTING PRINCIPLE

As Required, effective November 1, 2001 the trust adopted the provisions of the AICPA Audit and Accounting Guide for Investment Companies and began amortizing premium and accreting discount on debt securities. The cumulative effect of this accounting change had no impact on total net assets of the trust, but resulted

Edgar Filing: MFS SPECIAL VALUE TRUST - Form N-CSR

in a \$99,487 increase in cost of securities and a corresponding \$99,487 increase in net unrealized depreciation, based on securities held by the trust on November 1, 2001.

The effect of this change for the year ended October 31, 2002 was to increase net investment income by \$142,315, increase net unrealized depreciation by \$143,850, and decrease net realized losses by \$1,535. The Statement of Changes in Net Assets and Financial Highlights for prior periods has not been restated to reflect this change in presentation.

(10) LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

Massachusetts Financial Services Company ("MFS"), the trust's investment adviser, has been contacted by the Office of the New York State Attorney General ("NYAG") and the United States Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") in connection with their investigations of practices in the mutual fund industry identified as "market timing" mutual fund shares. MFS is cooperating with respect to these investigations. MFS has been informed that the SEC is considering whether to institute an enforcement action against MFS alleging false and misleading disclosure in certain MFS fund prospectuses and breach of fiduciary duty concerning market timing. The NYAG has also indicated that it is considering whether to commence an enforcement proceeding against MFS relating to these practices. MFS continues to discuss these matters with the SEC and the NYAG. Certain other regulatory authorities are also conducting investigations into these practices within the industry and have requested that MFS provide information to them.

In December 2003, MFS and Sun Life Financial Inc., along with certain MFS funds and Trustees who serve on the Board of Trustees of these MFS funds, were named as defendants in class action lawsuits filed in the United States District Court, District of Massachusetts seeking damages of unspecified amounts. The lawsuits were purportedly filed on behalf of people who purchased, owned and/or redeemed shares of certain MFS funds during specified periods. The suits allege that certain defendants permitted market timing and late trading in the MFS funds which allegedly caused financial injury to the funds' shareholders. The defendants are reviewing the allegations and will respond appropriately. Additional lawsuits based upon similar allegations may be filed in the future.

Any potential resolution of these matters may include, but not be limited to, sanctions, penalties, damages or injunctions regarding MFS, restitution to mutual fund shareholders and/or other financial penalties and structural changes in the governance of MFS' mutual fund business.

These regulatory developments do not relate to closed-end investment companies such as the trust, and the trust has not been named as a defendant in any of the aforementioned lawsuits. Although MFS does not believe that these lawsuits will have a material adverse effect on the trust, there can be no assurance that the ongoing adverse publicity and/or other developments resulting from related regulatory investigations or developments will not result in an increase in the market discount of the trust's shares or other adverse consequences to the trust.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Trustees and Shareholders of MFS Special Value Trust:

We have audited the accompanying statement of assets and liabilities of MFS Special Value Trust (the Fund), including the portfolio of investments, as of October 31, 2003, and the related statement of operations for the year then ended, the statement of changes in net assets for each of the two years in the

Edgar Filing: MFS SPECIAL VALUE TRUST - Form N-CSR

period then ended and the financial highlights for each of the five years in the period then ended. These financial statements and financial highlights are the responsibility of the Fund's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements and financial highlights based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements and financial highlights are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements and financial highlights. Our procedures included confirmation of securities owned as of October 31, 2003, by correspondence with the custodian and brokers or by other appropriate auditing procedures where replies from brokers were not received. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements and financial highlights referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the MFS Special Value Trust at October 31, 2003, the results of its operations for the year then ended, the changes in its net assets for each of the two years in the period then ended and its financial highlights for each of the five years in the period then ended, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States.

ERNST & YOUNG LLP

Boston, Massachusetts
December 12, 2003

TRUSTEES AND OFFICERS

The following tables present certain information regarding the Trustees and officers of MFS Special Value Trust, their principal occupations, which, unless specific dates are shown, are of more than five years' duration and have been the same throughout.

Name, age, position with the Trust, principal occupation, and other directorships(1)

INTERESTED TRUSTEES

JEFFREY L. SHAMES(2) (born 06/02/55)
Chairman
Massachusetts Financial Services Company,
Chairman

JOHN W. BALLEEN(2) (born 09/12/59)
Trustee and President
Massachusetts Financial Services Company,
Chief Executive Officer and Director

KEVIN R. PARKE(2) (born 12/14/59)
Trustee
Massachusetts Financial Services Company,
President, Chief Investment Officer and Director

ABBY M. O'NEILL (born 04/27/28)
Trustee
Private investor; Rockefeller Financial Services Company
(investment advisers), Chairman and
Chief Executive Officer

LAWRENCE T. PERERA (born 06/23/35)
Trustee
Hemenway & Barnes (attorneys), Partner

WILLIAM J. POORVU (born 04/10/35)
Trustee
Private investor; Harvard University
of Business Administration, Class of
Professor in Entrepreneurship Emeritus
CBL & Associates Properties, Inc. (retired)

INDEPENDENT TRUSTEES

Edgar Filing: MFS SPECIAL VALUE TRUST - Form N-CSR

LAWRENCE H. COHN, M.D. (born 03/11/37)
Trustee
Brigham and Women's Hospital, Chief of Cardiac
Surgery; Harvard Medical School, Professor of Surgery

WILLIAM R. GUTOW (born 09/27/41)
Trustee
Private investor and real estate consultant;
Capitol Entertainment Management Company
(video franchise), Vice Chairman

J. ATWOOD IVES (born 05/01/36)
Trustee
Private investor; KeySpan Corporation (energy related
services), Director; Eastern Enterprises (diversified
services company), Chairman, Trustee and Chief
Executive Officer (until November 2000)

investment trust), Director

J. DALE SHERRATT (born 09/23/38)
Trustee
Insight Resources, Inc. (acquisition
specialists), President; Wellfleet I
(investor in health care companies),
General Partner (since 1993); Cambri
(professional nutritional products),
Officer (until May 2001)

ELAINE R. SMITH (born 04/25/46)
Trustee
Independent health care industry
consultant

WARD SMITH (born 09/13/30)
Trustee
Private investor

- (1) Directorships or trusteeships of companies required to report to the Securities and Exchange Commission ("companies").
- (2) "Interested person" of MFS within the meaning of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (referred to as the "Act"), the principal federal law governing investment companies like the Trust. The address of MFS is 50 State Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02116.

Trustees and Officers - continued

OFFICERS

JOHN W. BALLEEN (born 09/12/59)
Trustee and President
Massachusetts Financial Services Company, Chief
Executive Officer and Director

JAMES R. BORDEWICK, JR. (born 03/06/59)
Assistant Secretary and Assistant Clerk
Massachusetts Financial Services Company, Senior
Vice President and Associate General Counsel

STEPHEN E. CAVAN (born 11/06/53)
Secretary and Clerk
Massachusetts Financial Services Company, Senior
Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary

STEPHANIE A. DESISTO (born 10/01/53)
Assistant Treasurer
Massachusetts Financial Services Company, Vice
President (since April 2003); Brown Brothers
Harriman & Co., Senior Vice President
(November 2002 to April 2003); ING Groep N.V./
Aeltus Investment Management, Senior Vice President
(prior to November 2002)

ROBERT R. FLAHERTY (born 09/18/63)
Assistant Treasurer
Massachusetts Financial Services Company,
President (since August 2000); UAM Financial
Senior Vice President (prior to August 2000)

RICHARD M. HISEY (born 08/29/58)
Treasurer
Massachusetts Financial Services Company,
Vice President (since July 2002); The
York, Senior Vice President (September
2002); Lexington Global Asset Management,
Executive Vice President and Chief Financial
(prior to September 2000); Lexington
Treasurer (prior to September 2000)

ELLEN MOYNIHAN (born 11/13/57)
Assistant Treasurer
Massachusetts Financial Services Company,
Vice President

JAMES O. YOST (born 06/12/60)
Assistant Treasurer
Massachusetts Financial Services Company,
Vice President

The Trust holds annual shareholder meetings for the purpose of electing Trustees, and Trustees are elected to the Board of Trustees is currently divided into three classes, each having a term of three years. Each class expires. Each Trustee's term of office expires on the date of the third annual meeting following

Edgar Filing: MFS SPECIAL VALUE TRUST - Form N-CSR

Trustee's class. Each Trustee will serve until next elected or his or her earlier death, resignation,

Messrs. Shames, Cohn, Sherratt and Smith, and Ms. O'Neill, have served in their capacity as Trustee since originally elected or appointed. Messrs. Ballen, Gutow, Ives, Perera and Poorvu, and Ms. Smith and have served as Trustees of the Trust since January 1, 2002. Mr. Parke has served as a Trustee since 2002.

Each of the Trust's Trustees and officers holds comparable positions with certain other funds of the Trust, investment adviser or distributor and, in the case of the officers, with certain affiliates of the Trust. The Trust is a member of 110 funds within the MFS Family of Funds.

The Statement of Additional Information contains further information about the Trustees and is available upon request, by calling 1-800-225-2606.

INVESTMENT ADVISER

Massachusetts Financial Services Company
500 Boylston Street, Boston, MA
02116-3741

CUSTODIANS

State Street Bank and Trust Company
225 Franklin Street, Boston, MA
02110

PORTFOLIO MANAGER

John F. Addeo(1)

JP Morgan Chase Manhattan Bank
One Chase Manhattan Plaza
New York, NY 10081

AUDITORS

Ernst & Young LLP

(1)MFS Investment Management

FEDERAL TAX INFORMATION (UNAUDITED)

In January 2004, shareholders will be mailed a Form 1099-DIV reporting the federal tax status of all distributions paid during the calendar year 2003.

The trust has designated \$66,073 as a capital gain dividend for the year ended October 31, 2003.

For the year ended October 31, 2003, the amount of distributions from income eligible for the 70% dividends received deduction for corporations is 6.28%.

The trust hereby designates the maximum amount allowable as qualified dividend income eligible for a maximum tax rate of 15%, as provided for by the Jobs and Growth Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2003. Complete information will be reported in conjunction with your 2003 Form 1099-DIV.

CONTACT INFORMATION AND NUMBER OF SHAREHOLDERS

INVESTOR INFORMATION

Transfer Agent, Registrar and Dividend Disbursing Agent

Call 1-800-637-2304 any business day from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Eastern time

Edgar Filing: MFS SPECIAL VALUE TRUST - Form N-CSR

Write to: State Street Bank and Trust Company
c/o MFS Service Center, Inc.
P.O. Box 55024
Boston, MA 02205-5024

A general description of the MFS Funds proxy voting policies is available without charge, upon request, by calling 1-800-225-2606, by visiting the About MFS section of mfs.com or by visiting the SEC's website at <http://www.sec.gov>.

NUMBER OF SHAREHOLDERS

As of October 31, 2003, our records indicate that there are 672 registered shareholders and approximately 5,400 shareholders owning trust shares in "street" name, such as through brokers, banks, and other financial intermediaries.

If you are a "street" name shareholder and wish to directly receive our reports, which contain important information about the trust, please write or call:

State Street Bank and Trust Company
c/o MFS Service Center, Inc.
P.O. Box 55024
Boston, MA 02205-5024
1-800-637-2304

[logo] M F S(R)
INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT

500 Boylston Street
Boston, MA 02116-3741

(C) 2003 MFS Investment Management(R)
500 Boylston Street, Boston, MA 02116

MFV-ANN-12/03 11M

ITEM 2. CODE OF ETHICS.

The Registrant has adopted a Code of Ethics pursuant to Section 406 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act and as defined in the instructions to Form N-CSR that applies to the Registrant's principal executive officer and principal financial and accounting officer.

ITEM 3. AUDIT COMMITTEE FINANCIAL EXPERT.

Messrs. J. Atwood Ives and Ward Smith, members of the Audit Committee, have been determined by the Board of Trustees in their reasonable business judgment to meet the definition of "audit committee financial expert" as such term is defined in the instructions to Form N-CSR. In addition, Messrs. Ives and Smith are both "independent" members of the Audit Committee as defined in the instructions to Form N-CSR.

ITEM 4. PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTANT FEES AND SERVICES.

Not applicable at this time. [Applicable for annual reports filed for the first fiscal year ending after December 15, 2003 (beginning with annual N-CSR filings at the end of February, 2004 for December 31, 2003 reporting period.)]

ITEM 5. AUDIT COMMITTEE OF LISTED REGISTRANTS.

Not applicable at this time. [Applicable for closed-end fund annual reports

Edgar Filing: MFS SPECIAL VALUE TRUST - Form N-CSR

covering periods ending on or after the compliance date for the listing standards applicable to the closed-end fund. Listed issuers must be in compliance with the new listing rules by the earlier of the registrant's first annual shareholders meeting after January 15, 2004 or October 31, 2004.]

ITEM 6. [RESERVED]

ITEM 7. DISCLOSURE OF PROXY VOTING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR CLOSED-END MANAGEMENT INVESTMENT COMPANIES.

The Board of Trustees and the Board of Managers of the investment companies (the "MFS Funds") advised by Massachusetts Financial Services Company ("MFS") have delegated to MFS the right and obligation to vote proxies for shares that are owned by the MFS Funds, in accordance with MFS' proxy voting policies and procedures (the "MFS Proxy Policies"). The MFS Proxy Policies are set forth below:

MASSACHUSETTS FINANCIAL SERVICES COMPANY

PROXY VOTING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

SEPTEMBER 17, 2003

Massachusetts Financial Services Company, MFS Institutional Advisors, Inc. and MFS' other investment adviser subsidiaries (collectively, "MFS") have adopted proxy voting policies and procedures, as set forth below, with respect to securities owned by the clients for which MFS serves as investment adviser and has the power to vote proxies, including the registered investment companies included within the MFS Family of Funds (the "MFS Funds").

These policies and procedures include:

- A. Voting Guidelines;
- B. Administrative Procedures;
- C. Monitoring System;
- D. Records Retention; and
- E. Reports.

A. VOTING GUIDELINES

1. GENERAL POLICY; POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

MFS' policy is that proxy voting decisions are made in what MFS believes to be the best long-term economic interests of MFS' clients, and not in the interests of any other party or in MFS' corporate interests, including interests such as the distribution of MFS Fund shares, administration of 401(k) plans, and institutional relationships.

MFS has carefully reviewed matters that in recent years have been presented for shareholder vote by either management or shareholders of public companies. Based on the guiding principle that all votes made by MFS on behalf of its clients must be in what MFS believes to be the best long-term economic interests of such clients, MFS has adopted proxy voting guidelines, which are set forth below, that govern how MFS generally plans to vote on specific matters presented for shareholder vote. In all cases, MFS will exercise its discretion to vote these items in accordance with this guiding

Edgar Filing: MFS SPECIAL VALUE TRUST - Form N-CSR

principle. These underlying guidelines are simply that - guidelines. Each proxy item is considered on a case-by-case basis, in light of all relevant facts and circumstances, and there may be instances in which MFS may vote proxies in a manner different from these guidelines.

As a general matter, MFS maintains a consistent voting position with respect to similar proxy proposals made by various issuers. In addition, MFS generally votes consistently on the same matter when securities of an issuer are held by multiple client accounts. However, MFS recognizes that there are gradations in certain types of proposals that might result in different voting positions being taken with respect to the different proxy statements. There also may be situations involving matters presented for shareholder vote that are not clearly governed by the guidelines, such as proposed mergers and acquisitions. Some items that otherwise would be acceptable will be voted against the proponent when it is seeking extremely broad flexibility without offering a valid explanation. MFS reserves the right to override the guidelines with respect to a particular shareholder vote when such an override is, in MFS' best judgment, consistent with the guiding principle of voting proxies in the best long-term economic interests of MFS' clients.

From time to time, MFS receives comments on these guidelines and regarding particular voting issues from its clients. Those comments are reviewed and considered periodically, and these guidelines are reviewed each year with MFS Equity Research Department management, the MFS Proxy Review Group and the MFS Proxy Consultant and are revised as appropriate.

These policies and procedures are intended to address any potential material conflicts of interest on the part of MFS or its affiliates that could arise in connection with the voting of proxies on behalf of MFS' clients. MFS shall be mindful of any and all potential material conflicts of interest that could arise in the voting of these proxies, shall identify, analyze, document and report on any such potential conflicts, and shall ultimately vote these proxies in what MFS believes to be the best long-term economic interests of its clients. The MFS Proxy Review Group is responsible for monitoring and reporting on all potential conflicts of interest.

2. MFS' POLICY ON SPECIFIC ISSUES

NON-SALARY COMPENSATION PROGRAMS

Managements have become increasingly creative and generous with compensation programs involving common stock. The original stock option plans, which called for the optionee to pay the money to exercise the option, are now embellished with no risk benefits such as stock appreciation rights, the use of unexercised options to "buy" stock, and restricted stock at bargain prices.

Stock option plans are supposed to reward results rather than tenure, so the use of restricted stock at bargain prices is not favored. In some cases, restricted stock is granted to the recipient at deep discounts to fair market value, sometimes at par value. The holder cannot sell for a period of years, but in the meantime is able to vote and receive dividends. Eventually the restrictions lapse and the stock can be sold.

MFS votes against option programs for officers, employees or non-employee directors that do not require an investment by the optionee, that give "free rides" on the stock price, or that permit

Edgar Filing: MFS SPECIAL VALUE TRUST - Form N-CSR

grants of restricted stock at deep discounts to fair market value. MFS generally votes against stock option plans that involve stock appreciation rights or the use of unexercised options to "buy" stock.

MFS opposes plans that provide unduly generous compensation for officers, directors or employees, or could result in excessive dilution to other shareholders. As a general guideline, MFS votes against stock option plans if all such plans for a particular company involve potential dilution, in the aggregate, of more than 15%.

MFS votes in favor of stock option plans for non-employee directors as long as they satisfy the requirements set forth above with respect to stock option plans for employees. Stock option plans that include options for consultants and other third parties not involved in the management of the company generally are opposed by MFS.

"GOLDEN PARACHUTES"

From time to time, shareholders of companies have submitted proxy proposals that would require shareholder approval of any severance packages for executive officers that exceed certain predetermined thresholds. MFS votes in favor of such shareholder proposals when they would require shareholder approval of any severance package for an executive officer that exceeds a certain percentage of such officer's annual compensation. When put to a vote, MFS votes against very large golden parachutes.

ANTI-TAKEOVER MEASURES

In general, MFS votes against any measure that inhibits capital appreciation in a stock, including a possible takeover and any proposal that protects management from action by shareholders. These types of proposals take many forms, ranging from "poison pills" and "shark repellents" to board classification and super-majority requirements.

REINCORPORATION AND REORGANIZATION PROPOSALS

When presented with a proposal to reincorporate a company under the laws of a different state, or to effect some other type of corporate reorganization, MFS considers the underlying purpose and ultimate effect of such a proposal in determining whether or not to support such a measure. While MFS generally votes in favor of management proposals that it believes are in the best long-term economic interests of its clients, MFS may oppose such a measure if, for example, the intent or effect would be to create additional inappropriate impediments to possible acquisitions or takeovers.

DILUTION

There are many reasons for issuance of stock and most are legitimate. As noted above under "Non-Salary Compensation Programs", when a stock option plan (either individually or when aggregated with other plans of the same company) would substantially dilute the existing equity (e.g., by approximately 15% or more), MFS generally votes against the plan. In addition, MFS votes against proposals where management is asking for authorization to issue common or preferred stock with no reason stated (a "blank check") because the unexplained authorization could work as a potential anti-takeover device.

CONFIDENTIAL VOTING

Edgar Filing: MFS SPECIAL VALUE TRUST - Form N-CSR

MFS votes in favor of proposals to ensure that shareholder voting results are kept confidential. For example, MFS supports proposals that would prevent management from having access to shareholder voting information that is compiled by an independent proxy tabulation firm.

INDEPENDENCE OF BOARDS OF DIRECTORS AND COMMITTEES THEREOF

While MFS acknowledges the potential benefits of a company's inclusion of directors who are "independent" from management, MFS generally opposes shareholder proposals that would require that a majority (or a "super-majority") of a company's board be comprised of "independent" directors. Such proposals could inappropriately reduce a company's ability to engage in certain types of transactions, could result in the exclusion of talented directors who are not deemed "independent", or could result in the unnecessary addition of additional "independent" directors to a company's board. However, in view of the special role and responsibilities of various the audit committees of a board of directors, MFS supports proposals that would require that the Audit, Nominating and Compensation Committees be comprised entirely of directors who are deemed "independent" of the company.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS

Recently, some shareholder groups have submitted proposals to limit the non-audit activities of a company's audit firm. Some proposals would prohibit the provision of any non-audit services (unless approved in advance by the full board) whereas other proposals would cap non-audit fees so that such fees do not exceed a certain percentage of the audit fees. MFS supports such shareholder proposals that would cap non-audit fees at an amount deemed to be not excessive.

BEST PRACTICES STANDARDS

Best practices standards are rapidly evolving in the corporate governance areas as a result of recent corporate failures, the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 and revised listing standards on major stock exchanges. MFS generally support these changes. However, many issuers are not publicly registered, are not subject to these enhanced listing standards or are not operating in an environment that is comparable to that in the United States. In reviewing proxy proposals under these circumstances, MFS votes for proposals that enhance standards of corporate governance so long as we believe that -- within the circumstances of the environment within which the issuers operate - the proposal is consistent with the best long-term economic interests of our clients.

FOREIGN ISSUERS - SHARE BLOCKING

In accordance with local law or business practices, many foreign companies prevent the sales of shares that have been voted for a certain period beginning prior to the shareholder meeting and ending on the day following the meeting ("share blocking"). Depending on the country in which a company is domiciled, the blocking period may begin a stated number of days prior to the meeting (e.g., one, three or five days) or on a date established by the company. While practices vary, in many countries the block period can be continued for a longer period if the shareholder meeting is adjourned and postponed to a later date. Similarly, practices vary widely as to the ability of a shareholder to have the "block" restriction lifted early (e.g., in

Edgar Filing: MFS SPECIAL VALUE TRUST - Form N-CSR

some countries shares generally can be "unblocked" up to two days prior to the meeting whereas in other countries the removal of the block appears to be discretionary with the issuer's transfer agent). Due to these restrictions, MFS must balance the benefits to its clients of voting proxies against the potentially serious portfolio management consequences of a reduced flexibility to sell the underlying shares at the most advantageous time. For companies in countries with potentially long block periods, the disadvantage of being unable to sell the stock regardless of changing conditions generally outweighs the advantages of voting at the shareholder meeting for routine items. Accordingly, MFS generally will not vote those proxies in the absence of an unusual, significant vote. Conversely, for companies domiciled in countries with very short block periods, MFS generally will continue to cast votes in accordance with these policies and procedures.

SOCIAL ISSUES

There are many groups advocating social change, and many have chosen the publicly-held corporation as a vehicle for their agenda. Common among these are resolutions requiring the corporation to refrain from investing or conducting business in certain countries, to adhere to some list of goals or principles (e.g., environmental standards) or to report on various activities. MFS votes against such proposals unless their shareholder-oriented benefits will outweigh any costs or disruptions to the business, including those that use corporate resources to further a particular social objective outside the business of the company or when no discernible shareholder economic advantage is evident.

The laws of various states may regulate how the interests of certain clients subject to those laws are voted. For example, the General Laws of The Commonwealth of Massachusetts prohibit the investment of state funds, including retirement system assets, in the following types of investments: (i) financial institutions which directly or through any subsidiary have outstanding loans to any individual or corporation engaged in manufacturing, distribution or sale of firearms, munitions, rubber or plastic bullets, tear gas, armored vehicles or military aircraft for use or deployment in any activity in Northern Ireland; or (ii) any stocks, securities or obligations of any company so engaged.

Because of these statutory restrictions, it is necessary when voting proxies for securities held in Massachusetts public pension accounts to support the purpose of this legislation. Thus, on issues relating to these or similar state law questions, it may be necessary to cast ballots differently for these portfolios than MFS might normally do for other accounts.

B. ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

1. MFS PROXY REVIEW GROUP

The administration of these policies and procedures is overseen by the MFS Proxy Review Group, which includes senior MFS Legal Department officers and MFS' Proxy Consultant. The MFS Proxy Review Group:

- a. Reviews these policies and procedures at least annually and recommends any amendments considered to be necessary or advisable;

Edgar Filing: MFS SPECIAL VALUE TRUST - Form N-CSR

- b. Determines whether any material conflicts of interest exist with respect to instances in which (i) MFS seeks to override these guidelines and (ii) votes not clearly governed by these guidelines; and
- c. Considers special proxy issues as they may arise from time to time.

The current MFS Proxy Consultant is an independent proxy consultant who performs these services exclusively for MFS.

2. POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

The MFS Proxy Review Group is responsible for monitoring potential material conflicts of interest on the part of MFS or its affiliates that could arise in connection with the voting of proxies on behalf of MFS' clients. Any attempt to influence MFS' voting on a particular proxy matter should be reported to the MFS Proxy Review Group. The MFS Proxy Consultant will assist the MFS Proxy Review Group in carrying out these responsibilities.

In cases where proxies are voted in accordance with these policies and guidelines, no conflict of interest will be deemed to exist. In cases where (i) MFS is considering overriding these policies and guidelines, or (ii) matters presented for vote are not clearly governed by these policies and guidelines, the MFS Proxy Review Group and the MFS Proxy Consultant will follow these procedures:

- a. Compare the name of the issuer of such proxy against a list of significant current and potential (i) distributors of MFS Fund shares, (ii) retirement plans administered by MFS, and (iii) MFS institutional clients (the "MFS Significant Client List");
- b. If the name of the issuer does not appear on the MFS Significant Client List, then no material conflict of interest will be deemed to exist, and the proxy will be voted as otherwise determined by the MFS Proxy Review Group;
- c. If the name of the issuer appears on the MFS Significant Client List, then the MFS Proxy Review Group will carefully evaluate the proposed votes in order to ensure that the proxy ultimately is voted in what MFS believes to be the best long-term economic interests of MFS' clients, and not in MFS' corporate interests; and
- d. For all potential material conflicts of interest identified under clause (c) above, the MFS Proxy Review Group will document: the name of the issuer, the issuer's relationship to MFS, the analysis of the matters submitted for proxy vote, and the basis for the determination that the votes ultimately were cast in what MFS believes to be the best long-term economic interests of MFS' clients, and not in MFS' corporate interests.

The MFS Proxy Review Group is responsible for creating and maintaining the MFS Significant Client List, in consultation with MFS' distribution, retirement plan administration and institutional business units. The MFS Significant Client List will be reviewed and updated as necessary, but no less frequently than quarterly.

Edgar Filing: MFS SPECIAL VALUE TRUST - Form N-CSR

3. GATHERING PROXIES

Nearly all proxies received by MFS originate at Automatic Data Processing Corp. ("ADP"). ADP and issuers send proxies and related material directly to the record holders of the shares beneficially owned by MFS' clients, usually to the client's custodian or, less commonly, to the client itself. Each client's custodian is responsible for forwarding all proxy solicitation materials to MFS (except in the case of certain institutional clients for which MFS does not vote proxies). This material will include proxy cards, reflecting the proper shareholdings of Funds and of clients on the record dates for such shareholder meetings, and proxy statements, the issuer's explanation of the items to be voted upon.

MFS, on behalf of itself and the Funds, has entered into an agreement with an independent proxy administration firm, Institutional Shareholder Services, Inc. (the "Proxy Administrator"), pursuant to which the Proxy Administrator performs various proxy vote processing and recordkeeping functions for MFS' Fund and institutional client accounts. The Proxy Administrator does not make recommendations to MFS as to how to vote any particular item. The Proxy Administrator receives proxy statements and proxy cards directly from various custodians, logs these materials into its database and matches upcoming meetings with MFS Fund and client portfolio holdings, which are input into the Proxy Administrator's system by an MFS holdings datafeed. Through the use of the Proxy Administrator system, ballots and proxy material summaries for the upcoming shareholders' meetings of over 10,000 corporations are available on-line to certain MFS employees, the MFS Proxy Consultant and the MFS Proxy Review Group and most proxies can be voted electronically. In addition to receiving the hard copies of materials relating to meetings of shareholders of issuers whose securities are held by the Funds and/or clients, the ballots and proxy statements can be printed from the Proxy Administrator's system and forwarded for review.

4. ANALYZING PROXIES

After input into the Proxy Administrator system, proxies which are deemed to be completely routine (e.g., those involving only uncontested elections of directors, appointments of auditors, and/or employee stock purchase plans)(1) are automatically voted in favor by the Proxy Administrator without being sent to either the MFS Proxy Consultant or the MFS Proxy Review Group for further review. Proxies that pertain only to merger and acquisition proposals are forwarded initially to an appropriate MFS portfolio manager or research analyst for his or her recommendation. All proxies that are reviewed by either the MFS Proxy Consultant or a portfolio manager or analyst are then forwarded with the corresponding recommendation to the MFS Proxy Review Group.(2)

(1) Proxies for foreign companies often contain significantly more voting items than those of U.S. companies. Many of these items on foreign proxies involve repetitive, non-controversial matters that are mandated by local law. Accordingly, there is an expanded list of items that are deemed routine (and therefore automatically voted in favor) for foreign issuers, including the following: (i) receiving financial statements or other reports from the board; (ii) approval of declarations of dividends; (iii) appointment of shareholders to sign board meeting minutes; (iv) the discharge of management and supervisory boards; and (v) approval of share repurchase programs.

Edgar Filing: MFS SPECIAL VALUE TRUST - Form N-CSR

- (2) From time to time, due to travel schedules and other commitments, an appropriate portfolio manager or research analyst is not available to provide a recommendation on a merger or acquisition proposal. If such a recommendation cannot be obtained within a few business days prior to the shareholder meeting, the MFS Proxy Review Group will determine the vote in what MFS believes to be the best long-term economic interests of its clients.

Recommendations with respect to voting on non-routine issues are generally made by the MFS Proxy Consultant in accordance with the policies summarized under "Voting Guidelines," and all other relevant materials. His or her recommendation as to how each proxy proposal should be voted is indicated on copies of proxy cards, including his or her rationale on significant items. These cards are then forwarded to the MFS Proxy Review Group.

As a general matter, portfolio managers and investment analysts are consulted and involved in developing MFS' substantive proxy voting guidelines, but have little or no involvement in or knowledge of proxy proposals or voting positions taken by MFS. This is designed to promote consistency in the application of MFS' voting guidelines, to promote consistency in voting on the same or similar issues (for the same or for multiple issuers) across all client accounts, and to minimize or remove the potential that proxy solicitors, issuers, and third parties might attempt to exert influence on the vote or might create a conflict of interest that is not in what MFS believes to be the best long-term economic interests of our clients. In limited, specific instances (e.g., mergers), the MFS Proxy Consultant or the MFS Proxy Review Group may consult with or seek recommendations from portfolio managers or analysts. The MFS Proxy Review Group would ultimately determine the manner in which all proxies are voted.

As noted above, MFS reserves the right to override the guidelines when such an override is, in MFS' best judgment, consistent with the guiding principle of voting proxies in the best long-term economic interests of MFS' clients. Any such override of the guidelines shall be examined, explained and reported in accordance with the procedures set forth in these policies.

5. VOTING PROXIES

After the proxy card copies are reviewed, they are voted electronically through the Proxy Administrator's system. In accordance with its contract with MFS, the Proxy Administrator also generates a variety of reports for the MFS Proxy Consultant and the MFS Proxy Review Group, and makes available on-line various other types of information so that the MFS Proxy Review Group and the MFS Proxy Consultant may monitor the votes cast by the Proxy Administrator on behalf of MFS' clients.

C. MONITORING SYSTEM

It is the responsibility of the Proxy Administrator and MFS' Proxy Consultant to monitor the proxy voting process. As noted above, when proxy materials for clients are received, they are forwarded to the Proxy Administrator and are input into the Proxy Administrator's system. Additionally, through an interface with the portfolio holdings database of MFS, the Proxy Administrator matches a list of all MFS Funds and clients who hold shares of a company's stock and the number of shares held on the record date with the Proxy Administrator's listing of any upcoming shareholder's meeting of that company.

Edgar Filing: MFS SPECIAL VALUE TRUST - Form N-CSR

When the Proxy Administrator's system "tickler" shows that the date of a shareholders' meeting is approaching, a Proxy Administrator representative checks that the vote for MFS Funds and clients holding that security has been recorded in the computer system. If a proxy card has not been received from the client's custodian, the Proxy Administrator calls the custodian requesting that the materials be forward immediately. If it is not possible to receive the proxy card from the custodian in time to be voted at the meeting, MFS may instruct the custodian to cast the vote in the manner specified and to mail the proxy directly to the issuer.

D. RECORDS RETENTION

MFS will retain copies of these policies and procedures in effect from time to time and will retain all proxy voting reports submitted to the Board of Trustees and Board of Managers of the MFS Funds for a period of six years. Proxy solicitation materials, including electronic versions of the proxy cards completed by the MFS Proxy Consultant and the MFS Proxy Review Group, together with their respective notes and comments, are maintained in an electronic format by the Proxy Administrator and are accessible on-line by the MFS Proxy Consultant and the MFS Proxy Review Group. All proxy voting materials and supporting documentation, including records generated by the Proxy Administrator's system as to proxies processed, the dates when proxies were received and returned, and the votes on each company's proxy issues, are retained for six years.

E. REPORTS

MFS FUNDS

Periodically, MFS will report the results of its voting to the Board of Trustees and Board of Managers of the MFS Funds. These reports will include: (i) a listing of how votes were cast; (ii) a review of situations where MFS did not vote in accordance with the guidelines and the rationale therefor; (iii) a review of the procedures used by MFS to identify material conflicts of interest; and (iv) a review of these policies and the guidelines and, as necessary or appropriate, any proposed modifications thereto to reflect new developments in corporate governance and other issues. Based on these reviews, the Trustees and Managers of the MFS Funds will consider possible modifications to these policies to the extent necessary or advisable.

ALL MFS ADVISORY CLIENTS

At any time, a report can be printed by MFS for each client who has requested that MFS furnish a record of votes cast. The report specifies the proxy issues which have been voted for the client during the year and the position taken with respect to each issue.

Generally, MFS will not divulge actual voting practices to any party other than the client or its representatives (unless required by applicable law) because we consider that information to be confidential and proprietary to the client.

ITEM 8. PURCHASES OF EQUITY SECURITIES BY CLOSED-END MANAGEMENT INVESTMENT COMPANY AND AFFILIATED PURCHASERS.

Not applicable at this time. [Required for closed-end funds for periods ending on or after June 15, 2004 (beginning with N-CSR's filed at the end of August, 2004 for June 30, 2004 reporting period.)]

Edgar Filing: MFS SPECIAL VALUE TRUST - Form N-CSR

ITEM 9. SUBMISSION OF MATTERS TO A VOTE OF SECURITY HOLDERS.

Not required at this time. [Required for reporting periods ending after January 1, 2004 (beginning with N-CSR's filed at the end of March 2004, for January 31, 2004 reporting period).]

ITEM 10. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES.

- (a) Based upon their evaluation of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures as conducted within 90 days of the filing date of this Form N-CSR, the registrant's principal financial officer and principal executive officer have concluded that those disclosure controls and procedures provide reasonable assurance that the material information required to be disclosed by the registrant on this report is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the Securities and Exchange Commission's rules and forms.
- (b) There were no changes in the registrant's internal controls over financial reporting (as defined in Rule 30a-3(d) under the Act) that occurred during the registrant's last fiscal half-year (the registrant's second fiscal half-year in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

ITEM 11. EXHIBITS.

(a) File the exhibits listed below as part of this Form. Letter or number the exhibits in the sequence indicated.

- (1) Any code of ethics, or amendment thereto, that is the subject of the disclosure required by Item 2, to the extent that the registrant intends to satisfy the Item 2 requirements through filing of an exhibit: Code of Ethics attached hereto.
 - (2) A separate certification for each principal executive officer and principal financial officer of the registrant as required by Rule 30a-2 under the Act (17 CFR 270.30a-2): Attached hereto.
 - (3) Any written solicitation to purchase securities under 23c-1 under the Act (17 C.F.R. 270.23c-1) sent or given during the period covered by the report by or on behalf of the registrant to 10 or more persons. Not applicable at this time. [For closed-end funds for periods ending on or after June 15, 2004 (beginning with N-CSR's filed at the end of August 2004 for June 30, 2004 reporting period.)]
- (b) If the report is filed under Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Exchange Act, provide the certifications required by Rule 30a-2(b) under the Act (17 CFR 270.30a-2(b)), Rule 13a-14(b) or Rule 15d-14(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13a-14(b) or 240.15d-14(b)) and Section 1350 of Chapter 63 of Title 18 of the United States Code (18 U.S.C. 1350) as an exhibit. A certification furnished pursuant to this paragraph will not be deemed "filed" for the purposes of Section 18 of the Exchange Act (15 U.S.C. 78r), or otherwise subject to the liability of that section. Such certification will not be deemed to be incorporated by reference into any filing under the Securities Act of 1933 or the Exchange Act, except to the extent that the registrant specifically incorporates it by reference: Attached hereto.

SIGNATURES

Edgar Filing: MFS SPECIAL VALUE TRUST - Form N-CSR

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the Investment Company Act of 1940, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

(Registrant) MFS SPECIAL VALUE TRUST

By (Signature and Title)* JOHN W. BALLEEN

John W. Ballen, President

Date: January 5, 2004

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the Investment Company Act of 1940, this report has been signed below by the following persons on behalf of the registrant and in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

By (Signature and Title)* JOHN W. BALLEEN

John W. Ballen, President
(Principal Executive Officer)

Date: January 5, 2004

By (Signature and Title)* RICHARD M. HISEY

Richard M. Hisey, Treasurer
(Principal Financial Officer and Accounting Officer)

Date: January 5, 2004

* Print name and title of each signing officer under his or her signature.