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HEWLETT PACKARD CO  
Form 425  
March 21, 2002

Filed by Hewlett-Packard Company Pursuant to Rule 425  
Under the Securities Act of 1933  
Subject Company: Compaq Computer Corporation  
Commission File No.: 333-73454

This filing relates to a planned merger (the "Merger") between Hewlett-Packard Company ("HP") and Compaq Computer Corporation ("Compaq") pursuant to the terms of an Agreement and Plan of Reorganization, dated as of September 4, 2001 (the "Merger Agreement"), by and among HP, Heloise Merger Corporation and Compaq. The Merger Agreement is on file with the Securities and Exchange Commission as an exhibit to the Current Report on Form 8-K, as amended, filed by Hewlett-Packard Company on September 4, 2001, and is incorporated by reference into this filing.

On March 20, 2002, HP issued the following press release.

[LETTERHEAD OF HEWLETT-PACKARD COMPANY]

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HP COMMENTS ON COMPAQ VOTE

COMPANY LOOKS FORWARD TO SERVING CUSTOMERS

PALO ALTO, Calif., March 20, 2002 -- Hewlett-Packard Company (NYSE:HWP) today issued the following statement on the outcome of today's Compaq Computer Corporation special shareowner meeting in Houston.

"Today, we've reached another important milestone in bringing these two companies together. We are pleased that the shareowners of Compaq have voted in support of the merger and the opportunity it presents to both increase shareowner value and advance the market position of the new HP in key areas important to our global customers," said Carly Fiorina, HP chairman and chief executive officer. "While the HP shareowner vote is being certified, our team of more than 900 HP and Compaq employees continues the integration planning that will enable us to be up and running day one to benefit our customers, employees and partners."

Official certification of the voting results from HP's March 19 special meeting is expected in the next few weeks, at which time the certified results will be announced promptly. The HP Board of Directors has indicated that based on a preliminary estimate of shareowner proxies by HP's proxy solicitors, it believes it has received sufficient votes to approve the merger.

ABOUT HP

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Hewlett-Packard Company -- a leading global provider of computing and imaging solutions and services -- is focused on making technology and its benefits accessible to all. HP had total revenue of \$45.2 billion in its 2001 fiscal year. Information about HP and its products can be found on the World Wide Web at <http://www.hp.com>.

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This document contains forward-looking statements that involve risks, uncertainties and assumptions. If any of these risks or uncertainties materializes or any of these assumptions proves incorrect, the results of HP and its consolidated subsidiaries could differ materially from those expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements.

All statements other than statements of historical fact are statements that could be deemed forward-looking statements, including predictions regarding the outcome and certification of the vote on the merger or the closing of the merger; statements regarding future improvement of HP generally or specifically its profitability, earnings, revenues, synergies, accretion or other financial items; statements about the plans, strategies and objectives of management for future operations, including the execution of integration and restructuring plans; any statements concerning proposed new products, services, developments or industry rankings; statements regarding future economic conditions or performance; statements of belief; and statements of assumptions underlying any of the foregoing.

The risks, uncertainties and assumptions referred to above include the actual certified results of the vote on the proposal to issue shares of HP common stock in connection with the merger; the ability of HP to retain and motivate key employees; the timely development, production and acceptance of products and services and their feature sets; the challenge of managing asset levels, including inventory; the flow of products into third-party distribution channels; the difficulty of keeping expense growth at modest levels while increasing revenues; the challenges of integration and restructuring associated with the merger or other planned acquisitions and the challenges of achieving anticipated synergies; the possibility that the merger or other planned acquisitions may not close or that HP, Compaq or other parties to planned acquisitions may be required to modify some aspects of the acquisition transactions in order to obtain regulatory approvals; the assumption of maintaining revenues on a combined company basis following the close of the merger or other planned acquisitions; and other risks that are described from time to time in HP's Securities and Exchange Commission reports, including but not limited to HP's annual report on Form 10-K, as amended on January 30, 2002, for the fiscal year ended October 31, 2001 and HP's registration statement on Form S-4 filed on February 5, 2002.

HP assumes no obligation and does not intend to update these forward-looking statements.

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE MERGER AND WHERE TO FIND IT

On February 5, 2002, HP filed a registration statement with the SEC containing a definitive joint proxy statement/prospectus regarding the merger. Investors and security holders of HP and Compaq are urged to read the definitive joint proxy statement/prospectus filed with the SEC on February 5, 2002 and any other relevant materials filed by HP or Compaq with the SEC because they contain, or will contain, important information about HP, Compaq and the merger. The definitive joint proxy statement/prospectus and other relevant materials (when they become available), and any other documents filed by HP or Compaq with the

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SEC, may be obtained free of charge at the SEC's Web site at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov). In addition, investors and security holders may obtain free copies of the documents filed with the SEC by HP by contacting HP Investor Relations, 3000 Hanover Street, Palo Alto, California 94304, 650-857-1501. Investors and security holders may obtain free copies of the documents filed with the SEC by Compaq by contacting Compaq Investor Relations, P.O. Box 692000, Houston, Texas 77269-2000, 800-433-2391.