UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

SCHEDULE 14A

Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Filed by the Registrant \square

Filed by a Party other than the Registrant \Box

Check the appropriate box:

Preliminary Proxy Statement

□ Confidential, for Use of the Commission Only (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2))

☑ Definitive Proxy Statement

Definitive Additional Materials

□ Soliciting Material under Rule 14a-12

Dell Inc.

(Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)

 $(Name(s) \ of \ Person(s) \ Filing \ Proxy \ Statement, \ if \ other \ than \ the \ Registrant)$

Payment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box):

 \Box No fee required.

 \Box Fee computed on table below per Exchange Act Rules 14a-6(i)(1) and 0-11.

(1) Title of each class of securities to which transaction applies:

Dell Inc. common stock, par value \$0.01 per share

(2) Aggregate number of securities to which transaction applies:

1,781,176,938 shares of common stock (including shares subject to restricted stock units and shares of restricted stock) and 25,482,624 shares of common stock underlying outstanding employee stock options with an exercise price of less than \$13.65 per share

(3) Per unit price or other underlying value of transaction computed pursuant to Exchange Act Rule 0-11 (set forth the amount on which the filing fee is calculated and state how it was determined):

In accordance with Exchange Act Rule 0-11(c), the filing fee of \$2,829,910.77 was determined by multiplying 0.0001364 by the aggregate merger consideration of \$20,747,146,376.79. The aggregate merger consideration was calculated as the sum of (i) the product of (a) 1,781,176,938 outstanding shares of common stock (including shares subject to restricted stock units and shares of restricted stock) as of March 25, 2013 to be acquired in the merger, multiplied by (b) the per share merger consideration of \$13.65, plus (ii) the product of (x) 25,482,624 shares of

¹ <u>https://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/826083/000119312513242115/0001193125-13-242115-index.htm</u>

common stock underlying outstanding employee stock options with an exercise price of \$13.65 or less, multiplied by (y) 6.46, representing the difference between the \$13.65 per share merger consideration and the \$7.19 weighted average exercise price of such options.

(4) Proposed maximum aggregate value of transaction:\$20,747,146,376.79

(5) Total fee paid:\$2,829,910.77

 \boxtimes Fee paid previously with preliminary materials.

- □ Check box if any part of the fee is offset as provided by Exchange Act Rule 0-11(a)(2) and identify the filing for which the offsetting fee was paid previously. Identify the previous filing by registration statement number, or the Form or Schedule and the date of its filing.
 - (1) Amount Previously Paid:

(2) Form, Schedule or Registration Statement No.:

(3) Filing Party:

(4) Date Filed:



NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS

One Dell Way Round Rock, Texas 78682 Telephone: (512) 728-7800

May 30, 2013

To the Stockholders of Dell Inc.:

You are cordially invited to attend a special meeting of the stockholders of Dell Inc., a Delaware corporation ("Dell," the "Company," "we," "our" or "us"), which we will hold at the Dell Round Rock Campus, 501 Dell Way, Round Rock, Texas 78682 on July 18, 2013, at 8:00 a.m., Central Time.

At the special meeting, holders of our common stock, par value \$0.01 per share ("Common Stock"), will be asked to consider and vote on a proposal to adopt the Agreement and Plan of Merger, dated as of February 5, 2013 (as it may be amended from time to time, the "merger agreement"), by and among Denali Holding Inc., a Delaware corporation ("Parent"), Denali Intermediate Inc., a Delaware corporation and a wholly-owned subsidiary of Parent ("Intermediate"), Denali Acquiror Inc., a Delaware corporation and a wholly-owned subsidiary of Intermediate ("Merger Sub" and, taken together with Intermediate and Parent, the "Parent Parties"), and the Company. Pursuant to the merger agreement, Merger Sub will be merged with and into the Company (the "merger"), with the Company surviving the merger as a wholly-owned subsidiary of Intermediate and each share of Common Stock outstanding immediately prior to the effective time of the merger (other than certain excluded shares and dissenting shares) will be canceled and converted into the right to receive \$13.65 in cash, without interest (the "merger consideration"), less any applicable withholding taxes. The following shares of Common Stock will not be entitled to the merger consideration: (i) shares held by any of the Parent Parties (including the shares held by Michael S. Dell and certain of his related family trusts which shares will be contributed to Parent prior to the merger), (ii) shares held by the Company or any wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company and (iii) shares held by any of the Company's stockholders who are entitled to and properly exercise appraisal rights under Delaware law.

The board of directors of the Company (the "Board") formed a committee (the "Special Committee") consisting solely of four independent and disinterested directors of the Company to evaluate the merger and other alternatives available to the Company. The Special Committee unanimously determined that the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement, including the merger, are fair to, and in the best interests of, the Company's stockholders (other than Mr. Dell and certain of his related family trusts), and unanimously recommended that the Board approve and declare advisable the merger agreement, a copy of which is attached as Annex A to the accompanying proxy statement, and the transactions contemplated therein, including the merger, and that the Company's stockholders vote for the adoption of the merger agreement. Based in part on that recommendation, the Board unanimously (other than Mr. Dell, who did not participate due to his interest in the merger) (i) determined that the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement, including the merger, are fair to, and in the best interests of, the Company's stockholders (other than Mr. Dell and certain of his related family trusts), (ii) approved and declared advisable the execution, delivery and performance of the merger agreement and the consummation of the transactions contemplated therein, including the merger and (iii) resolved to recommend that the Company's stockholders vote for the adoption of the merger agreement. Accordingly, the Board (without Mr. Dell's participation) unanimously recommends that the stockholders of the Company vote "FOR" the proposal to adopt the merger agreement. The Board also unanimously (without Mr. Dell's participation) recommends that the stockholders of the Company vote "FOR" the proposal to approve, on an advisory (non-binding) basis, the

compensation that may become payable to the named executive officers of the Company in connection with the merger, as disclosed in the table under "Special Factors—Interests of the Company's Directors and Executive Officers in the Merger—Quantification of Payments and Benefits—Potential Change of Control Payments to Named Executive Officers Table," including the associated footnotes and narrative discussion.

In considering the recommendation of the Board, you should be aware that some of the Company's directors and executive officers have interests in the merger that are different from, or in addition to, the interests of the stockholders generally. As of May 22, 2013, Mr. Dell and certain of his related family trusts beneficially owned, in the aggregate, 274,434,319 shares of Common Stock (including (i) 1,101,948 shares subject to Company stock options exercisable within 60 days and (ii) 33,186 shares held in Mr. Dell's 401(k) plan), or approximately 15.6% of the total number of outstanding shares of Common Stock, and have agreed with Parent to contribute to Parent, immediately prior to the consummation of the merger, 273,299,383 shares in exchange for common stock of Parent.

We urge you to, and you should, read the accompanying proxy statement in its entirety, including the appendices, because it describes the merger agreement, the merger and related agreements and provides specific information concerning the special meeting and other important information related to the merger. In addition, you may obtain information about us from documents filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Regardless of the number of shares of Common Stock you own, your vote is very important. The merger cannot be completed unless the merger agreement is adopted by the affirmative vote of the holders of (i) at least a majority of the outstanding shares of Common Stock entitled to vote thereon and (ii) at least a majority of the outstanding shares of Common Stock entitled to vote thereon held by stockholders other than the Parent Parties, Mr. Dell and certain of his related family trusts, any other officers and directors of the Company or any other person having any equity interest in, or any right to acquire any equity interest in, Merger Sub or any person of which Merger Sub is a direct or indirect subsidiary. If you fail to vote or abstain from voting on the merger agreement, the effect will be the same as a vote against adoption of the merger agreement.

While stockholders may exercise their right to vote their shares in person, we recognize that many stockholders may not be able to, or do not desire to, attend the special meeting. Accordingly, we have enclosed a proxy that will enable your shares to be voted on the matters to be considered at the special meeting even if you are unable or do not desire to attend. If you desire your shares to be voted in accordance with the Board's recommendation, you need only sign, date and return the proxy in the enclosed postage-paid envelope. Otherwise, please mark the proxy to indicate your voting instructions; date and sign the proxy; and return it in the enclosed postage-paid envelope. You also may submit a proxy by using a toll-free telephone number or the Internet. We have provided instructions on the proxy card for using these convenient services.

Submitting a proxy will not prevent you from voting your shares in person if you subsequently choose to attend the special meeting. Even if you plan to attend the special meeting in person, we request that you complete, sign, date and return the enclosed proxy and thus ensure that your shares will be represented at the special meeting if you are unable to attend.

Sincerely,

Alex J. Mandl Chairman of the Special Committee

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities regulatory agency has approved or disapproved the merger, passed upon the merits or fairness of the merger or passed upon the adequacy or accuracy of the disclosure in this document. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

> This proxy statement is dated May 30, 2013 and is first being mailed to stockholders on or about May 31, 2013.

RIGHTS OF APPRAISAL

Holders of record of shares of Common Stock who do not vote in favor of the adoption of the merger agreement, who properly demand appraisal of their shares, and who otherwise comply with the requirements of Section 262 of the DGCL will be entitled to appraisal rights in connection with the merger under Section 262 of the DGCL. In order to exercise and perfect appraisal rights, the holder of shares must follow the steps summarized below properly and in a timely manner.

The following summary is a description of the law pertaining to appraisal rights under the DGCL and is qualified in its entirety by the full text of Section 262 of the DGCL ("Section 262"), which is attached to this proxy statement as Annex D and incorporated by reference herein. The following summary does not constitute legal or other advice, nor does it constitute a recommendation that stockholders exercise their appraisal rights under Section 262.

Under Section 262, holders of record of shares of Common Stock who do not vote in favor of the proposal to adopt the merger agreement and who otherwise follow the procedures set forth in Section 262 will be entitled to have the "fair value" (as defined pursuant to Section 262) of their shares determined by the Delaware Court of Chancery and to receive payment in cash of the fair value of those shares, exclusive of any element of value arising from the accomplishment or expectation of the merger, as determined by the Court of Chancery, together with interest, if any, to be paid upon the amount determined to be the fair value.

Under Section 262, where a merger agreement is to be submitted for adoption at a meeting of stockholders, the corporation, not less than 20 days prior to the meeting, must notify each of its stockholders entitled to appraisal rights that appraisal rights are available and include in the notice a copy of Section 262. This proxy statement shall constitute such notice, and the full text of Section 262 is attached to this proxy statement as Annex D.

ANY HOLDER OF SHARES OF COMMON STOCK WHO WISHES TO EXERCISE APPRAISAL RIGHTS, OR WHO WISHES TO PRESERVE SUCH HOLDER'S RIGHT TO DO SO, SHOULD CAREFULLY REVIEW THE FOLLOWING DISCUSSION AND ANNEX D BECAUSE FAILURE TO TIMELY AND PROPERLY COMPLY WITH THE PROCEDURES SPECIFIED COULD RESULT IN THE LOSS OF APPRAISAL RIGHTS. MOREOVER, BECAUSE OF THE COMPLEXITY OF THE PROCEDURES FOR EXERCISING THE RIGHT TO SEEK APPRAISAL OF SHARES OF COMMON STOCK, DELL BELIEVES THAT, IF A STOCKHOLDER CONSIDERS EXERCISING SUCH RIGHTS, SUCH STOCKHOLDER SHOULD CONSIDER SEEKING THE ADVICE OF LEGAL COUNSEL.

Filing Written Demand

Any holder of shares of Common Stock wishing to exercise appraisal rights must deliver to the Company, before the vote on the proposal to adopt the merger agreement at the special meeting, a written demand for the appraisal of the stockholder's shares. A holder of Common Stock wishing to exercise appraisal rights must be the holder of record of the shares on the date the written demand for appraisal is made and must continue to hold the shares of record through the effective time of the merger. Appraisal rights will be lost if the shares are transferred prior to the effective time of the merger. The holder must not vote in favor of the proposal to adopt the merger agreement. A proxy that is submitted and does not contain voting instructions will, unless revoked, be voted in favor of the proposal to adopt the merger agreement, and such voting of the proxy will constitute a waiver of the stockholder's right of appraisal and will nullify any previously delivered written demand for appraisal. Therefore, a stockholder who submits a proxy and who wishes to exercise appraisal rights must submit a proxy containing instructions to vote against the proposal to adopt the merger agreement or abstain from voting on the proposal to adopt the merger agreement.

Neither voting against the proposal to adopt the merger agreement, nor abstaining from voting or failing to vote on the proposal to adopt the merger agreement, will in and of itself constitute a written demand for appraisal satisfying the requirements of Section 262. The written demand for appraisal must be in addition to and separate from any proxy or vote on the proposal to adopt the merger agreement. The demand for appraisal will be sufficient if it reasonably informs the Company of the identity of the holder and the intention of the holder to demand an appraisal of the fair value of the shares held by the holder. A stockholder's failure to make the written demand prior to the taking of the vote on the proposal to adopt the merger agreement at the special meeting of stockholders will constitute a waiver of appraisal rights.

Only a holder of record of shares of Common Stock, or a person duly authorized and explicitly purporting to act on such holder's behalf, will be entitled to demand an appraisal of the shares registered in that holder's name. A demand for appraisal should be executed by or on behalf of the holder of record, fully and correctly, as the holder's name appears on the holder's stock certificates, should specify the holder's name and must state that the person intends thereby to demand appraisal of the holder's shares in connection with the merger. If the shares are owned of record by a person other than the beneficial owner, such as by a broker, fiduciary, depository or other nominee, execution of the demand should be made in that capacity and must identify the record owner(s), and if the shares are owned of record by more than one person, as in a joint tenancy and tenancy-in-common, the demand should be executed by or on behalf of a holder of record; however, the agent must identify the record owners, may execute a demand for appraisal on behalf of a holder of record; however, the agent must identify the record owner or owners. If a stockholder holds shares of Common Stock through a broker who in turn holds the shares through a central securities depository nominee such as Cede & Co., a demand for appraisal of such shares must be made by or on behalf of the depository nominee and must identify the depository nominee as record holder.

A record holder, such as a broker, dealer, commercial bank, trust company, fiduciary or other nominee who holds shares as nominee for several beneficial owners may exercise appraisal rights with respect to the shares of Common Stock held for one or more beneficial owners while not exercising such rights with respect to the shares held for other beneficial owners. In such case, the written demand should set forth the number of shares as to which appraisal is sought. If the number of shares of Common Stock is not expressly stated, the demand will be presumed to cover all shares held in the name of the record owner. If you hold your shares in an account with a broker, dealer, commercial bank, trust company or other nominee and wish to exercise your appraisal rights, you are urged to consult with your broker, dealer, commercial bank, trust company, fiduciary or other nominee to determine the appropriate procedures for the making of a demand for appraisal.

All written demands for appraisal pursuant to Section 262 should be sent or delivered to Dell at:

Dell Inc. One Dell Way Round Rock, Texas 78682 Attn: Corporate Secretary

At any time within 60 days after the effective time of the merger, any stockholder who has not commenced an appraisal proceeding or joined that proceeding as a named party may withdraw his, her or its demand for appraisal and accept the consideration offered pursuant to the merger agreement by delivering to Dell, as the surviving corporation, a written withdrawal of the demand for appraisal. However, any such attempt to withdraw the demand made more than 60 days after the effective time of the merger will require written approval of Dell, as the surviving corporation. If Dell, as the surviving corporation, does not approve a request to withdraw a demand for appraisal when that approval is required, or, except with respect to any stockholder who properly withdraws or ceases such stockholder's right to appraisal in accordance with the first sentence of this paragraph, if the Delaware Court of Chancery does not approve the dismissal of the stockholder to an appraisal proceeding, or if rights to appraisal otherwise cease, the stockholder will be entitled to receive only the appraised fair value determined in any such appraisal proceeding plus interest, which fair value could be less than, equal to or more than the consideration being offered pursuant to the merger agreement. No appraisal proceeding in the Delaware Court of Chancery will be dismissed as to any stockholder without the approval of the Court of Chancery, and such approval may be conditioned upon such terms as the Court of Chancery deems just, provided however, that this provision shall not affect the right of any stockholder who has not commenced an appraisal proceeding or joined that proceeding as a named party to withdraw such stockholder's demand for appraisal and to accept the terms offered upon the merger within 60 days.

Notice by the Surviving Corporation

Within ten days after the effective time of the merger, Dell, as the surviving corporation, must notify each holder of Common Stock who has made a written demand for appraisal pursuant to Section 262, and who has not voted in favor of the proposal to adopt the merger agreement, of the date that the merger became effective.

Filing a Petition for Appraisal

Within 120 days after the effective time of the merger, but not thereafter, Dell, as the surviving corporation, or any holder of Common Stock who has complied with Section 262 and is entitled to appraisal rights under Section 262 may commence an appraisal proceeding by filing a petition in the Delaware Court of Chancery demanding a determination of the fair value of the shares held by all dissenting holders. If no such petition is filed within that 120-day period, appraisal rights will be lost for all holders of Common Stock who had previously demanded appraisal of their shares. Dell, as the surviving corporation is under no obligation to and has no present intention to file a petition and holders should not assume that Dell as the surviving corporation will file a petition or that Dell will initiate any negotiations with respect to the fair value of the shares. Accordingly, it is the obligation of the holders of Common Stock within the period prescribed in Section 262.

Within 120 days after the effective time of the merger, any holder of Common Stock who has complied with the requirements for exercise of appraisal rights will be entitled, upon written request, to receive from Dell as the surviving corporation a statement setting forth the aggregate number of shares not voted in favor of the proposal to adopt the merger agreement and with respect to which demands for appraisal have been received and the aggregate number of holders of such shares. Such statement must be mailed within ten days after a written request therefor has been received by Dell as the surviving corporation or within ten days after the expiration of the period for delivery of demands for appraisal, whichever is later. Notwithstanding the foregoing requirement that a demand for appraisal must be made by or on behalf of the record owner of the shares, a person who is the beneficial owner of shares of Common Stock held either in a voting trust or by a nominee on behalf of such person, and as to which demand has been properly made and not effectively withdrawn, may, in such person's own name, file a petition for appraisal or request from Dell as the surviving corporation the statement described in this paragraph.

Upon the filing of such petition by any such holder of shares of Common Stock, service of a copy thereof shall be made upon Dell, which as the surviving corporation will then be obligated within 20 days to file with the Delaware Register in Chancery a duly verified list (the "Verified List") containing the names and addresses of all stockholders who have demanded payment for their shares and with whom agreements as to the value of their shares have not been reached. Upon the filing of any such petition, the Delaware Court of Chancery may order that notice of the time and place fixed for the hearing on the petition be mailed to Dell and all of the stockholders shown on the Verified List. Such notice also shall be published at least one week before the day of the hearing in a newspaper of general circulation published in the City of Wilmington, Delaware, or in another publication determined by the Delaware Court of Chancery. The costs of these notices are borne by Dell.

After notice to the stockholders as required by the Delaware Court of Chancery, the Court of Chancery is empowered to conduct a hearing on the petition to determine those stockholders who have complied with Section 262 and who have become entitled to appraisal rights thereunder. The Court of Chancery may require the stockholders who demanded payment for their shares to submit their stock certificates to the Delaware Register in Chancery for notation thereon of the pendency of the appraisal proceeding; and if any stockholder fails to comply with the direction, the Court of Chancery may dismiss the proceedings as to that stockholder.

Determination of Fair Value

After the Delaware Court of Chancery determines which stockholders are entitled to appraisal, the appraisal proceeding shall be conducted in accordance with the rules of the Delaware Court of Chancery, including any rules specifically governing appraisal proceedings. Through such proceeding, the Court of Chancery shall determine the fair value of the shares, exclusive of any element of value arising from the accomplishment or expectation of the merger, together with interest, if any, to be paid upon the amount determined to be the fair value. Unless the Court of Chancery in its discretion determines otherwise for good cause shown, interest from the effective time of the merger through the date of payment of the judgment shall be compounded quarterly and shall accrue at 5% over the Federal Reserve discount rate (including any surcharge) as established from time to time during the period between the effective time of the merger and the date of payment of the judgment.

In determining fair value, the Delaware Court of Chancery will take into account all relevant factors. In *Weinberger v. UOP, Inc.*, the Supreme Court of Delaware discussed the factors that could be considered in determining fair value in an appraisal proceeding, stating that "proof of value by any techniques or methods that are generally considered acceptable in the financial community and otherwise admissible in court" should be considered, and that "fair price obviously requires consideration of all relevant factors involving the value of a company." The Delaware

Supreme Court stated that, in making this determination of fair value, the Court of Chancery must consider market value, asset value, dividends, earnings prospects, the nature of the enterprise and any other facts that could be ascertained as of the date of the merger that throw any light on future prospects of the merged corporation. Section 262 provides that fair value is to be "exclusive of any element of value arising from the accomplishment or expectation of the merger[.]" In *Cede & Co. v. Technicolor, Inc.*, the Delaware Supreme Court stated that such exclusion is a "narrow exclusion that does not encompass known elements of value," but which rather applies only to the speculative elements of value arising from such accomplishment or expectation. In *Weinberger*, the Supreme Court of Delaware also stated that "elements of future value, including the nature of the enterprise, which are known or susceptible of proof as of the date of the merger and not the product of speculation, may be considered."

Stockholders considering seeking appraisal should be aware that the fair value of their shares as so determined could be more than, the same as or less than the consideration they would receive pursuant to the merger if they did not seek appraisal of their shares and that an investment banking opinion as to the fairness, from a financial point of view, of the consideration payable in a sale transaction, such as the merger, is not an opinion as to, and does not otherwise address, "fair value" under Section 262. Although Dell believes that the merger consideration is fair, no representation is made as to the outcome of the appraisal of fair value as determined by the Delaware Court of Chancery, and stockholders should recognize that such an appraisal could result in a determination of a value higher or lower than, or the same as, the merger consideration to any stockholder of Dell exercising appraisal rights, and reserves the right to assert, in any appraisal proceeding, that for purposes of Section 262, the fair value of a share of Common Stock is less than the applicable merger consideration. In addition, the Delaware courts have decided that the statutory appraisal remedy, depending on factual circumstances, may or may not be a dissenting stockholder's exclusive remedy.

Upon application by Dell or by any Dell stockholder entitled to participate in the appraisal proceeding, the Delaware Court of Chancery may, in its discretion, proceed to trial upon the appraisal prior to the final determination of the stockholders entitled to an appraisal. Any Dell stockholder whose name appears on the Verified List and who has submitted such stockholder's certificates of stock to the Delaware Register in Chancery, if such is required, may participate fully in all proceedings until it is finally determined that he or she is not entitled to appraisal rights. The Court of Chancery shall direct the payment of the fair value of the shares, together with interest, if any, by Dell to the stockholders entitled thereto. Payment shall be so made to each such stockholder upon the surrender to Dell of his or her certificates in the case of a holder of certificated shares. Payment shall be made forthwith in the case of holders of uncertificated shares. The Court of Chancery's decree may be enforced as other decrees in such Court may be enforced.

If a petition for appraisal is not timely filed, then the right to an appraisal will cease. The costs of the action (which do not include attorneys' fees or the fees and expenses of experts) may be determined by the Court of Chancery and taxed upon the parties as the Court of Chancery deems equitable. Upon application of a stockholder, the Court of Chancery may order all or a portion of the expenses incurred by a stockholder in connection with an appraisal proceeding, including, without limitation, reasonable attorneys' fees and the fees and expenses of experts utilized in the appraisal proceeding, to be charged *pro rata* against the value of all the shares entitled to appraisal. In the absence of such determination or assessment, each party bears its own expense.

Any stockholder who has duly demanded and perfected appraisal rights in compliance with Section 262 of the DGCL will not, after the effective time of the merger, be entitled to vote his or her shares for any purpose or be entitled to the payment of dividends or other distributions thereon, except dividends or other distributions payable to holders of record of shares of Common Stock as of a date prior to the effective time of the merger.

If any stockholder who demands appraisal of shares of Common Stock under Section 262 fails to perfect, successfully withdraws or loses such holder's right to appraisal, such stockholder's shares of Common Stock will be deemed to have been converted at the effective time of the merger into the right to receive the merger consideration pursuant to the merger agreement. A stockholder will fail to perfect, or effectively lose, the stockholder's right to appraisal if no petition for appraisal is filed within 120 days after the effective time of the merger. In addition, as indicated above, a stockholder may withdraw his, her or its demand for appraisal in accordance with Section 262 and accept the merger consideration offered pursuant to the merger agreement.