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GARTNER INC  
Form DFAN14A  
December 27, 2004

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 (Amendment No. )

Filed by the Registrant //  
Filed by a Party other than the Registrant /X/

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  
/X/ Soliciting Material Pursuant to Section 240.14a-12

META Group, Inc.

(Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)

Gartner, Inc.

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

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/X/ No fee required.

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Filed by Gartner, Inc. Pursuant to Rule 14a-12 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Subject Company: META Group, Inc.. Commission File No.: 0-27280

On December 27, 2004, Gartner, Inc. sent the following communication to its employees.

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: All Gartner Employees  
FROM: Gene Hall  
DATE: December 27, 2004  
RE: META Group Acquisition

I am delighted to share with you the news that Gartner, Inc. will acquire META Group, a leading information technology research and consulting firm. I have attached a copy of the press release on the announcement, which was issued this morning, as well as a letter CD Hobbs, META Group's president and COO, sent to META employees this morning.

This transaction makes great sense in our quest to grow and expand our business. META represents an outstanding strategic fit with Gartner, with both companies sharing complementary business models. In addition, the acquisition will provide us with increased depth in key sectors, geographies and markets, as well as a sales team from META Group that is already highly conversant in Gartner's product and service offerings, further enhancing our ability to grow sales going forward.

We are confident that our clients and shareholders will agree that this acquisition will make Gartner a stronger, more broadly based company, and we are eager to seize this opportunity to add to our team of talented professionals and increase our sales coverage.

The success of this acquisition will depend upon our ability to effectively integrate META 's products, services and - most importantly - associates. We will announce a combined Gartner/META integration team shortly. By mid-January, when that team is formed, you can look forward to regular updates, timelines and FAQ's posted on Gartner at Work in a newly created section entitled "Integration Update." In the following months, we look to all associates for ideas, collaboration and support, as well as to maintain our keen focus on our 2005 revenue targets.

We expect that current and prospective clients and your day-to-day business contacts will have many questions for you about this announcement. We will provide you with guidelines on how to best answer those questions shortly.

In addition, there is likely to be a significant amount of media attention on the announcement. Please be sure to refer any calls related to the announcement from members of the press to Jamie Tully or Brooke Morganstein at our public relations firm Citigate Sard Verbinen. Their contact information is as follows:

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Jamie Tully  
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212-687-8080

Brooke Morganstein  
bmorganstein@sardverb.com  
212-687-8080

I want to personally thank each of you for your consistent, unyielding hard work and effort. Your dedication and professionalism have allowed us to reach the position we enjoy today, and will enable us to reach the ambitious goals we have set for Gartner going forward

Meta Email to Employees  
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This morning Gartner, Inc. and META Group, Inc. announced an agreement under which Gartner will acquire META Group. This is an extremely significant announcement for our company, our customers and you, META Group employees. Attached is a copy of a the press release on the announcement and letter Gene Hall, Gartner's chief executive officer, sent to Gartner employees this morning.

Over the past several days, I have spent a considerable amount of time with Gene Hall and the rest of the Gartner management team, who have conveyed their enthusiasm for this transaction. The acquisition will create a stronger company, with increased depth in key sectors, geographies and markets, which will allow us to better serve clients and enhance growth opportunities going forward.

I know each of you would like to know more about this acquisition, and I believe it is important that I share as many of the details of this transaction with you as I can. We will seek to do this in as timely a fashion as possible. Due to the holiday schedule, we will hold an employee conference in January, at which time we will be able to communicate with you in more detail. In the meantime, I encourage you to post your

questions with us by sending them to [questions@metagroup.com](mailto:questions@metagroup.com), an email address set up expressly for this purpose. We will address those questions that prove to be top-of mind during the January meeting.

While this is exciting news, it is important to stay focused on our clients and our markets as we move forward. I want to thank you all for your hard work and dedication throughout this past year. I look forward to sharing with you more detail about the transaction in the near future.

I hope you are having a safe and relaxing holiday season.

CD