

ROWAN COMPANIES INC

Form S-8

May 05, 2009

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**As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on May 5, 2009
Registration No. 333-**

**UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549
FORM S-8
REGISTRATION STATEMENT UNDER
THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933
Rowan Companies, Inc.
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)**

Delaware
(State or other jurisdiction
of incorporation or organization)

75-0759420
(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)

**2800 Post Oak Blvd., Suite 5450
Houston, Texas**
(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

77056-6189
(Zip Code)

**2009 Rowan Companies, Inc.
Incentive Plan**
(Full title of the plan)

**W. Matt Ralls
Rowan Companies, Inc.
2800 Post Oak Blvd., Suite 5450
Houston, Texas 77056-6127**
(Name and address of agent for service)

(713) 621-7800
(Telephone number, including area code, of agent for service)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See the definitions of large accelerated filer, accelerated filer and smaller reporting company in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one):

Large accelerated filer <input type="checkbox"/>	Accelerated filer <input type="checkbox"/>	Non-accelerated filer <input type="checkbox"/>	Smaller reporting company <input type="checkbox"/>
		(Do not check if a smaller reporting company)	

CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

Title of securities to be registered	Amount to be registered (1)	Proposed maximum offering price per share (2) \$ 15.195	Proposed maximum aggregate offering price \$ 68,377,500	Amount of registration fee \$3,815.46

are attached to
and trade with
the shares of
Common Stock
registered
hereby.

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**PART I
INFORMATION REQUIRED IN THE SECTION 10(a) PROSPECTUS**

Note: The document(s) containing the plan information required by Item 1 of Form S-8 and the statement of availability of registrant information and any other information required by Item 2 of Form S-8 will be sent or given to participants as specified by Rule 428 under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the Securities Act). In accordance with Rule 428 and the requirements of Part I of Form S-8, such documents are not being filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the Commission) either as part of this registration statement or as prospectuses or prospectus supplements pursuant to Rule 424 under the Securities Act. Rowan Companies, Inc. (the Company) will maintain a file of such documents in accordance with the provisions of Rule 428(a)(2) of the Securities Act. Upon request, the Company shall furnish to the Commission or its staff a copy of any or all of the documents included in the file. Requests for such documents should be directed to Rowan Companies, Inc., Investor Relations Department, (713) 960-7575.

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PART II
INFORMATION REQUIRED IN THE REGISTRATION STATEMENT

Item 3. Incorporation of Documents by Reference.

The Company incorporates by reference in this registration statement the following documents and information previously filed with the Commission:

- (1) The annual report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2008 as filed by the Company with the Commission on March 2, 2009.
- (2) The current reports on Form 8-K as filed by the Company with the Commission on January 26, 2009 (except for Item 7.01 and related exhibits), February 9, 2009, March 2, 2009 and March 9, 2009.
- (3) The definitive proxy statement on Schedule 14A filed by the Company with the Commission on March 23, 2009.
- (4) The description of the Company's common stock in Exhibit 4.1 to Form 10-Q for the fiscal quarter ended March 31, 2003.
- (5) The description of the Company's preferred stock purchase rights in Registration Statement on Form 8-A filed March 31, 2003 and Exhibit 4j to Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2008.

All documents filed with the Commission by the Company pursuant to Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act), subsequent to the date of this registration statement (not including any information furnished pursuant to Item 2.02 or Item 7.01 on any current report on Form 8-K) and prior to the filing of a post-effective amendment which indicates that all securities offered have been sold or which deregisters all securities then remaining unsold, shall be deemed to be incorporated by reference in this registration statement and to be a part hereof from the date of filing of such documents.

Any statement contained herein or in a document incorporated or deemed to be incorporated herein by reference shall be deemed to be modified or superseded for purposes of this registration statement to the extent that a statement contained herein or in any subsequently filed document which also is, or is deemed to be, incorporated by reference herein modifies or supersedes such statement. Any such statement so modified or superseded shall not be deemed, except as so modified or superseded, to constitute a part of this registration statement.

Item 4. Description of Securities.

Not applicable.

Item 5. Interests of Named Experts and Counsel.

Not applicable.

Item 6. Indemnification of Directors and Officers.

Section 145 of the General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware (the DGCL) provides as follows:

(a) A corporation shall have power to indemnify any person who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending or completed action, suit or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative or investigative (other than an action by or in the right of the corporation) by reason of the fact that the person is or was a director, officer, employee or agent of the corporation, or is or was serving

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at the request of the corporation as a director, officer, employee or agent of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise, against expenses (including attorneys' fees), judgments, fines and amounts paid in settlement actually and reasonably incurred by the person in connection with such action, suit or proceeding if the person acted in good faith and in a manner the person reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the corporation, and, with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, had no reasonable cause to believe the person's conduct was unlawful. The termination of any action, suit or proceeding by judgment, order, settlement, conviction, or upon a plea of nolo contendere or its equivalent, shall not, of itself, create a presumption that the person did not act in good faith and in a manner which the person reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the corporation, and, with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, had reasonable cause to believe that the person's conduct was unlawful.

(b) A corporation shall have power to indemnify any person who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending or completed action or suit by or in the right of the corporation to procure a judgment in its favor by reason of the fact that the person is or was a director, officer, employee or agent of the corporation, or is or was serving at the request of the corporation as a director, officer, employee or agent of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise against expenses (including attorneys' fees) actually and reasonably incurred by the person in connection with the defense or settlement of such action or suit if the person acted in good faith and in a manner the person reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the corporation and except that no indemnification shall be made in respect of any claim, issue or matter as to which such person shall have been adjudged to be liable to the corporation unless and only to the extent that the Court of Chancery or the court in which such action or suit was brought shall determine upon application that, despite the adjudication of liability but in view of all the circumstances of the case, such person is fairly and reasonably entitled to indemnity for such expenses which the Court of Chancery or such other court shall deem proper.

(c) To the extent that a present or former director or officer of a corporation has been successful on the merits or otherwise in the defense of any action, suit or proceeding referred to in subsections (a) and (b) of this section, or in defense of any claim, issue or matter therein, such person shall be indemnified against expenses (including attorneys' fees) actually and reasonably incurred by such person in connection therewith.

(d) Any indemnification under subsections (a) and (b) of this section (unless ordered by a court) shall be made by the corporation only as authorized in the specific case upon a determination that indemnification of the present or former director, officer, employee or agent is proper in the circumstances because the person has met the applicable standard of conduct set forth in subsections (a) and (b) of this section. Such determination shall be made, with respect to a person who is a director or officer at the time of such determination, (1) by a majority vote of the directors who are not parties to such action, suit or proceeding, even though less than a quorum, or (2) by a committee of such directors designated by majority vote of such directors, even though less than a quorum, or (3) if there are no such directors, or if such directors so direct, by independent legal counsel in a written opinion, or (4) by the stockholders.

(e) Expenses (including attorneys' fees) incurred by an officer or director in defending any civil, criminal, administrative or investigative action, suit or proceeding may be paid by the corporation in advance of the final disposition of such action, suit or proceeding upon receipt of an undertaking by or on behalf of such director or officer to repay such amount if it shall ultimately be determined that such person is not entitled to be indemnified by the corporation as authorized in this section. Such expenses (including attorneys' fees) incurred by former directors and officers or other employees and agents may be so paid upon such terms and conditions, if any, as the corporation deems appropriate.

(f) The indemnification and advancement of expenses provided by, or granted pursuant to, the other subsections of this section shall not be deemed exclusive of any other rights to which those seeking indemnification or advancement of expenses may be entitled under any bylaw, agreement, vote of stockholders or disinterested directors or otherwise, both as to action in such person's official capacity and as to action in another capacity while holding such office.

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(g) A corporation shall have power to purchase and maintain insurance on behalf of any person who is or was a director, officer, employee or agent of the corporation, or is or was serving at the request of the corporation as a director, officer, employee or agent of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise against any liability asserted against such person and incurred by such person in any such capacity, or arising out of such person's status as such, whether or not the corporation would have the power to indemnify such person against such liability under this section.

(h) For purposes of this section, references to the corporation shall include, in addition to the resulting corporation, any constituent corporation (including any constituent of a constituent) absorbed in a consolidation or merger which, if its separate existence had continued, would have had power and authority to indemnify its directors, officers, and employees or agents, so that any person who is or was a director, officer, employee or agent of such constituent corporation, or is or was serving at the request of such constituent corporation as a director, officer, employee or agent of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise, shall stand in the same position under this section with respect to the resulting or surviving corporation as such person would have with respect to such constituent corporation if its separate existence had continued.

(i) For purposes of this section, references to other enterprises shall include employee benefit plans; references to fines shall include any excise taxes assessed on a person with respect to any employee benefit plan; and references to serving at the request of the corporation shall include any service as a director, officer, employee or agent of the corporation which imposes duties on, or involves services by, such director, officer, employee, or agent with respect to an employee benefit plan, its participants or beneficiaries; and a person who acted in good faith and in a manner such person reasonably believed to be in the interest of the participants and beneficiaries of an employee benefit plan shall be deemed to have acted in a manner not opposed to the best interests of the corporation as referred to in this section.

(j) The indemnification and advancement of expenses provided by, or granted pursuant to, this section shall, unless otherwise provided when authorized or ratified, continue as to a person who has ceased to be a director, officer, employee or agent and shall inure to the benefit of the heirs, executors and administrators of such a person.

(k) The Court of Chancery is hereby vested with exclusive jurisdiction to hear and determine all actions for advancement of expenses or indemnification brought under this section or under any bylaw, agreement, vote of stockholders or disinterested directors, or otherwise. The Court of Chancery may summarily determine a corporation's obligation to advance expenses (including attorneys' fees).

Similarly, Article VII of the Company's By-laws provides as follows:

Section 1. Right to Indemnification. Each person who was or is made a party or is threatened to be made a party to or is involved in any action, suit or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative or investigative (hereinafter a proceeding), by reason of the fact that he or she is the legal representative, is or was or has agreed to become a director or officer of the Corporation or is or was serving or has agreed to serve at the request of the Corporation as a director, officer, employee or agent of another corporation or of a partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise, including service with respect to employee benefit plans, whether the basis of such proceeding is alleged action in an official capacity as a director or officer or in any other capacity while serving or having agreed to serve as a director or officer, shall be indemnified and held harmless by the Corporation to the fullest extent authorized by the Delaware General Corporation Law, as the same exists or may hereafter be amended (but, in the case of any such amendment, only to the extent that such amendment permits the Corporation to provide broader indemnification rights than said law permitted the Corporation to provide prior to such amendment) against all expense, liability and loss (including without limitation, attorneys' fees, judgments, fines, ERISA excise taxes or penalties and amounts paid or to be paid in settlement) reasonably incurred or suffered by such person in connection therewith and such indemnification shall continue as to a person who has ceased to serve in the capacity which initially entitled such person to indemnity hereunder and shall inure to the benefit of his or her heirs, executors and administrators; provided, however, that the Corporation shall indemnify any such person seeking indemnification in connection with a proceeding (or part thereof) initiated by such person only if such proceeding (or part thereof) was authorized by the Board of Directors of the Corporation. The right to

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indemnification conferred in this Article VII shall be a contract right and shall include the right to be paid by the Corporation the expenses incurred in defending any such proceeding in advance of its final disposition; provided, however, that, if the Delaware General Corporation Law requires, the payment of such expenses incurred by a current, former or proposed director or officer in his or her capacity as a director or officer or proposed director or officer (and not in any other capacity in which service was or is or has been agreed to be rendered by such person while a director or officer, including, without limitation, service to an employee benefit plan) in advance of the final disposition of a proceeding, shall be made only upon delivery to the Corporation of an undertaking, by or on behalf of such indemnified person, to repay all amounts so advanced if it shall ultimately be determined that such indemnified person is not entitled to be indemnified under this Section or otherwise.

The Company's By-laws provide that the Company may secure insurance on behalf of any officer, director, employee or agent. Specifically, Article VII of the Company's By-laws provides as follows:

Section 5. Insurance. The Corporation may maintain insurance, at its expense, to protect itself and any person who is or was serving as a director, officer, employee or agent of the Corporation or is or was serving at the request of the Corporation as a director, officer, employee or agent of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise against any expense, liability or loss, whether or not the Corporation would have the power to indemnify such person against such expense, liability or loss under the Delaware General Corporation Law.

In accordance with its Restated Certificate of Incorporation, the Company has obtained an insurance policy providing for indemnification of officers and directors of the Company and certain other persons against liabilities and expenses incurred by any of them in certain stated proceedings and under certain stated conditions.

The Company's Restated Certificate of Incorporation and the DGCL limit the personal liability of directors to the Company and its stockholders for monetary damages resulting from breaches of the director's fiduciary duties. Section 102(b)(7) of the DGCL provides in part that a corporation's certificate of incorporation may contain:

A provision eliminating or limiting the personal liability of a director to the corporation or its stockholders for monetary damages for breach of fiduciary duty as a director, provided that such provision shall not eliminate or limit the liability of a director: (i) for any breach of the director's duty of loyalty to the corporation or its stockholders; (ii) for acts or omissions not in good faith or which involve intentional misconduct or a knowing violation of law; (iii) under §174 of this title; or (iv) for any transaction from which the director derived an improper personal benefit. Article THIRTEENTH of the Company's Restated Certificate of Incorporation similarly states that:

No director of the Corporation shall be liable to the Corporation or its stockholders for monetary damages for breach of fiduciary duty as a director, except for liability (i) for any breach of the director's duty of loyalty to the Corporation or its stockholders, (ii) for acts or omissions not in good faith or which involve intentional misconduct or a knowing violation of law, (iii) under Section 174 of the Delaware General Corporation Law, or (iv) for any transaction from which the director derived an improper personal benefit. Any repeal or modification of this Article by the stockholders of the Corporation shall be prospective only, and shall not adversely affect any limitation on the personal liability of a director of the Corporation existing at the time of such repeal or modification.

Reference is made to Item 9 for the Company's undertakings with respect to indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act.

Item 7. Exemption from Registration Claimed.

Not applicable.

Table of Contents**Item 8. Exhibits.**

Footnote Reference	Exhibit Number	Exhibit Description
(1)	3a	Restated Certificate of Incorporation of the Company, dated February 17, 1984 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to Registration Statement No. 333-84369 on Form S-8) and the Certificates of Designation for the Company's Series A Preferred Stock (and Certificate of Correction related thereto) (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.8 to Registration Statement No. 333-84369 on Form S-8), Series B Preferred Stock (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4d to Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 1999), Series D Preferred Stock (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.11 to Registration Statement No. 333-82804 on Form S-3 filed on February 14, 2002), and Series E Preferred Stock (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.12 to Registration Statement No. 333-82804 on Form S-3 filed on February 14, 2002).
(1)	3b	Bylaws amended as of January 22, 2009, incorporated by reference to Form 8-K dated as of January 22, 2009 (File No. 1-5491).
(1)	4a	Certificate of Change of Address of Registered Office and of Registered Agent dated July 25, 1984, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.4 to Registration Statement No. 333-84369 on Form S-8.
(1)	4b	Certificate of Amendment of Certificate of Incorporation dated April 24, 1987, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.5 to Registration Statement No. 333-84369 on Form S-8.
(1)	4c	Certificate of Designation of the Series A Junior Preferred Stock dated March 2, 1992, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.2 to Registration Statement on Form 8-A/A filed on February 12, 2002 (File No. 1-5491).
(1)	4f	Certificate of Designation of the Series C Preferred Stock dated July 28, 2000, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.10 to Registration Statement No. 333-44874 on Form S-8.
(1)	4i	Amended and Restated Rights Agreement, dated January 24, 2002, between Rowan and Computershare Trust Co. as Rights Agent, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.2 to Registration Statement on Form 8-A/A filed on March 21, 2003 (File No. 1-5491).
(1)	4j	Amendment to the Amended and Restated Rights Agreement, dated September 29, 2008 between the Company and Wells Fargo Bank, National Association incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4j to Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2008 (File No. 1-5491).
(1)	4k	Specimen Common Stock certificate, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to Form 10-Q for the fiscal quarter ended March 31, 2003 (File No. 1-5491).
(1)	4l	Form of Promissory Note dated April 27, 2000 between the purchasers of Series C Floating Rate Subordinated Convertible Debentures due 2010 and Rowan, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4n to Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2000 (File No. 1-5491).

- (2) 5a Opinion of Baker Botts L.L.P.
 - (2) 23a Consent of Deloitte & Touche LLP.
 - (2) 23b Consent of Baker Botts L.L.P. (included as part of Exhibit 5a).
 - (2) 24a Powers of Attorney (set forth on the signature page of this registration statement).
- (1) Incorporated herein by reference to another filing of the Company with the Commission as indicated.
- (2) Included herein.

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Item 9. Undertakings.

(a) The undersigned registrant hereby undertakes:

(1) To file, during any period in which offers or sales are being made, a post-effective amendment to this registration statement:

(i) To include any prospectus required by Section 10(a)(3) of the Securities Act of 1933;

(ii) To reflect in the prospectus any facts or events arising after the effective date of this registration statement (or the most recent post-effective amendment thereof) which, individually or in the aggregate, represent a fundamental change in the information set forth in this registration statement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, any increase or decrease in volume of securities offered (if the total dollar value of securities offered would not exceed that which was registered) and any deviation from the low or high end of the estimated maximum offering range may be reflected in the form of prospectus filed with the Commission pursuant to Rule 424(b) of the Securities Act if, in the aggregate, the changes in volume and price represent no more than a 20% change in the maximum aggregate offering price set forth in the Calculation of Registration Fee table in the effective registration statement;

(iii) To include any material information with respect to the plan of distribution not previously disclosed in this registration statement or any material change to such information in this registration statement;

Provided, however, that the undertakings set forth in paragraphs (a)(1)(i) and (a)(1)(ii) above will not apply if the information required to be included in a post-effective amendment by those paragraphs is contained in periodic reports filed with or furnished to the Commission by the registrant pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 that are incorporated by reference in this registration statement.

(2) That, for the purpose of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, each such post-effective amendment shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

(3) To remove from registration by means of a post-effective amendment any of the securities being registered which remain unsold at the termination of the offering.

(b) The undersigned registrant hereby undertakes that, for purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act, each filing of the registrant's annual report pursuant to Section 13(a) or Section 15(d) of the Exchange Act (and, where applicable, each filing of an employee benefit plan's annual report pursuant to section 15(d) of the Exchange Act) that is incorporated by reference in this registration statement shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

(c) Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act may be permitted to directors, officers and controlling persons of the registrant pursuant to the provisions described under Item 6 above, or otherwise, the registrant has been advised that in the opinion of the Commission such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and is, therefore, unenforceable. In the event that a claim for indemnification against such liabilities (other than the payment by the registrant of expenses incurred or paid by a director, officer or controlling person of the registrant in the successful defense of any action, suit or proceeding) is asserted by such director, officer or controlling person in connection with the securities being registered, the registrant will, unless in the opinion of its counsel the matter has been settled by controlling precedent, submit to a court of appropriate jurisdiction the question whether such indemnification by it is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and will be governed by the final adjudication of such issue.

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Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, the registrant certifies that it has reasonable grounds to believe that it meets all of the requirements for filing on Form S-8 and has duly caused this registration statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in the City of Houston, State of Texas, on May 5, 2009.

ROWAN COMPANIES, INC.

By: /s/ W. Matt Ralls
W. Matt Ralls
President and Chief Executive Officer

POWER OF ATTORNEY

KNOWN ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, that each person whose signature appears below constitutes and appoints W. Matt Ralls and William H. Wells, or either of them, his true and lawful attorney-in-fact and agent with full power of substitution and re-substitution, for him and in his name, place and stead, in any and all capacities to sign any or all amendments (including, without limitation, post-effective amendments) to this Registration Statement, any related Registration Statement filed pursuant to Rule 462(b) under the Securities Act of 1933 and any or all pre- or post-effective amendments thereto, and to file the same, with all exhibits thereto, and all other documents in connection therewith, with the Securities and Exchange Commission, granting unto said attorney-in-fact and agent, full power and authority to do and perform each and every act and thing requisite and necessary to be done in and about the premises, as fully for all intents and purposes as he might or could do in person, hereby ratifying and confirming that said attorney-in-fact and agent, or any substitute or substitutes for him, may lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, this registration statement has been signed by the following persons in the capacities and on the date indicated.

Signature	Title	Date
/s/ W. Matt Ralls	President and Chief Executive Officer	May 5, 2009
W. Matt Ralls	(Principal Executive Officer)	
/s/ W.H. Wells	Vice President, Finance and Chief Financial Officer	May 5, 2009
W.H. Wells	(Principal Financial Officer)	
/s/ Gregory M. Hatfield	Controller	May 5, 2009
Gregory M. Hatfield	(Principal Accounting Officer)	
/s/ R.G. Croyle	Director	May 5, 2009
R.G. Croyle		
/s/ William T. Fox III	Director	May 5, 2009
William T. Fox III		

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/s/ Sir Graham Hearne

Director

May 5, 2009

Sir Graham Hearne

/s/ John R. Huff

Director

May 5, 2009

John R. Huff

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Signature	Title	Date
/s/ Robert E. Kramek Robert E. Kramek	Director	May 5, 2009
/s/ Frederick R. Lausen Frederick R. Lausen	Director	May 5, 2009
/s/ H.E. Lentz H.E. Lentz	Chairman of the Board	May 5, 2009
/s/ Lord Moynihan Lord Moynihan	Director	May 5, 2009
/s/ P. Dexter Peacock P. Dexter Peacock	Director	May 5, 2009
/s/ John J. Quicke John J. Quicke	Director	May 5, 2009

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(1)	4f	Certificate of Designation of the Series C Preferred Stock dated July 28, 2000, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.10 to Registration Statement No. 333-44874 on Form S-8.
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(1)	4k	Specimen Common Stock certificate, incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to Form 10-Q for the fiscal quarter ended March 31, 2003 (File No. 1-5491).
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- (1) Incorporated herein by reference to another filing of the Company with the Commission as indicated.
- (2) Included herein.