

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

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of  
the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report  
(Date of earliest  
event reported): April 23, 2024

DOUGLAS DYNAMICS, INC.  
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware  
(State or other  
jurisdiction of  
incorporation)

001-34728  
(Commission File  
Number)

13-4275891  
(IRS Employer  
Identification No.)

11270 W Park Place Ste 300, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53224  
(Address of principal executive offices, including zip code)

(414) 354-2310  
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Not Applicable  
(Former name or former address, if changed since last report)

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

Title of each class	Trading Symbol(s)	Name of each exchange on which registered
Common Stock, par value \$.01 per share	PLOW	New York Stock Exchange

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1933 (§230.405 of this chapter) or Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (§240.12b-2 of this chapter).

Emerging growth company

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act.

Item 5.02. Departure of Directors or Certain Officers; Election of Directors; Appointment of Certain Officers; Compensatory Arrangements of Certain Officers

On April 23, 2024, at the Douglas Dynamics, Inc. (the "Company") 2024 annual meeting of shareholders (the "Annual Meeting"), the Company's stockholders approved the Douglas Dynamics, Inc. 2024 Stock Incentive Plan (the "2024 Plan"), which had previously been approved by the Company's Board of Directors (the "Board"), subject to stockholder approval. Additional information regarding the results of the Annual Meeting is set forth below under Item 5.07 of this Current Report on Form 8-K.

The Company previously maintained the Douglas Dynamics, Inc. 2010 Stock Incentive Plan (the "2010 Plan"). Effective upon stockholder approval at the Annual Meeting, the 2024 Plan replaced the 2010 Plan, and the 2010 Plan was terminated. No new awards will be granted under the 2010 Plan. Awards currently outstanding under the 2010 Plan will remain outstanding under the 2010 Plan in accordance with their terms.

The 2024 Plan is described in detail in the Company's definitive proxy statement, filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on March 22, 2024, under the caption "Proposal 3 - Approval of the Company's Stock Incentive Plan," which description is incorporated herein by reference. A copy of the 2024 Plan is filed as Exhibit 10.1 to this Current Report on Form 8-K.

Item 5.07. Submission of Matters to a Vote of Security Holders

The name of each director elected at the 2024 Annual Meeting, a brief description of each other matter voted upon at the 2024 Annual Meeting and the number of votes cast for, against or withheld, as well as the number of abstentions and broker non-votes as to each such matter, as applicable, are set forth below.

Election of Two Directors to Terms Expiring at the 2027 Annual Meeting of Stockholders

<u>Name of Nominee</u>	<u>Shares Voted For</u>	<u>Shares Withheld</u>	<u>Broker Non-Votes</u>
Kenneth W. Krueger	17,716,911	2,040,448	1,507,285
Lisa R. Bacus	19,091,024	666,335	1,507,285

Advisory Vote on Approval of the Compensation of the Company's Named Executive Officers

<u>Shares Voted For</u>	<u>Shares Voted Against</u>	<u>Abstentions</u>	<u>Broker Non-Votes</u>
19,176,407	479,937	101,014	1,507,285

Affirmative Vote on Approval of the Company's 2024 Stock Incentive Plan

<u>Shares Voted For</u>	<u>Shares Voted Against</u>	<u>Abstentions</u>	<u>Broker Non-Votes</u>
19,026,390	713,121	17,847	1,507,285

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Ratification of the Appointment of Deloitte& Touche LLP as Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm for 2024

<u>Shares Voted For</u>	<u>Shares Voted Against</u>	<u>Abstentions</u>
21,240,604	15,898	8,142

Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits

- (a) Not applicable.
  - (b) Not applicable.
  - (c) Not applicable.
  - (d) Exhibits. The following exhibit is being filed herewith:
    - (10.1) [Douglas Dynamics, Inc. 2024 Stock Incentive Plan](#)
    - (104) Cover Page Interactive Data File (embedded within the Inline XBRL document)
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SIGNATURES

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

Date: April 26, 2024

DOUGLAS DYNAMICS, INC.

By: /s/ Sarah Lauber

Sarah Lauber

Chief Financial Officer and Secretary

**DOUGLAS DYNAMICS, INC.  
2024 STOCK INCENTIVE PLAN**

**1. Purpose**

The purpose of the Douglas Dynamics, Inc. 2024 Stock Incentive Plan (the “Plan”) is to advance the interests of Douglas Dynamics, Inc. (the “Company”) by stimulating the efforts of employees, officers, non-employee directors and other service providers, in each case who are selected to be participants, by heightening the desire of such persons to continue working toward and contributing to the success and progress of the Company. The Plan provides for the potential grant of Incentive and Nonqualified Stock Options, Stock Appreciation Rights, Restricted Stock and Restricted Stock Units, any of which may be performance-based, and for Incentive Bonuses, which may be paid in cash or stock or a combination thereof, as determined by the Administrator. Following the Effective Date, no additional awards shall be granted under the Company’s Amended and Restated 2010 Stock Incentive Plan (the “Prior Plan”).

**2. Definitions**

As used in the Plan, the following terms shall have the meanings set forth below:

- (a) “Administrator” means the Administrator of the Plan in accordance with Section 18.
  - (b) “Affiliates” shall have the meaning ascribed in Rule 12b-2 promulgated under the Exchange Act.
  - (c) “Applicable Exchange” means the New York Stock Exchange or such other exchange or automated trading system on which the Shares are principally traded at the applicable time.
  - (d) “Award” means an Incentive Stock Option, Nonqualified Stock Option, Stock Appreciation Right, Restricted Stock, Restricted Stock Unit or Incentive Bonus granted to a Participant pursuant to the provisions of the Plan, any of which the Administrator may structure to qualify in whole or in part as a Performance Award.
  - (e) “Award Agreement” means a written agreement or other instrument as may be approved from time to time by the Administrator implementing the grant of each Award. An Agreement may be in the form of an agreement to be executed by both the Participant and the Company (or an authorized representative of the Company) or certificates, notices or similar instruments as approved by the Administrator.
  - (f) “Beneficial Owner,” “Beneficial Ownership” and “Beneficially Owned” shall have the meaning ascribed in Rule 13d-3 under the Exchange Act.
  - (g) “Board” means the Board of Directors of the Company.
  - (h) “Cause” means (unless otherwise expressly provided in the Award Agreement or another contract, including an employment agreement):
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(1) conviction or indictment of an individual or the entering of a plea of nolo contendere by the individual with respect to any felony, crime involving fraud or misrepresentation, or any other crime (whether or not such felony or crime is connected with his or her employment or service) the effect of which in the judgment of the Board is likely to affect, materially and adversely, the Company and/or any Company Affiliate;

(2) gross misconduct in connection with the performance of the individual's duties;

(3) demonstration of habitual negligence in the performance of the individual's duties; or

(4) fraud or dishonesty in connection with an individual's employment or service, or theft, misappropriation or embezzlement of the Company's and/or any Company Affiliate's funds or other property.

(i) "Change of Control" means (unless otherwise expressly provided in the Award Agreement or another contract, including an employment agreement) the occurrence of one or more of the following, whether accomplished directly or indirectly, or in one or a series of related transactions:

(1) Any Person becomes the Beneficial Owner, directly or indirectly, of voting securities of the Company representing 50% or more of the combined voting power of the Company's then outstanding voting securities;

(2) During any period of two consecutive years, individuals who at the beginning of such period constituted the Board and any new director (other than a director whose initial assumption of office occurs as a result of either an actual or threatened election contest or other actual or threatened tender offer, solicitation of proxies or consents by or on behalf of a Person other than the Board) whose appointment, election, or nomination for election was approved by a vote of a majority of the directors then still in office who either were directors at the beginning of the period or whose appointment, election or nomination for election was previously so approved, cease for any reason to constitute a majority of the Board;

(3) A reorganization, merger, consolidation, recapitalization, tender offer, exchange offer or other extraordinary transaction involving the Company (a "Fundamental Transaction") becomes effective or is consummated, unless at least 50% of the outstanding voting securities of the surviving or resulting entity (including, without limitation, an entity ("Parent") which as a result of such transaction owns the Company or all or substantially all of the Company's assets either directly or through one or more subsidiaries) ("Resulting Entity") are, or are to be, Beneficially Owned, directly or indirectly, by all or substantially all of the Persons who were the Beneficial Owners of the outstanding voting securities of the Company immediately prior to such Fundamental Transaction in substantially the same proportions as their Beneficial Ownership, immediately prior to such Fundamental Transaction, of the outstanding voting securities of the Company;

(4) A sale, transfer or any other disposition (including, without limitation, by way of spin-off, distribution, complete liquidation or dissolution) of all or substantially all of the Company's business and/or assets (an "Asset Sale") to an unrelated third party (the "Transferee Entity") is consummated.

(j) "Code" means the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended from time to time, and the rulings and regulations issues thereunder.

(k) "Common Stock" means the Company's common stock, par value \$.01, subject to adjustment as provided in Section 12.

(l) "Company" means Douglas Dynamics, Inc., a Delaware corporation, and its successors. For purposes of this definition of Corporation, after the consummation of a Fundamental Transaction or an Asset Sale, the term "successor" shall include, without limitation, the Resulting Entity or Transferee Entity, respectively.

(m) "Company Affiliate" means any person or entity that is a subsidiary of, or controlled directly or indirectly by, Douglas Dynamics, Inc. For the purposes of this definition, "control" means the power to direct the management and policies of a person or entity, directly or indirectly, whether through the ownership of voting securities, by contract or otherwise.

(n) "Disability," unless otherwise defined in a Participant's employment agreement with the Company (if any), means an individual's absence from, or material inability to perform his or her usual duties or any comparable duties for, the Company on a full-time basis for 90 consecutive business days or 120 business days in any period of 180 business days as a result of mental or physical illness or injury that is total and permanent, as reasonably determined by the Administrator and that is not susceptible to reasonable accommodation.

(o) "Effective Date" has the meaning set forth in Section 4.

(p) "Exchange Act" means the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended from time to time.

(q) "Fair Market Value" means, as of any given date, the closing sale price on such date during normal trading hours or, if there shall be no such sale on such date, the next preceding day on which such a sale shall have occurred; provided that, to the extent determined by the Administrator, Fair Market Value may instead mean, per Share on a particular date, a price that is based on the opening, closing, actual, high or low sale price, or the arithmetic mean of selling prices of, a Share, on the Applicable Exchange on the applicable date, the preceding trading day, the next succeeding trading day, or the arithmetic mean of selling prices on all trading days over a specified averaging period weighted by volume of trading on each trading day in the period that is within 30 days before or 30 days after the applicable date, as determined by the Administrator in its discretion; provided further that, if an arithmetic mean of prices is used to set an exercise price or a grant or base price for an Option or a Stock Appreciation Right, the commitment to grant the applicable Award based on such arithmetic mean must be irrevocable before the beginning of the specified averaging period in accordance with Treasury Regulation 1.409A-1(b)(5)(iv)(A). The Administrator shall have the authority to prescribe the method of determining Fair Market Value with respect to an Award and such method may differ depending on whether Fair Market Value is in reference to the grant, exercise, vesting, settlement, payout of, or other event relating to, an Award. If the Shares are not traded on an established stock exchange, the Administrator shall determine in good faith the Fair Market Value in whatever manner it considers appropriate, but based on objective criteria.

(r) “Incentive Bonus” means a bonus opportunity awarded under Section 9 pursuant to which a Participant may become entitled to receive an amount based on satisfaction of such Performance Goal(s) as are specified in the Award Agreement.

(s) “Incentive Stock Option” means a stock option that is intended to qualify as an “incentive stock option” within the meaning of Section 422 of the Code.

(t) “Nonemployee Director” means each person who is, or is elected to be, a member of the Board and who is not an employee of the Company or any Subsidiary.

(u) “Nonqualified Stock Option” means a stock option that is not intended to qualify as an “incentive stock option” within the meaning of Section 422 of the Code.

(v) “Option” means an Incentive Stock Option and/or a Nonqualified Stock Option granted pursuant to Section 6 of the Plan.

(w) “Participant” means any individual described in Section 3 to whom Awards have been granted from time to time by the Administrator and any authorized transferee of such individual.

(x) “Performance Award” means an Award, the grant, issuance, retention, vesting or settlement of which is subject to satisfaction of one or more Performance Goal established pursuant to Section 13.

(y) “Performance Goal” means any objective or subjective goals the Administrator establishes with respect to an Award. Performance Goals may include, but are not limited to, goals that relate to one or more of the following with respect to the Company or any one or more of its Subsidiaries or Affiliates or its or their respective business units, in all cases before Excluded Items except as otherwise determined by the Administrator upon the grant of an Award: sales or other revenues; cost of goods sold; gross profit; expenses or expense or cost reductions; income or earnings, including net income, income from operations; income before interest and the provision for income taxes; income before provision for income taxes; margins; working capital or any of its components, including accounts receivable, inventories or accounts payable; assets or productivity of assets; return on stockholders’ equity, capital, assets or other financial measure that appears on our financial statements or is derived from one or more amounts that appear on our financial statements; stock price; dividend payments; economic value added, or other measure of profitability that considers the cost of capital employed; cash flow; debt or ratio of debt to equity or other financial measure that appears on our financial statements or is derived from one or more amounts that appear on our financial statements; net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents; customer satisfaction; market share; product quality; new product introductions or launches; sustainability, including energy or materials utilization; business efficiency measures; retail sales; safety; or any combination of the foregoing. Performance Goals also may include earnings per share on a consolidated basis and total stockholder return. Unless otherwise determined by the Administrator at the time of grant, as to each Performance Goal, the relevant measurement of performance shall be computed in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles to the extent applicable, but will exclude the effects of the following: (i) charges for reorganizing and restructuring, (ii) discontinued operations, (iii) asset write-downs, (iv) gains or losses on the disposition of a business or business segment or arising from the sale of assets outside the ordinary course of business, (v) changes in tax or accounting principles, regulations or laws, (vi) extraordinary, unusual, transition, one-time and/or non-recurring expenses, revenues or other items of gain or loss, (vii) changes in interest expenses as a result of modified debt structures and (viii) mergers, acquisitions or dispositions, that, in case of each of the foregoing, the Company identifies in its publicly filed periodic or current reports, its audited financial statements, including notes to the financial statements, or the Management’s Discussion and Analysis section of the Company’s annual report. The Administrator may also provide for other adjustments to Performance Goals in the Award agreement or plan document evidencing any Award. In addition, the Administrator may appropriately adjust any evaluation of performance under a Performance Goal to exclude any of the following events that occurs during a performance period: (i) litigation, claims, judgments or settlements; (ii) the effects of changes in other laws or regulations affecting reported results; and (iii) accruals of any amounts for payment under this Plan or any other compensation arrangements maintained by the Company. Where applicable, the Performance Goals may be expressed, without limitation, in terms of attaining a specified level of the particular criterion or the attainment of an increase or decrease (expressed as absolute numbers, averages and/or percentages) in the particular criterion or achievement in relation to a peer group or other index. The Performance Goals may include a threshold level of performance below which no payment will be made (or no vesting will occur), levels of performance at which specified payments will be paid (or specified vesting will occur), and a maximum level of performance above which no additional payment will be made (or at which full vesting will occur). In addition, the Administrator may establish other Performance Goals and provide for other exclusions or adjustments not listed in this Plan.



(z) "Person" means an association, a corporation, an individual, a partnership, a trust or any other entity or organization, including a governmental entity and a "person" as that term is used under Section 13(d) or 14 (d) of the Exchange Act.

(aa) "Plan" means the Douglas Dynamics, Inc. 2024 Stock Incentive Plan as set forth herein and as amended from time to time.

(bb) "Restricted Stock" means Shares granted pursuant to Section 8 of the Plan.

(cc) "Restricted Stock Unit" means an Award granted to a Participant pursuant to Section 8 pursuant to which Shares or cash in lieu thereof may be issued in the future.

(dd) "Share" means a share of the Common Stock, subject to adjustment as provided in Section 12.

(ee) "Stock Appreciation Right" means a right granted pursuant to Section 7 of the Plan that entitles the Participant to receive, in cash or Shares or a combination thereof, as determined by the Administrator, value equal to or otherwise based on the excess of (i) the Fair Market Value of a specified number of Shares at the time of exercise over (ii) the exercise price of the right, as established by the Administrator on the date of grant.

(ff) "Subsidiary" means any entity (other than the Company) in an unbroken chain of entities beginning with the Company where each of the entities in the unbroken chain other than the last entity owns stock or other equity possessing at least 50 percent or more of the total combined voting power of all classes of stock or other equity in one of the other entities in the chain, and if specifically determined by the Administrator in the context other than with respect to Incentive Stock Options, may include an entity in which the Company has a significant ownership interest or that is directly or indirectly controlled by the Company.

(gg) "Termination of Employment" means ceasing to serve as an employee of the Company or any Subsidiary or, with respect to a Nonemployee Director or other service provider, ceasing to serve as such for the Company or any Subsidiary, except that with respect to all or any Awards held by a Participant (i) the Administrator may determine, subject to Section 6(c), that an approved leave of absence or approved employment on a less than full-time basis shall be considered a Termination of Employment, (ii) the Administrator may determine that a transition of employment to service with a partnership, joint venture or corporation not meeting the requirements of a Subsidiary in which the Company or a Subsidiary is a party is not considered a Termination of Employment, (iii) service as a member of the Board or other service provider shall constitute continued employment with respect to Awards granted to a Participant while he or she served as an employee and (iv) service as an employee of the Company or a Subsidiary shall constitute continued employment with respect to Awards granted to a Participant while he or she served as a member of the Board or other service provider. The Administrator shall determine whether any corporate transaction, such as a sale or spin-off of a division or subsidiary that employs a Participant, shall be deemed to result in a Termination of Employment with the Company or any Subsidiary for purposes of any affected Participant's Awards, and the Administrator's decision shall be final and binding.

### 3. Eligibility

Any person who is a current or prospective officer or employee of the Company or of any Subsidiary shall be eligible for selection by the Administrator for the grant of Awards hereunder. In addition, Nonemployee Directors and any other service providers who have been retained to provide consulting, advisory or other services to the Company or to any Subsidiary shall be eligible for the grant of Awards hereunder as determined by the Administrator. Options intending to qualify as Incentive Stock Options may only be granted to employees of the Company or any corporate Subsidiary within the meaning of the Code, as selected by the Administrator.

### 4. Effective Date and Termination of Plan

This Plan was originally adopted by the Board on February 14, 2024, subject to approval by the Company's stockholders, and approved by the Company's stockholders on April 23, 2024 (the "Effective Date"). The Plan shall remain available for the grant of Awards until the tenth (10th) anniversary of the most recent date on which it has been approved by the Company's stockholders. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Plan may be terminated at such earlier time as the Board may determine. Termination of the Plan will not affect the rights and obligations of the Participants and the Company arising under Awards theretofore granted and then in effect.

### 5. Shares Subject to the Plan and to Awards

(a) *Aggregate Limits.* Subject to adjustment as provided in Section 12 and the Share counting provisions below, as of the Effective Date, the maximum number of Shares that may be issued pursuant to Awards granted under the Plan, other than substitute Awards, shall be 1,277,660, less one Share for every one Share subject to an Award granted under the Prior Plan after December 31, 2023 and prior to the Effective Date.<sup>1</sup> The aggregate number of Shares that may be issued pursuant to the exercise of Incentive Stock Options granted under this Plan shall not exceed 1,277,660 which number shall be calculated and adjusted pursuant to Section 12 only to the extent that such calculation or adjustment will not affect the status of any option intended to qualify as an Incentive Stock Option under Section 422 of the Code. Following the Effective Date, no additional awards shall be granted under the Prior Plan.

(b) *Adjustment; Character of Shares.* The aggregate number of Shares available for grant under this Plan and the number of Shares subject to outstanding Awards shall be subject to adjustment as provided in Section 12. The Shares issued pursuant to Awards granted under this Plan may be shares that are authorized and unissued or shares that were reacquired by the Company, including shares purchased in the open market.

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<sup>1</sup> The 1,277,660 Shares reflects 340,160 Shares that remained available for grant under the Prior Plan as of December 31, 2023, plus 937,500 newly authorized Shares.

(c) *Issuance of Shares.* If (i) after the Effective Date any Shares subject to an Award are forfeited, an Award expires, is canceled, or an Award is settled for cash or is unearned (in each case in whole or in part), or (ii) after December 31, 2023, any Shares subject to an award previously granted under the Prior Plan are forfeited, an award under the Prior Plan expires, is canceled, or an award under the Prior Plan is settled for cash or is unearned (in each case in whole or in part), then in each such case the Shares subject to such Award or award under the Prior Plan shall, to the extent of such forfeiture, expiration, cancellation, cash settlement or unearned amount, be added (or added back, as applicable) to the Shares available for Awards under the Plan. In the event that withholding tax liabilities arising from an Award other than an Option or Stock Appreciation Right or, after December 31, 2023, an award other than an option or stock appreciation right under the Prior Plan are satisfied by the tendering or other use of Shares (either actually or by attestation) or by the withholding of Shares by the Company, the Shares so tendered, otherwise used or withheld shall be added (or added back, as applicable) to the Shares available for Awards under the Plan. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained herein, the following Shares shall not be added (or added back, as applicable) to the Shares authorized and available for Awards under Section 5(a): Shares tendered or otherwise used by the Participant or withheld by the Company in payment of the exercise or purchase price of an Option or an option under the Prior Plan; Shares tendered or otherwise used by the Participant or withheld by the Company to satisfy any tax withholding obligation with respect to an Award of Options or Stock Appreciation Rights or options or stock appreciation rights under the Prior Plan; Shares subject to a Stock Appreciation Right or a stock appreciation right under the Prior Plan that are not issued in connection with its stock settlement on exercise thereof; and Shares reacquired by the Company on the open market or otherwise using cash proceeds from the exercise of Options or options under the Prior Plan.

(d) *Director Award Limitation.* In no event shall the aggregate grant date value (determined in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles) of all Awards granted to any individual Nonemployee Director during a fiscal year of the Company, when added to any cash compensation received by such Nonemployee Director in the same fiscal year, in each case for service as a Nonemployee Director, exceed \$500,000.

## **6. Options**

(a) *Option Awards.* Options may be granted at any time and from time to time prior to the termination of the Plan to Participants as determined by the Administrator. No Participant shall have any rights as a stockholder with respect to any Shares subject to an Option hereunder until said Shares have been issued. Each Option shall be evidenced by an Award Agreement. Options granted pursuant to the Plan need not be identical but each Option must contain and be subject to the terms and conditions set forth below. In no event may dividends or dividend equivalents be awarded with respect to Options, Stock Appreciation Rights or any other stock-based award that is not a grant of Restricted Stock or Restricted Stock Units.

(b) *Price.* The Administrator will establish the exercise price per Share under each Option, which, in no event will be less than the Fair Market Value of the Shares on the date of grant unless such Option is compliant with or otherwise exempt from Section 409A of the Code; provided, however, that the exercise price per Share with respect to an Option that is granted in connection with a merger or other acquisition as a substitute or replacement award for options held by optionees of the acquired entity may be less than 100% of the Fair Market Value of the Shares on the date such Option is granted if such exercise price is based on a formula set forth in the terms of the options held by such optionees or in the terms of the agreement providing for such merger or other acquisition. The exercise price of any Option may be paid in Shares, cash or a combination thereof, as determined by the Administrator, including an irrevocable commitment by a broker to pay over such amount from a sale of the Shares issuable under an Option, the delivery of previously owned Shares and withholding of Shares deliverable upon exercise.

(c) *Provisions Applicable to Options.* Subject to Section 10(a), the date on which Options become exercisable shall be determined at the sole discretion of the Administrator and set forth in an Award Agreement. Unless provided otherwise in the applicable Award Agreement, to the extent that the Administrator determines that an approved leave of absence is not a Termination of Employment, the vesting period and/or exercisability of an Option shall be adjusted by the Administrator during or to reflect the effects of any period during which the Participant is on an approved leave of absence or is employed on a less than full-time basis. The Administrator shall establish the term of each Option, which in no case shall exceed a period of ten (10) years from the date of grant.

(d) *Incentive Stock Options.* Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Section 6, in the case of the grant of an Option intending to qualify as an Incentive Stock Option: (i) if the Participant owns stock possessing more than 10% of the combined voting power of all classes of stock of the Company (a "10% Stockholder"), the exercise price of such Option must be at least 110% of the Fair Market Value of the Shares on the date of grant and the Option must expire within a period of not more than five (5) years from the date of grant, and (ii) Termination of Employment will occur when the person to whom an Award was granted ceases to be an employee (as determined in accordance with Section 3401(c) of the Code and the regulations promulgated thereunder) of the Company or any Subsidiary. Notwithstanding anything in this Section 6 to the contrary, Options designated as Incentive Stock Options shall not be eligible for treatment under the Code as Incentive Stock Options (and will be deemed to be Nonqualified Stock Options) to the extent that either (1) the aggregate Fair Market Value of Shares (determined as of the time of grant) with respect to which such Options are exercisable for the first time by the Participant during any calendar year (under all plans of the Company and any Subsidiary) exceeds \$100,000, taking Options into account in the order in which they were granted, or (2) such Options otherwise remain exercisable but are not exercised within three (3) months of Termination of Employment (or such other period of time provided in Section 422 of the Code). If the requirements for an Option to qualify for incentive stock option tax treatment are changed, this Section 6(d) shall be deemed to be automatically amended to reflect such requirements.

(e) *Effect of Termination of Employment.* Unless an Option earlier expires upon the expiration date established pursuant to Section 6(c), upon a Termination of Employment (i) any portion of the Option that is not exercisable at the time of such Termination of Employment shall be forfeited and canceled as of the date of such Termination of Employment and (ii) a Participant's (or his or her Beneficiary's) rights to exercise any portion of the Option that is exercisable at the time of such Termination of Employment shall be only as follows, in each case, unless otherwise expressly provided in the Award Agreement or another contract, including an employment agreement:

(1) *Death.* If a Participant incurs a Termination of Employment by reason of death, any Option held by such Participant, to the extent then exercisable, may thereafter be exercised by the Participant's Beneficiary for a period of one hundred eighty days from the date of such death or until the expiration of the stated term of such Option, whichever period is the shorter.

(2) *Disability.* If a Participant incurs a Termination of Employment by reason of Disability, any Option held by such Participant, to the extent then exercisable, may thereafter be exercised by the Participant for a period of one hundred eighty days from the date of such Termination of Employment or until the expiration of the stated term of such Option, whichever period is the shorter.

(3) *Cause.* If a Participant incurs a Termination of Employment by reason of a termination by the Company for Cause, the entire Option, whether or not then exercisable, shall be immediately forfeited and canceled as of the date of such Termination of Employment.

(f) *Termination for Reasons other than Death, Disability or Cause* If a Participant incurs a Termination of Employment for any reason other than death, Disability or for Cause, any Option held by such Participant, to the extent then exercisable, may thereafter be exercised by the Participant for a period of ninety days from the date of such Termination of Employment or until the expiration of the stated term of such Option, whichever period is the shorter.

## 7. Stock Appreciation Rights

Stock Appreciation Rights may be granted at any time and from time to time prior to the termination of the Plan to Participants as determined by the Administrator. The provisions of Stock Appreciation Rights need not be the same with respect to each grant or each recipient. All SARs shall be granted subject to the same terms and conditions applicable to Options as set forth in Section 6 except as may otherwise be determined by the Administrator. Subject to the provisions of Section 6 and the immediately preceding sentence, the Administrator may impose such other conditions or restrictions on any Stock Appreciation Right as it shall deem appropriate. Stock Appreciation Rights may be settled in Shares, cash or a combination thereof, as determined by the Administrator and set forth in the applicable Award Agreement. In no event may dividends or dividend equivalents be awarded with respect to Options, Stock Appreciation Rights or any other stock-based award that is not a grant of Restricted Stock or Restricted Stock Units.

## 8. Restricted Stock and Restricted Stock Units

(a) *Restricted Stock and Restricted Stock Unit Awards.* Restricted Stock and Restricted Stock Units may be granted at any time and from time to time prior to the termination of the Plan to Participants as determined by the Administrator. Restricted Stock is an award or issuance of Shares the grant, issuance, retention, vesting and/or transferability of which is subject during specified periods of time to such conditions (including continued employment or performance conditions) and terms as the Administrator deems appropriate. Restricted Stock Units are Awards denominated in units of Shares under which the issuance of Shares is subject to such conditions (including continued employment or performance conditions) and terms as the Administrator deems appropriate. Each grant of Restricted Stock and Restricted Stock Units shall be evidenced by an Award Agreement. Unless determined otherwise by the Administrator, each Restricted Stock Unit will be equal to one Share and will entitle a Participant to either the issuance of Shares or payment of an amount of cash determined with reference to the value of Shares. To the extent determined by the Administrator, Restricted Stock and Restricted Stock Units may be satisfied or settled in Shares, cash or a combination thereof. Restricted Stock and Restricted Stock Units granted pursuant to the Plan need not be identical but each grant of Restricted Stock and Restricted Stock Units must contain and be subject to the terms and conditions set forth below.

(b) *Contents of Agreement.* Each Award Agreement shall contain provisions regarding (i) the number of Shares or Restricted Stock Units subject to such Award or a formula for determining such number, (ii) the purchase price of the Shares, if any, and the means of payment, (iii) the Performance Goal(s), if any, and level of achievement versus the Performance Goal(s) that shall determine the number of Shares or Restricted Stock Units granted, issued, retainable and/or vested, (iv) such terms and conditions on the grant, issuance, vesting and/or forfeiture of the Shares or Restricted Stock Units as may be determined from time to time by the Administrator, (v) the term of the performance period, if any, as to which performance will be measured for determining the number of such Shares or Restricted Stock Units, and (vi) restrictions on the transferability of the Shares or Restricted Stock Units. For the avoidance of doubt, Restricted Stock Units that are subject to Performance Goals may be designated as performance shares, performance stock units or other similar names. Shares issued under a Restricted Stock Award may be issued in the name of the Participant and held by the Participant or held by the Company, in each case as the Administrator may provide.

(c) *Vesting and Performance Goals.* Subject to Section 10(a), the grant, issuance, retention, vesting and/or settlement of shares of Restricted Stock and Restricted Stock Units will occur when and in such installments as the Administrator determines or under criteria the Administrator establishes, which may include Performance Goals.

(d) *Discretionary Adjustments and Limits.* Notwithstanding the satisfaction of any performance goals, the number of Shares granted, issued, retainable and/or vested under an Award of Restricted Stock or Restricted Stock Units on account of either financial performance or personal performance evaluations may, to the extent specified in the Award Agreement, be reduced, but not increased, by the Administrator on the basis of such further considerations as the Administrator shall determine.

(e) *Voting Rights.* Unless otherwise determined by the Administrator, Participants holding shares of Restricted Stock granted hereunder may exercise full voting rights with respect to those shares during the period of restriction. Participants shall have no voting rights with respect to Shares underlying Restricted Stock Units unless and until such Shares are reflected as issued and outstanding shares on the Company's stock ledger.

(f) *Dividends and Distributions.* Participants in whose name Restricted Stock is granted shall be entitled to receive all dividends and other distributions paid with respect to those Shares, unless determined otherwise by the Administrator. The Administrator will determine whether any such dividends or distributions will be automatically reinvested in additional shares of Restricted Stock and subject to the same restrictions on transferability as the Restricted Stock with respect to which they were distributed or whether such dividends or distributions will be paid in cash. Shares underlying Restricted Stock Units shall be entitled to dividends or dividend equivalents only to the extent provided by the Administrator.

(g) *Effect of Termination of Employment.* Upon a Participant's Termination of Employment for any reason (including by reason of death or Disability), any then unvested Restricted Stock or Restricted Stock Units held by the Participant shall be forfeited and canceled as of the date of such Termination of Employment, unless otherwise expressly provided in the Award Agreement or another contract, including an employment agreement.

## **9. Incentive Bonuses**

(a) *General.* Each Incentive Bonus Award will confer upon the Participant the opportunity to earn a future payment tied to the level of achievement with respect to one or more Performance Goal(s) established for a performance period established by the Administrator.

(b) *Incentive Bonus Document.* The terms of any Incentive Bonus will be set forth in an Award Agreement. Each Award Agreement evidencing an Incentive Bonus shall contain provisions regarding (i) the target and maximum amount payable to the Participant as an Incentive Bonus, (ii) the Performance Goal(s) and level of achievement versus the Performance Goal(s) that shall determine the amount of such payment, (iii) the term of the performance period as to which performance shall be measured for determining the amount of any payment, (iv) the timing of any payment earned by virtue of performance, (v) restrictions on the alienation or transfer of the Incentive Bonus prior to actual payment, (vi) forfeiture provisions and (vii) such further terms and conditions, in each case not inconsistent with this Plan (including Section 10(a), if applicable) as may be determined from time to time by the Administrator.

(c) *Performance Goals.* The Administrator shall establish the Performance Goal(s) and level of achievement versus the Performance Goal(s) that shall determine the target and maximum amount payable under an Incentive Bonus.

(d) *Timing and Form of Payment.* The Administrator shall determine the timing of payment of any Incentive Bonus. Payment of the amount due under an Incentive Bonus may be made in cash or in Shares, as determined by the Administrator. The Administrator may provide for or, subject to such terms and conditions as the Administrator may specify, may permit a Participant to elect for the payment of any Incentive Bonus to be deferred to a specified date or event.

(e) *Discretionary Adjustments.* Notwithstanding satisfaction of any performance goals, the amount paid under an Incentive Bonus on account of either financial performance or personal performance evaluations may, to the extent specified in the Award Agreement, be reduced, but not increased, by the Administrator on the basis of such further considerations as the Administrator shall determine.

(f) *Subplans.* Incentive Bonuses payable hereunder may be pursuant to one or more subplans.

(g) *Effect of Termination of Employment.* Upon a Participant's Termination of Employment for any reason (including by reason of death or Disability), the Participant shall receive payment in respect of any Incentive Bonuses only to the extent specified by the Administrator, unless otherwise expressly provided in the Award Agreement or another contract, including an employment agreement. Payments in respect of any such Incentive Bonuses shall be made at the time specified by the Administrator and set forth in the Award Agreement.

#### **10. Minimum Vesting Period; Deferral of Gains**

(a) *Minimum Vesting Period.* Notwithstanding any other provision of the Plan to the contrary, all equity-based Awards granted under the Plan shall have a minimum vesting period of one year from the date of grant, provided, however, that, notwithstanding the foregoing, the minimum vesting requirement of this Section 10(a) shall not apply to: (i) any Awards delivered in lieu of fully-vested cash-based Awards under the Plan (or other fully-vested cash awards or payments), (ii) any Awards to Nonemployee Directors for which the vesting period runs from the date of one annual meeting of the Company's stockholders to the next annual meeting of the Company's stockholders which is at least fifty (50) weeks after the immediately preceding year's annual meeting, or (iii) Awards with respect to up to 5% of the total number of Shares reserved pursuant to Section 5(a). Nothing in this Section 10(a) precludes the Administrator from taking action, in its sole discretion, to accelerate the vesting of any Award in connection with or following a Participant's death, disability, retirement, termination of service or the consummation of a Change in Control in the terms of an Award Agreement or otherwise.

(b) *Deferral of Gains.* The Administrator may, in an Award Agreement or otherwise, provide for the deferred delivery of Shares upon settlement, vesting or other events with respect to Restricted Stock or Restricted Stock Units, or in payment or satisfaction of an Incentive Bonus. Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, in no event will any deferral of the delivery of Shares or any other payment with respect to any Award be allowed if the Administrator determines, in its sole discretion, that the deferral would result in the imposition of the additional tax under Section 409A(a)(1)(B) of the Code. The Company shall have no liability to a Participant, or any other party, if an Award that is intended to be exempt from, or compliant with, Section 409A of the Code is not so exempt or compliant or for any action taken by the Board.

#### **11. Conditions and Restrictions Upon Securities Subject to Awards**

The Administrator may provide that the Shares issued upon exercise of an Option or Stock Appreciation Right or otherwise subject to or issued under an Award shall be subject to such further agreements, restrictions, conditions or limitations as the Administrator in its discretion may specify prior to the exercise of such Option or Stock Appreciation Right or the grant, vesting or settlement of such Award, including without limitation, conditions on vesting or transferability, forfeiture or repurchase provisions and method of payment for the Shares issued upon exercise, vesting or settlement of such Award (including the actual or constructive surrender of Shares already owned by the Participant) or payment of taxes arising in connection with an Award. Without limiting the foregoing, such restrictions may address the timing and manner of any resales by the Participant or other subsequent transfers by the Participant of any Shares issued under an Award, including without limitation (i) restrictions under an insider trading policy or pursuant to applicable law, (ii) restrictions designed to delay and/or coordinate the timing and manner of sales by Participant and holders of other Company equity compensation arrangements, (iii) restrictions as to the use of a specified brokerage firm for such resales or other transfers and (iv) provisions requiring Shares to be sold on the open market or to the Company in order to satisfy tax withholding or other obligations.

#### **12. Adjustment of and Changes in the Stock; Certain Transactions**

(a) In the event that any dividend or other distribution (whether in the form of cash, Shares, other securities or other property, but excluding regular, quarterly and other periodic cash dividends), stock split or a combination or consolidation of the outstanding Shares into a lesser number of shares, is declared with respect to the Shares, the authorization limits under Section 5(a) shall be increased or decreased proportionately, and the Shares then subject to each Award shall be increased or decreased proportionately without any change in the aggregate purchase price therefore. In the event the Shares shall be changed into or exchanged for a different number or class of shares of stock or securities of the Company or of another corporation, whether through recapitalization, reorganization, reclassification, merger, consolidation, split-up, spin-off, combination, repurchase or exchange of Shares or other securities of the Company, issuance of warrants or other rights to purchase Shares or other securities of the Company, or any other similar corporate transaction or event affects the Shares such that an equitable adjustment would be required in order to prevent dilution or enlargement of the benefits or potential benefits intended to be made available under the Plan, then the authorization limits under Section 5(a) shall be adjusted proportionately, and an equitable adjustment shall be made to each Share subject to an Award such that no dilution or enlargement of the benefits or potential benefits occurs. Each such Share then subject to each Award shall be adjusted to the number and class of shares into which each outstanding Share shall be so exchanged such that no dilution or enlargement of the benefits occurs, all without change in the aggregate purchase price for the Shares then subject to each Award. Action by the Administrator pursuant to this Section 12(a) may include adjustment to any or all of: (i) the number and type of Shares (or other securities or other property) that thereafter may be made the subject of Awards or be delivered under the Plan; (ii) the number and type of Shares (or other securities or other property) subject to outstanding Awards; (iii) the purchase price or exercise price of a Share under any outstanding Award or the measure to be used to determine the amount of the benefit payable on an Award; and (iv) any other adjustments the Administrator determines to be equitable. No right to purchase fractional shares shall result from any adjustment in Awards pursuant to this Section 12. In case of any such adjustment, the Shares subject to the Award shall be rounded down to the nearest whole share. The Company shall notify Participants holding Awards subject to any adjustments pursuant to this Section 12(a) of such adjustment, but (whether or not notice is given) such adjustment shall be effective and binding for all purposes of the Plan.



(b) Unless otherwise expressly provided in the Award Agreement or another contract, including an employment agreement, or under the terms of a transaction constituting a Change of Control, the Administrator may provide for the acceleration of the vesting and, if applicable, exercisability of any outstanding Award, or portion thereof, or the lapsing of any conditions of restrictions on or the time for payment in respect of any outstanding Award, or portion thereof upon termination of the Participant's employment following a Change of Control. In addition, unless otherwise expressly provided in the Award Agreement or another contract, including an employment agreement, or under the terms of a transaction constituting a Change of Control, the Administrator may provide that any or all of the following shall occur in connection with a Change of Control: (i) the substitution for the Shares subject to any outstanding Award, or portion thereof, stock or other securities of the surviving corporation or any successor corporation to the Company, or a parent or subsidiary thereof, in which event the aggregate purchase or exercise price, if any, of such Award, or portion thereof, shall remain the same, (ii) the conversion of any outstanding Award, or portion thereof, into a right to receive cash or other property upon or following the consummation of the Change of Control in an amount equal to the value of the consideration to be received by holders of Common Shares in connection with such transaction for one Share, less the per share purchase or exercise price of such Award, if any, multiplied by the number of Shares subject to such Award, or a portion thereof, (iii) acceleration of the vesting (and, as applicable, the exercisability) of any and/or all outstanding Awards, and/or (iv) the cancellation of any outstanding and unexercised Awards upon or following the consummation of the Change of Control. Any actions or determinations of the Administrator pursuant to this Section 12(b) may, but need not be uniform as to all outstanding Awards, and the Administrator may, but need not treat all holders of outstanding Awards identically. Without limitation, in the event of any reorganization, merger, consolidation, combination or other similar corporate transaction or event, whether or not constituting a Change of Control (other than any such transaction in which the Company is the continuing corporation and in which the outstanding Shares are not being converted into or exchanged for different securities, cash or other property, or any combination thereof), the Administrator may substitute, on an equitable basis as the Administrator determines, for each Share then subject to an Award and the Shares subject to this Plan (if the Plan will continue in effect), the number and kind of shares of stock, other securities, cash or other property to which holders of Shares are or will be entitled in respect of each Share pursuant to the transaction. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Plan, and without affecting the number of Shares otherwise reserved or available under this Plan, in connection with any merger, consolidation, acquisition of property or stock, or reorganization, the Administrator may authorize the issuance or assumption of awards under this Plan upon such terms and conditions as it may deem appropriate.

### **13. Performance-Based Compensation**

The Administrator may establish Performance Goals and level of achievement versus such Performance Goals that shall determine the number of Shares to be granted, retained, vested, issued or issuable under or in settlement of or the amount payable pursuant to an Award. Notwithstanding satisfaction of any Performance Goals, the number of Shares issued under or the amount paid under an award may, to the extent specified in the Award Agreement, be reduced, but not increased, by the Administrator on the basis of such further considerations as the Administrator in its sole discretion shall determine.

#### **14. Transferability**

No Award may be sold, transferred, pledged, assigned, or otherwise alienated or hypothecated by a Participant other than by will or the laws of descent and distribution, and each Option or Stock Appreciation Right shall be exercisable only by the Participant during his or her lifetime. Notwithstanding the foregoing, to the extent permitted by the Administrator, the person to whom an Award is initially granted (the "Grantee") may transfer an Award to any "family member" of the Grantee (as such term is defined in Section 1(a)(5) of the General Instructions to Form S-8 under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended ("Form S-8")), to trusts solely for the benefit of such family members and to partnerships in which such family members and/or trusts are the only partners; provided that, (i) as a condition thereof, the transferor and the transferee must execute a written agreement containing such terms as specified by the Administrator, and (ii) the transfer is pursuant to a gift or a domestic relations order to the extent permitted under the General Instructions to Form S-8. Except to the extent specified otherwise in the agreement the Administrator provides for the Grantee and transferee to execute, all vesting, exercisability and forfeiture provisions that are conditioned on the Grantee's continued employment, performance or service shall continue to be determined with reference to the Grantee's employment, performance or service (and not to the status of the transferee) after any transfer of an Award pursuant to this Section 14, and the responsibility to pay any taxes in connection with an Award shall remain with the Grantee notwithstanding any transfer other than by will or intestate succession. Any attempted sale, transfer, pledge, assignment, alienation or hypothecation of an Award by a Participant in violation of this Section 14 shall result in forfeiture of such Award.

#### **15. Suspension or Termination of Awards**

Except as otherwise provided by the Administrator, if at any time (including after a notice of exercise has been delivered or an award has vested) the Chief Executive Officer or any other person designated by the Administrator (each such person, an "Authorized Officer") reasonably believes that a Participant may have committed any act constituting Cause for termination of employment, or a violation of any non-competition covenant, the Authorized Officer, Administrator or the Board may suspend the Participant's rights to exercise any Option, to vest in an Award, and/or to receive payment for or receive Shares in settlement of an Award pending a determination of whether such an act has been committed.

If the Administrator or an Authorized Officer determines a Participant has committed any act constituting Cause for termination of employment or a violation of any non-competition covenant, then except as otherwise provided by the Administrator, (a) neither the Participant nor his or her estate nor transferee shall be entitled to exercise any Option or Stock Appreciation Right whatsoever, vest in or have the restrictions on an Award lapse, or otherwise receive payment of an Award, (b) the Participant will forfeit all outstanding Awards and (c) the Participant may be required, at the Administrator's sole discretion, to return and/or repay to the Company any then unvested Shares previously issued under the Plan. In making such determination, the Administrator or an Authorized Officer shall give the Participant an opportunity to appear and present evidence on his or her behalf at a hearing before the Administrator or its designee or an opportunity to submit written comments, documents, information and arguments to be considered by the Administrator.

## 16. Compliance with Laws and Regulations

This Plan, the grant, issuance, vesting, exercise and settlement of Awards thereunder, and the obligation of the Company to sell, issue or deliver Shares under such Awards, shall be subject to all applicable foreign, federal, state and local laws, rules and regulations, stock exchange rules and regulations, and to such approvals by any governmental or regulatory agency as may be required. The Company shall not be required to register in a Participant's name or deliver any Shares prior to the completion of any registration or qualification of such shares under any foreign, federal, state or local law or any ruling or regulation of any government body which the Administrator shall determine to be necessary or advisable. To the extent the Company is unable to or the Administrator deems it infeasible to obtain authority from any regulatory body having jurisdiction, which authority is deemed by the Company's counsel to be necessary to the lawful issuance and sale of any Shares hereunder, the Company and its Subsidiaries shall be relieved of any liability with respect to the failure to issue or sell such Shares as to which such requisite authority shall not have been obtained. No Option shall be exercisable and no Shares shall be issued and/or transferable under any other Award unless a registration statement with respect to the Shares underlying such Award is effective and current or the Company has determined that such registration is unnecessary.

In the event an Award is granted to or held by a Participant who is employed or providing services outside the United States, the Administrator may, in its sole discretion, modify the provisions of the Plan or of such Award as they pertain to such individual to comply with applicable foreign law or to recognize differences in local law, currency or tax policy. The Administrator may also impose conditions on the grant, issuance, exercise, vesting, settlement or retention of Awards in order to comply with such foreign law and/or to minimize the Company's obligations with respect to tax equalization for Participants employed outside their home country.

## 17. Taxes

(a) *Withholding.* In the event the Company or one of its Affiliates is required to withhold any Federal, state or local taxes or other amounts in respect of any income recognized by a Participant as a result of the grant, vesting, payment or settlement of an Award or disposition of any Shares acquired under an Award, the Company may satisfy such obligation by:

- (1) If cash is payable under an Award, deducting (or requiring an Affiliate to deduct) from such cash payment the amount needed to satisfy such obligation;
- (2) If Shares are issuable under an Award, then to the extent previously approved by the Administrator (which approval may be set forth in an Award agreement or in administrative rules), and subject to such procedures as the Administrator may specify, (A) withholding Shares having a Fair Market Value equal to such obligations; or (B) allowing the Participant to elect to (i) have the Company or its Affiliate withhold Shares otherwise issuable under the Award, (ii) tender back Shares received in connection with such Award or (iii) deliver other previously owned Shares, in each case having a Fair Market Value equal to the amount to be withheld; provided that the amount to be withheld under this clause (2) may not exceed the total maximum statutory tax withholding obligations associated with the transaction to the extent needed for the Company and its Affiliates to avoid an accounting charge. If an election is provided, the election must be made on or before the date as of which the amount of tax to be withheld is determined and otherwise as the Administrator requires; or

(3) Deducting (or requiring an Affiliate to deduct) the amount needed to satisfy such obligation from any wages or other payments owed to the Participant, requiring such Participant to pay to the Company or its Affiliate, in cash, promptly on demand, or make other arrangements satisfactory to the Company or its Affiliate regarding the payment to the Company or its Affiliate of the amount needed to satisfy such obligation.

(b) *No Guarantee of Tax Treatment.* Notwithstanding any provisions of this Plan to the contrary, the Company does not guarantee to any Participant or any other person with an interest in an Award that (i) any Award intended to be exempt from Section 409A of the Code shall be so exempt, (ii) any Award intended to comply with Section 409A of the Code or Section 422 of the Code shall so comply, or (iii) any Award shall otherwise receive a specific tax treatment under any other applicable tax law, nor in any such case will the Company or any Affiliate be required to indemnify, defend or hold harmless any individual with respect to the tax consequences of any Award.

(c) *Application of Limits on Payments.* Except to the extent the Participant has in effect an employment or similar agreement with the Company or any Affiliate or is subject to a policy that provides for a more favorable result to the Participant upon a Change of Control, in the event that the Company's legal counsel determine that any payment, benefit or transfer by the Company under this Plan or any other plan, agreement, or arrangement to or for the benefit of the Participant (in the aggregate, the "Total Payments") to be subject to the tax ("Excise Tax") imposed by Section 4999 of the Code but for this subsection (c), then, notwithstanding any other provision of this Plan to the contrary, the Total Payments shall be delivered either (i) in full or (ii) in an amount such that the value of the aggregate Total Payments that the Participant is entitled to receive shall be One Dollar (\$1.00) less than the maximum amount that the Participant may receive without being subject to the Excise Tax, whichever of (i) or (ii) results in the receipt by the Participant of the greatest benefit on an after-tax basis (taking into account applicable federal, state and local income taxes and the Excise Tax). In the event that (ii) results in a greater after-tax benefit to the Participants, payments or benefits included in the Total Payments shall be reduced or eliminated by applying the following principles, in order: (A) the payment or benefit with the higher ratio of the parachute payment value to present economic value (determined using reasonable actuarial assumptions) shall be reduced or eliminated before a payment or benefit with a lower ratio; (B) the payment or benefit with the later possible payment date shall be reduced or eliminated before a payment or benefit with an earlier payment date; and (C) cash payments shall be reduced prior to non-cash benefits; provided that if the foregoing order of reduction or elimination would violate Section 409A of the Code, then the reduction shall be made pro rata among the payments or benefits included in the Total Payments (on the basis of the relative present value of the parachute payments).

## **18. Administration of the Plan**

(a) *Administrator of the Plan.* The Plan shall be administered by the Administrator who except with respect to Awards made to non-employee directors shall be the Compensation Committee of the Board, and who with respect to Awards made to non-employee directors shall be the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee of the Board, or in the absence of one or both of these committees, as applicable, the Board itself. Any power of the Administrator may also be exercised by the Board, except to the extent that the grant or exercise of such authority would cause any Award or transaction to become subject to (or lose an exemption under) the short-swing profit recovery provisions of Section 16 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. To the extent that any permitted action taken by the Board conflicts with action taken by the Administrator, the Board action shall control. The Administrator may by resolution authorize one or more officers of the Company to perform any or all things that the Administrator is authorized and empowered to do or perform under the Plan, and for all purposes under this Plan, such officer or officers shall be treated as the Administrator; provided, however, that the resolution so authorizing such officer or officers shall specify the total number of Awards (if any) such officer or officers may award pursuant to such delegated authority, and any such Award shall be subject to the form of Award Agreement theretofore approved by the Administrator. No such officer shall designate himself or herself as a recipient of any Awards granted under authority delegated to such officer. The Administrator hereby designates the Secretary of the Company and the head of the Company's human resource function to assist the Administrator in the administration of the Plan and execute agreements evidencing Awards made under this Plan or other documents entered into under this Plan on behalf of the Administrator or the Company. In addition, the Administrator may delegate any or all aspects of the day-to-day administration of the Plan to one or more officers or employees of the Company or any Subsidiary, and/or to one or more agents.

(b) *Powers of Administrator.* Subject to the express provisions of this Plan, the Administrator shall be authorized and empowered to do all things that it determines to be necessary or appropriate in connection with the administration of this Plan, including, without limitation: (i) to prescribe, amend and rescind rules and regulations relating to this Plan and to define terms not otherwise defined herein; (ii) to determine which persons are Participants, to which of such Participants, if any, Awards shall be granted hereunder and the timing of any such Awards; (iii) to grant Awards to Participants and determine the terms and conditions thereof, including the number of Shares subject to Awards and the exercise or purchase price of such Shares and the circumstances under which Awards become exercisable or vested or are forfeited or expire, which terms may but need not be conditioned upon the passage of time, continued employment, the satisfaction of Performance Goal(s), the occurrence of certain events (including a Change of Control), or other factors; (iv) to establish and verify the extent of satisfaction of any performance goals or other conditions applicable to the grant, issuance, exercisability, vesting and/or ability to retain any Award; (v) to prescribe and amend the terms of the agreements or other documents evidencing Awards made under this Plan (which need not be identical) and the terms of or form of any document or notice required to be delivered to the Company by Participants under this Plan; (vi) to determine the extent to which adjustments are required pursuant to Section 12; (vii) to interpret and construe this Plan, any rules and regulations under this Plan and the terms and conditions of any Award granted hereunder, and to make exceptions to any such provisions if the Administrator, in good faith, determines that it is necessary to do so in light of the applicable circumstances and for the benefit of the Company; (viii) to approve corrections in the documentation or administration of any Award; (ix) subject to any stockholder approval required in accordance with Section 19, to reduce the exercise price of any Option or Stock Appreciation Right to the Fair Market Value of the Shares at the time of the reduction if the Fair Market Value of the Shares covered by that Option or Stock Appreciation Right has declined since the date it was granted, either directly or through cancellation and regrant of the Option or Stock Appreciation Right; (x) subject to any stockholder approval required in accordance with Section 19, to exchange Options and Stock Appreciation Rights for other Awards; (xi) to cause the Company to purchase outstanding Options and Stock Appreciation Rights for cash or other consideration; (xii) to require or permit Participant elections and/or consents under this Plan to be made by means of such electronic media as the Administrator may prescribe; and (xiii) to make all other determinations deemed necessary or advisable for the administration of this Plan. The Administrator may, in its sole and absolute discretion, without amendment to the Plan, waive or amend the operation of Plan provisions respecting exercise after termination of employment or service to the Company or a Company Affiliate and, except as otherwise provided herein, adjust any of the terms of any Award. The Administrator may also (A) accelerate the date on which any Award granted under the Plan becomes exercisable or (B) accelerate the vesting date or waive or adjust any condition imposed hereunder with respect to the vesting or exercisability of an Award, provided that the Administrator, in good faith, determines that such acceleration, waiver or other adjustment is necessary or desirable in light of the applicable circumstances.

(c) *Determinations by the Administrator.* All decisions, determinations and interpretations by the Administrator regarding the Plan, any rules and regulations under the Plan and the terms and conditions of or operation of any Award granted hereunder, shall be final and binding on all Participants, beneficiaries, heirs, assigns or other persons holding or claiming rights under the Plan or any Award. The Administrator shall consider such factors as it deems relevant, in its sole and absolute discretion, to making such decisions, determinations and interpretations including, without limitation, the recommendations or advice of any officer or other employee of the Company and such attorneys, consultants and accountants as it may select.

(d) *Subsidiary Awards*. In the case of a grant of an Award to any Participant employed by a Subsidiary, such grant may, if the Administrator so directs, be implemented by the Company issuing any subject Shares to the Subsidiary, for such lawful consideration as the Administrator may determine, upon the condition or understanding that the Subsidiary will transfer the Shares to the Participant in accordance with the terms of the Award specified by the Administrator pursuant to the provisions of the Plan. Notwithstanding any other provision hereof, such Award may be issued by and in the name of the Subsidiary and shall be deemed granted on such date as the Administrator shall determine.

#### **19. Amendment of the Plan or Awards**

The Board may amend, alter or discontinue this Plan and the Administrator may amend or alter any agreement or other document evidencing an Award made under this Plan but, except as provided pursuant to the provisions of Section 12, no such amendment shall, without the approval of the stockholders of the Company:

- (a) increase the maximum number of Shares for which Awards may be granted under this Plan;
- (b) reduce the price at which Options may be granted below the price provided for in Section 6(b) or diminish the protections afforded by the final paragraph of this Section 19;
- (c) change the class of persons eligible to be Participants; or
- (d) otherwise amend the Plan in any manner requiring stockholder approval by law or under stock exchange listing requirements.

No amendment or alteration to the Plan or an Award or Award Agreement shall be made which would impair the rights of the holder of an Award, without such holder's consent, provided that no such consent shall be required if the Administrator determines in its sole discretion and prior to the date of any Change of Control that such amendment or alteration either is required or advisable in order for the Company, the Plan or the Award to satisfy any law or regulation or to meet the requirements of or avoid adverse financial accounting consequences under any accounting standard.

Notwithstanding anything in the Plan to the contrary, and except for the adjustments provided for in Section 12, neither the Administrator nor any other person may (1) amend the terms of outstanding Options or Stock Appreciation Rights to reduce the exercise or grant price of such outstanding Options or Stock Appreciation Rights; (2) cancel outstanding Options or Stock Appreciation Rights in exchange for Options or Stock Appreciation Rights with an exercise or grant price that is less than the exercise or grant price of the original Options or Stock Appreciation Rights; or (3) cancel outstanding Options or Stock Appreciation Rights with an exercise or grant price above the current Fair Market Value of a Share in exchange for cash or other securities.

## **20. No Liability of Company**

The Company and any Subsidiary or affiliate which is in existence or hereafter comes into existence shall not be liable to a Participant or any other person as to: (i) the non-issuance or sale of Shares as to which the Company has been unable to obtain from any regulatory body having jurisdiction the authority deemed by the Company's counsel to be necessary to the lawful issuance and sale of any Shares hereunder; and (ii) any tax consequence expected, but not realized, by any Participant or other person due to the receipt, exercise or settlement of any Award granted hereunder.

## **21. Non-Exclusivity of Plan**

Neither the adoption of this Plan by the Board nor the submission of this Plan to the stockholders of the Company for approval shall be construed as creating any limitations on the power of the Board or the Administrator to adopt such other incentive arrangements as either may deem desirable, including without limitation, the granting of restricted stock or stock options otherwise than under this Plan, and such arrangements may be either generally applicable or applicable only in specific cases.

## **22. No Right to Employment, Reelection or Continued Service**

Nothing in this Plan or an Award Agreement shall interfere with or limit in any way the right of the Company, its Subsidiaries and/or its affiliates to terminate any Participant's employment, service on the Board or service for the Company at any time or for any reason not prohibited by law, nor shall this Plan or an Award itself confer upon any Participant any right to continue his or her employment or service for any specified period of time. Neither an Award nor any benefits arising under this Plan shall constitute an employment contract with the Company, any Subsidiary and/or its affiliates. Subject to Sections 4 and 19, this Plan and the benefits hereunder may be terminated at any time in the sole and exclusive discretion of the Board without giving rise to any liability on the part of the Company, its Subsidiaries and/or its affiliates.

## **23. Unfunded Plan**

The Plan is intended to be an unfunded plan. Participants are and shall at all times be general creditors of the Company with respect to their Awards. If the Administrator or the Company chooses to set aside funds in a trust or otherwise for the payment of Awards under the Plan, such funds shall at all times be subject to the claims of the creditors of the Company in the event of its bankruptcy or insolvency.

#### **24. Section 409A of the Code**

It is intended that any Incentive and Nonqualified Stock Options, Stock Appreciation Rights, and Restricted Stock issued pursuant to this Plan and any Award Agreement shall not constitute “Deferrals of Compensation” within the meaning of Section 409A of the Code and, as a result, shall not be subject to the requirements of Section 409A of the Code. It is further intended that any Restricted Stock Units and Incentive Bonuses issued pursuant to this Plan and any Award Agreement (which may or may not constitute “deferrals of compensation,” depending on the terms of each Award) shall avoid any “plan failures” within the meaning of Section 409A(a)(1) of the Code. The Plan is to be interpreted and administered in a manner consistent with these intentions.

#### **25. Required Delay in Payment on Account of a Separation from Service**

Notwithstanding any other provision in this Plan or any Award Agreement, if any Award recipient is a “specified employee,” as defined in Treasury Regulations section 1.409A-1(i), as of the date of his or her “Separation from Service” (as defined in authoritative IRS guidance under Section 409A of the Code), then, to the extent required by Treasury Regulations section 1.409A-3(i)(2), any payment made to the Award recipient on account of his or her Separation from Service shall not be made before a date that is six months after the date of his or her Separation from Service. The Administrator may elect any of the methods of applying this rule that are permitted under Treasury Regulations section 1.409A-3(i)(2)(ii).

#### **26. Recoupment**

Any Awards granted pursuant to this Plan, and any Shares issued or cash paid pursuant to such an Award, shall be subject to the Company’s Compensation Recovery Policy and any other recoupment, clawback or compensation recovery policy that is adopted by, or any recoupment, clawback, compensation recovery or similar requirement otherwise made applicable by law, regulation or listing standards to, the Company from time to time.