

CABOT CORP (CBT)

10-Q

Quarterly report pursuant to sections 13 or 15(d)

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**UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549**

FORM 10-Q

☒ **QUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**

For the quarterly period ended December 31, 2009

or

☐ **TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**

For the transition period from to

Commission file number 1-5667

Cabot Corporation

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware
(State of Incorporation)

04-2271897
(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

Two Seaport Lane
Boston, Massachusetts
(Address of principal executive offices)

02210-2019
(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (617) 345-0100

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes ☒ No ☐

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files). Yes ☐ No ☐

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 definitions of "large accelerated filer", "accelerated filer" and "smaller reporting company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one):

Large accelerated filer ☒ Accelerated filer ☐ Non-accelerated filer (Do not check if smaller reporting company) ☐
Smaller reporting company ☐

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act). Yes ☐ No ☒

Indicate the number of shares outstanding of each of the issuer's classes of Common Stock, as of the latest practicable date.

As of February 3, 2010 the Company had 65,353,657 shares of Common Stock, par value \$1 per share, outstanding.

CABOT CORPORATION

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Part I. Financial Information

Item 1. Financial Statements

**CABOT CORPORATION
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS
UNAUDITED**

	Three Months Ended December 31	
	2009	2008
	(In millions, except per share amounts)	
Net sales and other operating revenues	\$ 679	\$ 652
Cost of sales	543	560
Gross profit	136	92
Selling and administrative expenses	67	56
Research and technical expenses	18	18
Income from operations	51	18
Interest and dividend income	—	1
Interest expense	(9)	(9)
Other expense	—	(9)
Income from operations before income taxes and equity in net income of affiliated companies	42	1
Provision for income taxes	(11)	(1)
Equity in net income of affiliated companies, net of tax of \$1 and \$—	3	2
Net income	34	2
Net income (loss) attributable to noncontrolling interests, net of tax of \$1 and \$—	5	(2)
Net income attributable to Cabot Corporation	\$ 29	\$ 4
Weighted-average common shares outstanding, in millions:		
Basic	63	63
Diluted	64	63
Income per common share:		
Basic:		
Net income attributable to Cabot Corporation—basic	\$ 0.44	\$ 0.06
Diluted:		
Net income attributable to Cabot Corporation—diluted	\$ 0.44	\$ 0.06
Dividends per common share	\$ 0.18	\$ 0.18

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

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CABOT CORPORATION
CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS
ASSETS
UNAUDITED

	December 31, 2009	September 30, 2009
	(In millions)	
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 242	\$ 304
Short-term marketable securities	1	1
Accounts and notes receivable, net of reserve for doubtful accounts of \$6 and \$6	507	452
Inventories:		
Raw materials	121	118
Work in process	41	44
Finished goods	184	165
Other	30	31
Total inventories	376	358
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	62	53
Deferred income taxes	32	32
Total current assets	1,220	1,200
Investments:		
Equity affiliates	58	60
Long-term marketable securities and cost investments	1	1
Total investments	59	61
Property, plant and equipment	2,991	3,000
Accumulated depreciation and amortization	(2,003)	(1,988)
Net property, plant and equipment	988	1,012
Other assets:		
Goodwill	36	37
Intangible assets, net of accumulated amortization of \$11 and \$11	2	2
Assets held for rent	41	43
Deferred income taxes	239	235
Other assets	85	86
Total other assets	403	403
Total assets	\$ 2,670	\$ 2,676

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

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CABOT CORPORATION
CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY
UNAUDITED

	December 31, 2009	September 30, 2009
	(In millions, except share and per share amounts)	
Current liabilities:		
Notes payable to banks	\$ 30	\$ 29
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	376	407
Income taxes payable	34	31
Deferred income taxes	5	5
Current portion of long-term debt	6	5
Total current liabilities	451	477
Long-term debt	622	623
Deferred income taxes	11	11
Other liabilities	325	328
Commitments and contingencies (Note E)		
Stockholders' equity:		
Preferred stock:		
Authorized: 2,000,000 shares of \$1 par value		
Issued and Outstanding: None and none	—	—
Common stock:		
Authorized: 200,000,000 shares of \$1 par value		
Issued: 65,398,194 and 65,401,485 shares		
Outstanding: 65,305,864 and 65,309,155 shares	65	65
Less cost of 92,330 and 92,330 shares of common treasury stock	(2)	(2)
Additional paid-in capital	25	18
Retained earnings	1,035	1,018
Deferred employee benefits	(24)	(25)
Accumulated other comprehensive income	56	60
Total Cabot Corporation stockholders' equity	1,155	1,134
Noncontrolling interests	106	103
Total equity	1,261	1,237
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	\$ 2,670	\$ 2,676

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

CABOT CORPORATION
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS
UNAUDITED

	Three Months Ended December 31	
	2009	2008
	(In millions)	
Cash Flows from Operating Activities:		
Net income	\$ 34	\$ 2
Adjustments to reconcile net income to cash (used in) provided by operating activities:		
Depreciation and amortization	33	35
Deferred tax provision	(3)	(2)
Impairment charges	2	—
Equity in net income of affiliated companies	(3)	(2)
Non-cash compensation	8	6
Other non-cash items, net	1	2
Changes in assets and liabilities:		
Accounts and notes receivable	(39)	99
Inventories	(22)	49
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	(11)	1
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	(43)	(88)
Income taxes payable	3	(2)
Other liabilities	3	(6)
Cash dividends received from equity affiliates	5	1
Other	—	(3)
Cash (used in) provided by operating activities	(32)	92
Cash Flows from Investing Activities:		
Additions to property, plant and equipment	(13)	(29)
Proceeds from sales of property, plant and equipment	3	—
Decrease (increase) in assets held for rent	2	(3)
Investment in equity affiliate	—	(3)
Cash used in investing activities	(8)	(35)
Cash Flows from Financing Activities:		
Borrowings under financing arrangements	—	25
Repayments under financing arrangements	—	(33)
Repayments of long-term debt	(1)	(1)
Proceeds from long-term debt	—	—
Increase (decrease) in notes payable to banks, net	1	(16)
Purchases of common stock	(1)	—
Proceeds from restricted stock loan payments	1	—
Settlement of derivatives	(7)	—
Cash dividends paid to minority interest stockholders	—	(1)
Cash dividends paid to stockholders	(12)	(12)
Cash used in financing activities	(19)	(38)
Effect of exchange rate changes on cash	(3)	1
(Decrease) increase in cash and cash equivalents	(62)	20
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	304	129
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	\$ 242	\$ 149

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

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CABOT CORPORATION
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY
Three Months Ended December 31, 2008
(In millions, except shares in thousands)
UNAUDITED

	Common Stock, Net of Treasury		Additional		Deferred		Notes	Accumulated	Cabot	Non-	Total	Total
	Stock		Paid-in		Employee		Receivable	Other	Corporation	controlling	Stockholders	Comprehensive
	Shares	Cost	Capital	Earnings	Benefits	Restricted	for	Comprehensive	Stockholders'	Interests	Equity	Income (loss)
						Stock	Stock	Income	Equity			
Balance at September 30, 2008	65,278	\$ 61	\$ 21	\$ 1,143	\$ (30)	\$ (21)		\$ 75	\$ 1,249	\$ 110	\$ 1,359	
Net income attributable to Cabot Corporation					4							\$ 4
Foreign currency translation adjustment								(20)				(20)
Change in unrealized loss on derivative instruments								(3)				(3)
Total other comprehensive loss												(23)
Comprehensive loss									(19)			\$ (19)
Net loss attributable to noncontrolling interests, net of tax										(2)		(2)
Noncontrolling interest foreign currency adjustment, net										(3)		(3)
Comprehensive loss attributable to noncontrolling interests												\$ (5)
Comprehensive loss attributable to Cabot Corporation, net of tax											(24)	\$ (24)
Noncontrolling interests – dividends paid										(1)		(1)
Common dividends paid					(12)				(12)			(12)
Issuance of stock under employee compensation plans, net of forfeitures	(2)	—							—			—
Amortization of share-based compensation				6					6			6
Purchase and retirement of common and treasury stock	(7)	—							—			—
Notes receivable for restricted stock – payments and forfeitures							1		1			1
Principal payment by Employee Stock Ownership Plan under guaranteed loan					2				2			2
Balance at December 31, 2008	65,269	\$ 61	\$ 27	\$ 1,135	\$ (28)	\$ (20)		\$ 52	\$ 1,227	\$ 104	\$ 1,331	

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

CABOT CORPORATION
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY
Three Months Ended December 31, 2009
(In millions, except shares in thousands)
UNAUDITED

	Common Stock, Net of Treasury Stock		Additional Paid-in Capital	Retained Earnings	Deferred Employee Benefits	Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income	Cabot Corporation Stockholders' Equity	Non- controlling Interests	Total Stockholders' Equity	Total Comprehensive Income (loss)
	Shares	Cost								
Balance at September 30, 2009	65,309	\$ 63	\$ 18	\$ 1,018	\$ (25)	\$ 60	\$ 1,134	\$ 103	\$ 1,237	
Net income attributable to Cabot Corporation				29						\$ 29
Foreign currency translation adjustment						(4)				(4)
Change in employee benefit plans						—				—
Change in unrealized gain on derivative instruments						—				—
Total other comprehensive loss										(4)
Comprehensive income							25			\$ 25
Net income attributable to noncontrolling interests, net of tax								5		5
Noncontrolling interest foreign currency translation adjustment, net								(2)		(2)
Comprehensive income attributable to noncontrolling interests										\$ 3
Comprehensive income attributable to Cabot Corporation, net of tax									28	\$ 28
Common dividends paid				(12)			(12)		(12)	
Issuance of stock under employee compensation plans, net of forfeitures	25	—	1				1		1	
Amortization of share-based compensation			6				6		6	
Purchase and retirement of common and treasury stock	(28)	—								
Principal payment by Employee Stock Ownership Plan under guaranteed loan					1		1		1	
Balance at December 31, 2009	65,306	\$ 63	\$ 25	\$ 1,035	\$ (24)	\$ 56	\$ 1,155	\$ 106	\$ 1,261	

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

CABOT CORPORATION
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
December 31, 2009
UNAUDITED

A. Basis of Presentation

The consolidated financial statements include the accounts of Cabot Corporation ("Cabot" or the "Company") and its wholly-owned subsidiaries and majority-owned and controlled U.S. and non-U.S. subsidiaries. Additionally, Cabot considers consolidation of entities over which control is achieved through means other than voting rights, of which there were none in the periods presented. Intercompany transactions have been eliminated in consolidation.

The unaudited consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of Form 10-Q and consequently do not include all disclosures required by Form 10-K. Additional information may be obtained by referring to Cabot's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2009 ("2009 10-K").

The financial information submitted herewith is unaudited and reflects all adjustments which are, in the opinion of management, necessary to provide a fair statement of the results for the interim periods ended December 31, 2009 and 2008. All such adjustments are of a normal recurring nature. The results for interim periods are not necessarily indicative of the results to be expected for the fiscal year.

Cabot evaluated all subsequent events through February 9, 2010, the issuance date of these financial statements, to determine if such events should be reflected in these financial statements as of December 31, 2009. No significant subsequent events were noted during this evaluation, other than as discussed in Note N.

B. Significant Accounting Policies***Revenue Recognition and Accounts Receivable***

Cabot recognizes revenue when persuasive evidence of a sales arrangement exists, delivery has occurred, the sales price is fixed or determinable and collectibility is probable. Cabot generally is able to ensure that products meet customer specifications prior to shipment. If the Company is unable to determine that the product has met the specified objective criteria prior to shipment, the revenue is deferred until product acceptance has occurred.

Shipping and handling charges related to sales transactions are recorded as sales revenue when billed to customers or included in the sales price. Shipping and handling costs are included in cost of sales.

The following table summarizes the percentages of total net sales and other operating revenues recognized in each of the Company's reportable segments. Other operating revenues, which are included in the percentages below and represent less than two percent of total revenues, are primarily royalties for licensed technology:

	Three months ended	
	December 31	
	2009	2008
Core Segment		
Rubber Blacks Business	61%	63%
Supermetals Business	7%	7%
Performance Segment	28%	25%
New Business Segment	2%	3%
Specialty Fluids Segment	2%	2%

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Cabot derives a substantial majority of its revenues from the sale of products in the Core and Performance Segments. Revenue from these products is typically recognized when the product is shipped and title and risk of loss have passed to the customer. The Company offers certain of its customers cash discounts and volume rebates as sales incentives. The discounts and volume rebates are recorded as a reduction in sales at the time revenue is recognized and are estimated based on historical experience and contractual obligations. Cabot periodically reviews the assumptions underlying its estimates of discounts and volume rebates and adjusts its revenues accordingly. Certain Rubber Blacks Business and Performance Segment customer contracts contain price protection clauses that provide for the potential reduction in past or future sales prices under specific circumstances. Cabot analyzes these contract provisions to determine if an obligation related to these clauses exists and records revenue net of any estimated protection commitments.

The majority of the revenue in the Specialty Fluids Segment arises from the rental of cesium formate. This revenue is recognized throughout the rental period based on the contracted rental terms. Customers are also billed and revenue is recognized, typically at the end of the job, for cesium formate product that is not returned.

Cabot maintains allowances for doubtful accounts based on an assessment of the collectibility of specific customer accounts, the aging of accounts receivable and other economic information on both an historical and prospective basis. Customer account balances are charged against the allowance when it is probable the receivable will not be recovered. Changes in the allowance during the first quarters of fiscal 2010 and 2009 were not material. There is no off-balance sheet credit exposure related to customer receivable balances.

Goodwill and Long-Lived Assets

Goodwill is comprised of the cost of business acquisitions in excess of the fair value assigned to the net tangible and identifiable intangible assets acquired. Goodwill is not amortized but is reviewed for impairment at least annually. The annual review consists of the comparison of each reporting unit's carrying value to its fair value, which is performed as of March 31. Certain circumstances may give rise to an impairment assessment at a date other than the annual assessment date.

The fair value of a reporting unit is based on discounted estimated future cash flows. The assumptions used to estimate fair value include management's best estimates of future growth rates, operating cash flows, capital expenditures, discount rates and market conditions over an estimate of the remaining operating period. If an impairment exists, a loss is recorded to write-down the value of goodwill to its implied fair value.

Cabot's long-lived assets primarily include property, plant, equipment, long-term investments and assets held for rent. The Company reviews the carrying values of long-lived assets for impairment whenever events or changes in business circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of an asset may not be recoverable. During the first quarter of fiscal 2010, a \$2 million charge relating to the impairment of a long-lived asset was recognized in the consolidated statement of operations.

Financial Instruments

Cabot's financial instruments consist primarily of cash and cash equivalents, short-term and long-term debt, and derivative instruments. The carrying values of Cabot's financial instruments approximate fair value with the exception of long-term debt that has not been designated as part of a fair value hedge. The non-hedged long-term debt is recorded at face value. The fair values of the Company's derivative instruments are based on quoted market prices, if such prices are available. In situations where quoted market prices are not available, the Company relies on valuation models to derive fair value. Such valuation takes into account the ability of the financial counterparty to perform. Cabot uses derivative financial instruments primarily for purposes of hedging exposures to fluctuations in interest rates and foreign currency exchange rates, which exist as part of its on-going business operations. Cabot does not enter into contracts for speculative purposes, nor does it hold or issue any financial instruments for trading purposes. All derivatives are recognized on the consolidated balance sheets at fair value. The changes in the fair value of derivatives are recorded in either earnings or other comprehensive income, depending on whether or not the instrument is designated as part of a hedge transaction and, if designated as part of a hedge transaction, the type of hedge transaction. The gains or losses on derivative instruments reported in other comprehensive income are reclassified to earnings in the period in which earnings are affected by the underlying hedged item. The ineffective portion of all hedges is recognized in earnings during the period in which the ineffectiveness occurs.

CABOT CORPORATION
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In accordance with Cabot's risk management strategy, the Company may enter into certain derivative instruments that may not be designated as hedges for hedge accounting purposes. Although these derivatives are not designated as hedges, the Company believes that such instruments are closely correlated with the underlying exposure, thus managing the associated risk. The Company records in earnings the gains or losses from changes in the fair value of derivative instruments that are not designated as hedges.

Income Tax in Interim Periods

The Company records its tax provision or benefit on an interim basis using an estimated annual effective tax rate. This rate is applied to the current period ordinary income or loss to determine the income tax provision or benefit allocated to the interim period. Losses from jurisdictions for which no benefit can be recognized and the income tax effects of unusual and infrequent items are excluded from the estimated annual effective tax rate and are recognized in the impacted interim period as discrete items. Valuation allowances are provided against the future tax benefits that arise from the losses in jurisdictions for which no benefit can be recognized. The estimated annual effective tax rate may be significantly impacted by nondeductible expenses and the Company's projected earnings mix by tax jurisdiction. Adjustments to the estimated annual effective income tax rate are recognized in the period when such estimates are revised.

Inventory Valuation

The cost of most raw materials, work in process and finished goods inventories in the U.S. is determined by the last-in, first-out ("LIFO") method. Had the Company used the first-in, first-out ("FIFO") method instead of the LIFO method for such inventories, the value of those inventories would have been \$116 million and \$119 million higher as of December 31, 2009 and September 30, 2009, respectively. The cost of other U.S. and all non-U.S. inventories is determined using the average cost method or the FIFO method.

During the three months ended December 31, 2009, inventory quantities were reduced at the Company's U.S. Supermetals site. These reductions led to a liquidation of LIFO inventory quantities carried at lower costs that were prevailing in prior years when compared to current year prices. This resulted in a decrease in cost of goods sold of \$3 million and an increase of net income by \$2 million, or \$0.03 per share, for the three months ended December 31, 2009.

Cabot reviews inventory for both potential obsolescence and potential declines in anticipated selling prices. In this review, the Company makes assumptions about the future demand for and market value of the inventory and based on these assumptions estimates the amount of any obsolete, unmarketable, slow moving or overvalued inventory. Cabot writes down the value of these inventories by an amount equal to the difference between the cost of the inventory and its estimated market value. While there were no significant write downs in the first quarter of fiscal 2010, there were \$10 million of write downs in the first quarter of fiscal 2009.

C. Accounting Pronouncements

New and Adopted

Earnings Per Share

Cabot adopted new accounting guidance relative to earnings per share on October 1, 2009. This methodology, and the impact on prior periods, is described in Note G.

CABOT CORPORATION
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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UNAUDITED

Accounting for Noncontrolling Interests

On October 1, 2009 Cabot adopted new guidance related to the presentation of noncontrolling interests in the consolidated financial statements. This guidance established accounting and reporting standards for noncontrolling interests in a subsidiary and for deconsolidation of a subsidiary.

This guidance has been applied to all periods presented herein. All previous references to "minority interests" in the consolidated financial statements have been changed to "noncontrolling interests" and are summarized as follows:

- "Net income" includes "Net income (loss) attributable to noncontrolling interests" and "Net income attributable to Cabot Corporation" in the Consolidated Statements of Operations. No change was required to the presentation of earnings per share.
- The Consolidated Balance Sheets present "Noncontrolling interests" as a component of "Total equity." "Noncontrolling interests" is equivalent to the previously reported "Minority interest." "Total Cabot Corporation stockholders' equity" is equivalent to the previously reported "Total stockholders' equity."
- "Comprehensive income (loss)" includes "Comprehensive income (loss) attributable to noncontrolling interests, net of tax" and "Comprehensive income (loss) attributable to Cabot Corporation" and is included in the Consolidated Statements of Changes in Stockholders' Equity. "Comprehensive income (loss) attributable to Cabot Corporation" is equivalent to the previously reported "Comprehensive income."

Not Yet Adopted

In June 2009, the FASB issued authoritative guidance on the consolidation of variable interest entities, which is effective for Cabot beginning October 1, 2010. The new guidance requires revised evaluations of whether entities represent variable interest entities, ongoing assessments of control over such entities, and additional disclosures for variable interests. The Company is evaluating the impact of this guidance on its consolidated financial statements.

D. Employee Benefit Plans

Net periodic defined benefit pension and other postretirement benefit costs

Net periodic defined benefit pension and other postretirement benefit costs include the following:

	Three Months Ended December 31							
	2009		2008		2009		2008	
	Pension Benefits				Postretirement Benefits			
	U.S.	Foreign	U.S.	Foreign	U.S.	Foreign	U.S.	Foreign
	(Dollars in millions)							
Service cost	\$ 1	\$ 1	\$ 1	\$ 1	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —
Interest cost	2	2	2	3	1	—	1	—
Expected return on plan assets	(2)	(3)	(2)	(3)	—	—	—	—
Amortization of prior service cost	—	—	—	—	(1)	—	—	—
Amortization of actuarial loss	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Net periodic benefit cost	\$ 1	\$ 1	\$ 1	\$ 1	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 1	\$ —

CABOT CORPORATION
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
December 31, 2009
UNAUDITED

E. Commitments and Contingencies

Guarantee Agreements

Cabot has provided certain indemnities pursuant to which it may be required to make payments to an indemnified party in connection with certain transactions and agreements. In connection with certain acquisitions and divestitures, Cabot has provided routine indemnities with respect to such matters as environmental, tax, insurance, product and employee liabilities. In connection with various other agreements, including service and supply agreements, Cabot may provide routine indemnities for certain contingencies and routine warranties. Cabot is unable to estimate the maximum potential liability for these types of indemnities as a maximum obligation is not explicitly stated in most cases and the amounts, if any, are dependent upon the outcome of future contingent events, the nature and likelihood of which cannot be reasonably estimated. The durations of the indemnities vary, and in many cases are indefinite. Cabot has not recorded any liability for these indemnities in the consolidated financial statements, except as otherwise disclosed.

Contingencies

Cabot is a defendant, or potentially responsible party, in various lawsuits and environmental proceedings wherein substantial amounts are claimed or at issue.

Environmental Matters

As of both December 31, 2009 and September 30, 2009, Cabot had \$6 million on a discounted basis (\$6 million on an undiscounted basis) reserved for environmental matters primarily related to divested businesses. These amounts represent Cabot's best estimates of its share of costs likely to be incurred at those sites where costs are reasonably estimable based on its analysis of the extent of clean up required, alternative clean up methods available, abilities of other responsible parties to contribute and its interpretation of laws and regulations applicable to each site. Cabot reviews the adequacy of this reserve as circumstances change at individual sites. Cash payments related to these environmental matters were less than \$1 million and \$1 million in the first three months of fiscal 2010 and fiscal 2009, respectively.

Respirator Liabilities

Cabot has exposure in connection with a safety respiratory products business that a subsidiary acquired from American Optical Corporation ("AO") in an April 1990 asset purchase transaction. The subsidiary manufactured respirators under the AO brand and disposed of that business in July 1995. In connection with its acquisition of the business, the subsidiary agreed, in certain circumstances, to assume a portion of AO's liabilities, including costs of legal fees together with amounts paid in settlements and judgments, allocable to AO respiratory products used prior to the 1990 purchase by the Cabot subsidiary. As more fully described in the 2009 10-K, the Company's respirator liabilities involve claims for personal injury, including asbestosis, silicosis and coal worker's pneumoconiosis, allegedly resulting from the use of AO respirators that are alleged to have been negligently designed or labeled.

As of December 31, 2009 and September 30, 2009, there were approximately 51,000 and 52,000 claimants, respectively, in pending cases asserting claims against AO in connection with respiratory products. Cabot has a reserve to cover its expected share of liability for existing and future respirator liability claims. The book value of the reserve is being accreted up to the undiscounted liability through interest expense over the expected cash flow period, which is through 2052. At December 31, 2009 the reserve was \$13 million on a discounted basis (\$23 million on an undiscounted basis). Cash payments related to this liability were less than \$1 million in the first three months of both fiscal 2010 and fiscal 2009.

Beryllium Claims

Cabot is a party to several pending actions in connection with its discontinued beryllium operations in Reading, Pennsylvania. Cabot entered the beryllium industry through an acquisition in 1978. The Company ceased manufacturing beryllium products at one of the acquired facilities in 1979, and the balance of its former beryllium business was sold to NGK Metals, Inc. ("NGK") in 1986.

CABOT CORPORATION
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
December 31, 2009
UNAUDITED

As more fully described in the 2009 10-K, the actions are pending in several state and federal trial and appeal courts, and involve claims for personal injury and medical monitoring relating to alleged contact with beryllium in various ways. Cabot believes it has valid defenses to all of the beryllium actions against it and will assert them vigorously in the various venues in which claims have been asserted. In addition, there is a contractual indemnification obligation running from NGK to Cabot in connection with many of these matters. While the outcome of litigation is uncertain, the Company does not believe that the ultimate disposition of these matters will have a material adverse effect on the Company's consolidated financial position.

Other

The Company has various other lawsuits, claims and contingent liabilities arising in the ordinary course of its business and in respect of the Company's divested businesses. In the opinion of the Company, although final disposition of some or all of these other suits and claims may impact the Company's financial statements in a particular period, they should not, in the aggregate, have a material adverse effect on the Company's consolidated financial position.

F. Income Tax Uncertainties

As of December 31, 2009, the total amount of unrecognized tax benefits was \$55 million. In addition, accruals of \$5 million and \$13 million have been recorded for penalties and interest, respectively, as of December 31, 2009. If the unrecognized tax benefits were recognized at a given point in time, there would be approximately a \$70 million favorable impact on the Company's tax provision.

A reconciliation of the beginning and ending amount of unrecognized tax benefits for the three months ended December 31, 2009 is as follows:

	(Dollars in millions)
Balance at September 30, 2009	\$ 81
Additions based on tax positions related to the current year	1
Additions for tax positions of prior years	1
Reductions for tax positions of prior years	(1)
Balance at December 31, 2009	\$ 82

During the second quarter of fiscal 2010, Cabot expects to close the U.S. Internal Revenue Service ("IRS") audit of fiscal years 2005 and 2006 and an audit with the state of Illinois for the 1992 to 2002 fiscal years. These audit settlements are expected to reduce the balance of unrecognized tax benefits by \$10 million during the second quarter of fiscal 2010. Certain Cabot subsidiaries are under audit in jurisdictions outside of the U.S. In addition, certain statutes of limitations are scheduled to expire in the near future. It is reasonably possible that a further change in the unrecognized tax benefits may occur within the next twelve months related to the settlement of one or more of these audits or the lapse of applicable statutes of limitations; however, an estimated range of the impact on the unrecognized tax benefits cannot be quantified at this time.

Cabot files U.S. federal and state and non-U.S. income tax returns in jurisdictions with varying statutes of limitations. The 2005 through 2009 tax years generally remain subject to examination by the IRS and the 2004 through 2009 tax years remain subject to examination by most state tax authorities. In significant non-U.S. jurisdictions, the 2002 through 2009 tax years generally remain subject to examination by their respective tax authorities. Cabot's significant non-U.S. jurisdictions include Argentina, Brazil, Canada, China, Germany, Japan, the Netherlands, and the United Kingdom.

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G. Earnings Per Share

As discussed in Note C, on October 1, 2009 Cabot began applying the two-class method for calculating earnings per share. Under this method, unvested restricted stock and stock unit awards that receive non-forfeitable rights to dividends or dividend equivalents are treated as a separate class of participating securities. The two-class method calculates earnings per share for common shareholders and participating securities based on the proportionate participation rights of each award type in the Company's undistributed earnings. Diluted earnings per share is calculated using the more dilutive of the treasury stock method or the two-class method. This guidance has been applied to all periods presented herein. The effect of the retrospective application of this authoritative guidance was not material to Cabot's earnings per share for the first quarter of fiscal 2009.

The following tables summarize the components of the basic and diluted earnings per common share computations:

	Three Months Ended December 31	
	2009	2008
	(Dollars in millions, except per share amounts)	
Basic EPS:		
Net income attributable to Cabot Corporation	\$ 29	\$ 4
Less: Dividends and dividend equivalents to participating securities	—	—
Less: Undistributed earnings allocated to participating securities ⁽¹⁾	1	—
Earnings allocated to common shareholders (numerator)	\$ 28	\$ 4
Weighted average common shares outstanding	65	65
Less: Participating securities ⁽²⁾	2	2
Adjusted weighted average common shares (denominator)	63	63
Basic EPS	\$ 0.44	\$ 0.06
Diluted EPS:		
Earnings allocated to common shareholders	\$ 28	\$ 4
Plus: Earnings allocated to participating securities	1	—
Less: Adjusted earnings allocated to participating securities ⁽³⁾	(1)	—
Income available to common shares (numerator)	\$ 28	\$ 4
Adjusted weighted average common shares outstanding	63	63
Effect of dilutive securities:		
Common shares issuable ⁽⁴⁾⁽⁵⁾	1	—
Adjusted weighted average shares (denominator)	64	63
Diluted EPS	\$ 0.44	\$ 0.06

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- (1) Undistributed earnings are the earnings which remain after dividends declared during the period are assumed to be distributed to the common and participating shareholders. Undistributed earnings are allocated to common and participating shareholders on the same basis as dividend distributions. In fiscal 2009, undistributed earnings were not allocated to participating securities due to the distribution of dividends in excess of earnings for the period. The calculation of undistributed earnings is as follows:

	Three Months Ended December 31	
	2009	2008
	(Dollars in millions)	
Calculation of undistributed earnings:		
Net income attributable to Cabot Corporation	\$ 29	\$ 4
Less: Dividends declared on common stock	12	12
Less: Dividends declared on participating securities	—	—
Undistributed earnings	\$ 17	\$ (8)

- (2) For the three months ended December 31, 2009 approximately 1,908,000 shares of unvested restricted stock, vested restricted stock awards held by employees in which Cabot has a security interest, and unvested time-based stock units issued under Cabot's equity incentive plans are considered participating securities. For the three months ended December 31, 2008, approximately 2,488,000 shares of unvested restricted stock issued under Cabot's equity incentive plans are considered participating securities.
- (3) Undistributed earnings are adjusted for the assumed distribution of dividends to the dilutive securities and then reallocated to participating securities.
- (4) Represents incremental shares from the (i) assumed exercise of stock options; (ii) assumed issuance of shares to employees pursuant to the Company's Supplemental Retirement Savings Plan; and (iii) outstanding performance-based stock unit awards issued under Cabot's equity incentive plans.
- (5) For the three months ended December 31, 2009 and 2008, respectively, options to purchase 826,400 and 529,100 shares of common stock were not included in the calculation of diluted earnings per share because those options' exercise prices were greater than the average market price of Cabot common stock for that period.

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H. Restructuring

2009 Global Restructuring

In fiscal 2009 Cabot initiated its 2009 Global Restructuring Plan, which resulted in the closure of two manufacturing sites, and operating cost and workforce reductions across a variety of its other operations. In calendar year 2010 on-going activities under the 2009 Global Restructuring Plan will include the closure of two additional manufacturing operations and the consolidation of several European administrative offices in a new European headquarters office in Switzerland.

The Company expects this restructuring will result in a cumulative pre-tax charge to earnings of approximately \$115 million. Estimates of the total amount the Company expects to incur for each major type of cost associated with the restructuring plan are: (i) severance and employee benefits of \$50 million for approximately 400 employees, (ii) accelerated depreciation and impairment of facility assets of \$45 million, net of expected gains associated with the sale of certain assets, (iii) demolition and site clearing costs of \$10 million, and (iv) other post closing operation costs of \$10 million. The total after-tax charge is estimated to be approximately \$100 million. Net cash outlays related to these actions are expected to be approximately \$65 million.

Through December 31, 2009 Cabot has recorded \$104 million of charges associated with this restructuring, comprised of (i) \$46 million for severance and employee benefits, (ii) \$49 million for accelerated depreciation and asset impairments, (iii) \$2 million for demolition and site clearing costs and (iv) \$7 million for other post closing operation costs. Total cash outlays have amounted to \$35 million.

Details of these restructuring activities and the related reserves during the three months ended December 31, 2009 are as follows:

	Severance and Employee Benefits	Environmental Remediation	Other	Total
	(Dollars in millions)			
Reserve at September 30, 2009	\$ 20	\$ 1	—	\$ 21
Charges	12	—	3	15
Cash paid	(8)	(1)	(3)	(12)
Foreign currency translation adjustment	1	—	—	1
Reserve at December 31, 2009	<u>\$ 25</u>	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>\$ 25</u>

Cabot expects to make cash payments of approximately \$15 million during the remainder of fiscal 2010 and approximately \$15 million thereafter.

Restructuring activities were recorded in the consolidated statements of operations as follows:

	Three Months Ended December 31	
	2009	2008
	(Dollars in millions)	
Cost of sales	\$ 6	\$ 1
Selling and administrative expenses	9	1
Total	<u>\$ 15</u>	<u>\$ 2</u>

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I. Fair Value Measurements

The FASB authoritative guidance on fair value measurements defines fair value, establishes a framework for measuring fair value in generally accepted accounting principles, and expands disclosures about fair value measurements. The disclosures focus on the inputs used to measure fair value. The guidance establishes the following hierarchy for categorizing these inputs:

Level 1 — Quoted market prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities

Level 2 — Significant other observable inputs (e.g., quoted prices for similar items in active markets, quoted prices for identical or similar items in markets that are not active, inputs other than quoted prices that are observable such as interest rate and yield curves, and market-corroborated inputs)

Level 3 — Significant unobservable inputs

The following table presents information about the Company's financial assets and liabilities measured at fair value on a recurring basis as of December 31, 2009. The derivatives presented in the table below are presented by derivative type, net of the legal right to offset derivative settlements by each counterparty:

	<u>Level 1 Inputs</u>	<u>Level 2 Inputs</u>	<u>Total</u>
	<u>(Dollars in Millions)</u>		
Assets at fair value:			
Equity securities ⁽¹⁾	\$ 2	\$ —	\$ 2
Guaranteed investment contract ⁽²⁾	—	14	14
Derivatives relating to:			
Interest rates ⁽³⁾	—	3	3
Foreign currency ⁽³⁾	—	1	1
Total assets at fair value	<u>\$ 2</u>	<u>\$ 18</u>	<u>\$ 20</u>
Liabilities at fair value:			
Derivatives relating to:			
Foreign currency ⁽³⁾	\$ —	\$ 55	\$ 55
Total liabilities at fair value	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$ 55</u>	<u>\$ 55</u>

⁽¹⁾ The Company's investments in equity securities are included in "Short-term marketable securities" and "Long-term marketable securities and cost investments" in the consolidated balance sheets.

⁽²⁾ The Company's guaranteed investment contract is included in "Other assets" in the consolidated balance sheets.

⁽³⁾ The Company's derivatives are included in "Other current assets", "Other assets", "Accrued liabilities" and "Other liabilities" in the consolidated balance sheets.

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The following table presents information about the Company's financial assets and liabilities measured at fair value on a recurring basis as of September 30, 2009. The derivatives presented in the table below are presented by derivative type, net of the legal right to offset derivative settlements by each counterparty:

	Level 1 Inputs	Level 2 Inputs	Total
	(Dollars in Millions)		
Assets at fair value:			
Equity securities ⁽¹⁾	\$ 2	\$ —	\$ 2
Guaranteed investment contract ⁽²⁾	—	14	14
Derivatives relating to:			
Interest rates ⁽³⁾	—	4	4
Total assets at fair value	\$ 2	\$ 18	\$ 20
Liabilities at fair value:			
Derivatives relating to:			
Foreign currency ⁽³⁾	\$ —	\$ 65	\$ 65
Total liabilities at fair value	\$ —	\$ 65	\$ 65

(1) The Company's investments in equity securities are included in "Short-term marketable securities" and "Long-term marketable securities and cost investments" in the consolidated balance sheets.

(2) The Company's guaranteed investment contract is included in "Other assets" in the consolidated balance sheets.

(3) The Company's derivatives are included in "Other assets", "Accrued liabilities" and "Other liabilities" in the consolidated balance sheets.

The following table summarizes the basis used to measure certain assets at fair value on a nonrecurring basis in the consolidated balance sheet as of December 31, 2009:

	Level 2 Inputs	Total	Total Losses Three Months Ended December 31, 2009
	(Dollars in Millions)		
Assets at fair value:			
Long-lived assets – land ⁽¹⁾	\$ 6	\$ 6	\$ 2
Total assets at fair value	\$ 6	\$ 6	\$ 2

(1) Long-lived assets – land is included in "Other assets" in the consolidated balance sheet and the impairment charge was recorded to "Cost of sales" in the consolidated statement of operations.

During the first quarter of fiscal 2010, Cabot's management concluded that the carrying value of land related to a former carbon black location exceeded its fair value, which was based on a comparison of similar facilities in the region. Accordingly, the Company recorded an impairment charge of approximately \$2 million to the consolidated statement of operations to write this land down to its fair value.

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J. Fair Value of Financial Instruments

The carrying amounts and fair values of the Company's financial instruments at December 31, 2009 and September 30, 2009 are as follows:

	December 31, 2009		September 30, 2009	
	Carrying Amount	Fair Value	Carrying Amount	Fair Value
	(Dollars in millions)			
Assets:				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 242	\$ 242	\$ 304	\$ 304
Short-term marketable securities	1	1	1	1
Accounts and notes receivable	507	507	452	452
Derivative instruments	2	2	1	1
Long-term marketable securities and cost investments	1	1	1	1
Liabilities:				
Notes payable to banks	30	30	29	29
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	376	376	407	407
Long-term debt—fixed rate	601	610	604	619
Long-term debt—floating rate	27	27	23	23
Derivative instruments	53	53	62	62

At December 31, 2009 and September 30, 2009, the fair values of cash, cash equivalents, accounts receivables, accounts payable and notes payable to banks approximated carrying values due to the short-term nature of these instruments. The estimated fair values of available for sale marketable securities and derivative instruments are valued as described in Note I. The fair value of Cabot's fixed rate long-term debt is estimated based on comparable quoted market prices at the respective period ends. The carrying amounts of Cabot's floating rate long-term debt approximates its fair value.

K. Financial Instruments

Risk Management

Cabot's business operations are exposed to changes in interest rates, foreign currency exchange rates and commodity prices because Cabot finances certain operations through long- and short-term borrowings, denominates transactions in a variety of foreign currencies and purchases certain commoditized raw materials. Changes in these rates and prices may have an impact on future cash flows and earnings. The Company manages these risks through normal operating and financing activities and, when deemed appropriate, through the use of derivative financial instruments.

The Company has policies governing the use of derivative instruments and does not enter into financial instruments for trading or speculative purposes. All of the derivative instruments Cabot enters into are reviewed and approved by the Financial Risk Management Committee, an internal management committee responsible for overseeing Cabot's financial risk management policy.

By using derivative instruments, Cabot is subject to credit and market risk. If a counterparty fails to fulfill its performance obligations under a derivative contract, Cabot's credit risk will equal the fair value of the derivative. Generally, when the fair value of a derivative contract is positive, the counterparty owes Cabot, thus creating a payment risk for Cabot. The Company minimizes counterparty credit (or repayment) risk by entering into transactions with major financial institutions of investment grade credit rating. As of December 31, 2009, the counterparties with which the Company has executed derivatives were rated between AA and A, inclusive, by Standard and Poor's. Cabot's exposure to market risk is not hedged in a manner that completely eliminates the effects of changing market conditions on earnings or cash flow. No significant concentration of credit risk existed at December 31, 2009.

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Interest Rate Risk Management

Cabot's objective is to maintain a certain range of fixed-to-floating interest rate mix on the Company's debt portfolio. Cabot enters into interest rate swaps as a hedge of the underlying debt instruments to effectively change the characteristics of the interest rate without changing the debt instrument. The following table provides details of the derivatives held as of December 31, 2009 used to manage interest rate risk.

Description	Borrowing	Notional Amount	Hedge Designation
Interest Rate Swaps— Fixed to Variable	Eurobond (20% of \$175 million)	USD 35 million	Fair Value
Interest Rate Swaps— Fixed to Variable	Medium Term Notes	USD 8 million	Fair Value
Interest Rate Swaps— Fixed to Variable	Medium Term Notes	USD 15 million	Fair Value
Interest Rate Swaps— Fixed to Variable	Medium Term Notes	USD 5 million	Fair Value
Interest Rate Swaps— Fixed to Variable	Medium Term Notes	USD 5 million	Fair Value
Interest Rate Swaps— Fixed to Variable	Medium Term Notes	USD 5 million	Fair Value

Foreign Currency Risk Management

Cabot's international operations are subject to certain risks, including currency exchange rate fluctuations and government actions. Cabot endeavors to match the currency in which debt is issued to the currency of the Company's major, stable cash receipts. In some situations Cabot has issued debt denominated in U.S. dollars and then entered into cross currency swaps that exchange the dollar principal and interest payments into a currency where the Company expects long-term, stable cash receipts.

Additionally, the Company has foreign currency exposure arising from its net investments in foreign operations. Cabot enters into cross-currency swaps to mitigate the impact of currency rate changes on the Company's net investments.

The Company also has foreign currency exposure arising from the denomination of current assets and current liabilities in foreign currencies other than the functional currency of a given subsidiary as well as the risk that currency fluctuations could affect the dollar value of future cash flows generated in foreign currencies. Accordingly, Cabot uses short-term forward contracts to minimize the exposure to foreign currency risk. These forward contracts typically have a duration of 30 days.

In certain situations where the Company has forecasted purchases under a long-term commitment denominated in a foreign currency, Cabot may enter into appropriate financial instruments in accordance with the Company's risk management policy to hedge future cash flow exposures. The following table provides details of the derivatives held as of December 31, 2009 used to manage foreign currency risk.

Description	Borrowing	Notional Amount	Hedge Designation
Cross Currency Swap	Eurobond (80% of \$175 million)	USD 140 million swapped to EUR 124 million	No designation
Cross Currency Swap	Eurobond (20% of \$175 million)	USD 35 million swapped to EUR 31 million	No designation
Forward Foreign Currency Contracts	N/A	(a)	No designation

(a) Cabot's forward foreign exchange contracts are denominated primarily in the Japanese yen, British pound sterling, Euro, Canadian dollar and Australian dollar. The duration of these forwards is generally 30 days. The total net notional dollar value of these forward contracts at December 31, 2009 was \$35 million.

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Commodity Risk Management

Certain of Cabot's carbon black plants in Europe are subject to mandatory greenhouse gas emission trading schemes. Cabot's objective is to ensure compliance with the European Union ("EU") Emission Trading Scheme, which is based upon a Cap-and-Trade system that establishes a maximum allowable emission credit for each ton of CO₂ emitted. European Union Allowances ("EUAs") originate from the individual EU state's country allocation process and are issued by that country's government. A company that has an excess of EUAs based on the CO₂ emissions limits may sell EUAs in the Emission Trading Scheme and if they have a shortfall, a company can buy EUAs or Certified Emission Reduction ("CER") units to comply.

In order to limit the variability in cost to Cabot's European operations, the Company committed to current prices by entering into agreements which run from calendar years 2008 to 2012 to purchase CERs and to sell EUAs. The following table provides details of the derivatives held as of December 31, 2009 used to manage commodity risk.

	Notional Amount	Net Buyer/ Net Seller	Hedge Designation
CERs	EUR 2 million	Buyer	No designation
EUAs	EUR 2 million	Seller	No designation

The Company also has exposure to the prices of commodities in its procurement of certain raw materials. In order to manage the price volatility associated with forecasted inventory purchases, Cabot may enter into swap trades to buy such commodities. At December 31, 2009, the Company did not have any such open contracts outstanding.

Accounting for Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities

The Company determines the fair value of financial instruments using quoted market prices whenever available. When quoted market prices are not available for various types of financial instruments (such as forwards, options and swaps), the Company uses standard models with market-based inputs, which take into account the present value of estimated future cash flows and the ability of the financial counterparty to perform.

Fair Value Hedge

For derivative instruments that are designated and qualify as fair value hedges, the gain or loss on the derivative as well as the offsetting loss or gain on the hedged item attributable to the hedged risk are recognized in current period earnings.

Cash Flow Hedge

For derivative instruments that are designated and qualify as cash flow hedges, the effective portion of the gain or loss on the derivative is recorded in other comprehensive income and reclassified to earnings in the same period or periods during which the hedged transaction affects earnings. Gains and losses on the derivative representing either hedge ineffectiveness or hedge components excluded from the assessment of effectiveness are recognized in current period earnings. At December 31, 2009, there were no open derivatives designated as cash flow hedges.

Net Investment Hedge

For net investment hedges, changes in the fair value of the effective portion of the derivatives' gains or losses are reported as foreign currency translation gains or losses in other comprehensive income while changes in the ineffective portion are reported in earnings. The gains or losses on derivative instruments reported in other comprehensive income are reclassified to earnings in the period in which earnings are affected by the underlying item. The gains or losses on derivative instruments reported in other comprehensive income will be reclassified to earnings in the period in which earnings are affected by the underlying item, such as a disposal or substantial liquidation of the entities being hedged. The cumulative loss related to the net investment hedge in other comprehensive income as of both December 31, 2009 and September 30, 2009 was \$27 million. During the three months ended December 31, 2009 and December 31, 2008, the changes in other comprehensive income were gains of less than \$1 million and losses of \$19 million, respectively. During the three months ended December 31, 2009, the Company's derivative instrument which swapped \$20 million to JPY 2.5 billion matured, leading to a cash settlement payment of \$7 million in the period.

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Other Derivative Instruments

From time to time, the Company may enter into certain derivative instruments that may not be designated as hedges for accounting purposes. Although these derivatives do not qualify for hedge accounting, Cabot believes that such instruments are closely correlated with the underlying exposure, thus managing the associated risk. The gains or losses from changes in the fair value of derivative instruments that are not accounted for as hedges are recognized in current period earnings.

The following table provides the fair value and consolidated balance sheet presentations of derivative instruments by each derivative type, without regard to the legal right to offset derivative settlement by each counterparty:

	Consolidated Balance Sheet Caption	December 31, 2009	September 30, 2009
(Dollars in millions)			
Fair Value of Derivative Instruments			
Asset Derivatives			
Derivatives designated as hedges			
Interest rate ⁽¹⁾	Other assets and Other liabilities	\$ 3	\$ 3
Total derivatives designated as hedges		\$ 3	\$ 3
Derivatives not designated as hedges			
Foreign currency	Other current assets	\$ 1	\$ —
Commodity contracts ⁽²⁾	Other current assets and Other assets	2	3
Total derivatives not designated as hedges		\$ 3	\$ 3
Total Asset Derivatives		\$ 6	\$ 6
Liability Derivatives			
Derivatives designated as hedges			
Interest rate	Other liabilities	\$ —	\$ —
Foreign currency	Accrued liabilities	—	7
Total derivatives designated as hedges		\$ —	\$ 7
Derivatives not designated as hedges			
Foreign currency ⁽¹⁾	Accrued liabilities and Other liabilities	\$ 55	\$ 58
Commodity contracts ⁽²⁾	Other current assets and Other assets	2	2
Total derivatives not designated as hedges		\$ 57	\$ 60
Total Liability Derivatives		\$ 57	\$ 67

⁽¹⁾ Interest rate contracts of \$2 million presented on a gross basis in this table at both December 31, 2009 and September 30, 2009 have the legal right to offset against other types of contracts with a common counterparty and, therefore, are presented on a net basis in noncurrent "Other liabilities" in the consolidated balance sheet.

⁽²⁾ Commodity contracts in an asset and liability position presented on a gross basis in this table have the legal right of offset and, therefore, are presented on a net basis in current "Other assets" and noncurrent "Other assets" in the consolidated balance sheet.

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For the three months ended December 31, 2009 for derivatives designated as hedges, the change in accumulated other comprehensive income and the hedge ineffectiveness recognized in earnings were both immaterial. For the three months ended December 31, 2009 for derivatives not designated as hedges, a \$5 million gain was recognized in earnings through other expense within the consolidated statement of operations.

See Note I "Fair Value Measurements" for classification of derivatives by input level. The net after-tax amounts to be reclassified from accumulated other comprehensive income to earnings within the next 12 months are expected to be immaterial.

L. Stock-Based Compensation

The Company has established equity compensation plans that provide stock-based compensation to eligible employees. The 2009 Long-Term Incentive Plan (the "2009 Plan"), which was approved by Cabot's stockholders on March 12, 2009, authorizes the issuance of 6.4 million shares of common stock and is the Company's only equity incentive plan under which awards may currently be granted to employees. Prior plans include the 2006 Long-Term Incentive Plan, the 1999 Equity Incentive Plan, and the 1996 Equity Incentive Plan. Awards granted under each of these prior plans remained outstanding at December 31, 2009.

During the first quarter of fiscal 2010, the Company awarded stock options, restricted stock units, and other stock-based awards to employees under the 2009 Plan (the "2010 grant"). Some of the restricted stock units awarded are performance based and, accordingly, may result in increases or decreases to future compensation costs because of changes in the probability of the Company achieving pre-established performance metrics. For the three months ended December 31, 2009, total stock-based compensation cost recognized was \$6 million, of which less than \$1 million was related to the 2010 grant. As of December 31, 2009, total unrecognized compensation cost related to non-vested stock options, restricted stock units, and other stock-based awards under the 2010 grant was approximately \$12 million, to be recognized over the 2.9 year remaining vesting period of these awards.

The Company used the intrinsic value method to determine the fair value of the restricted stock unit awards and the Black-Scholes option-pricing model to determine the fair value of stock option awards. For both types of awards, compensation costs will be recognized over the 3 year vesting period from the date of the grant. The fair value of the stock options granted in the first quarter of fiscal 2010 was calculated using the following weighted-average assumptions:

	<u>Grant Year</u>
	<u>2010</u>
Expected stock price volatility	41.75%
Risk free interest rate	2.78%
Expected life of options (years)	6
Expected annual dividends per share	\$ 0.72

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M. Financial Information by Segment

Cabot is organized into four business segments: the Core Segment, which is further disaggregated for financial reporting purposes into the Rubber Blacks and Supermetals Businesses, the Performance Segment, the New Business Segment and the Specialty Fluids Segment. While the Chief Operating Decision Maker uses a number of performance measures to manage the performance of the segments and allocate resources to them, income (loss) from operations before taxes is the measure that is most consistently used and is, therefore, the measure presented in the table below.

	Core Segment								
	Rubber			New	Specialty				
	Blacks	Supermetals	Performance	Business	Fluids	Segment	Unallocated	Consolidated	
	Business	Business	Segment	Segment	Segment	Total	and Other	Total	
(Dollars in millions)									
Three months ended December 31, 2009									
Net sales and other operating revenues ⁽¹⁾	\$ 396	\$ 45	\$ 184	\$ 17	\$ 15	\$ 657	\$ 22	\$ 679	
Income (loss) before taxes ⁽²⁾	\$ 42	\$ 5	\$ 34	\$ (3)	\$ 5	\$ 83	\$ (41)	\$ 42	
Three months ended December 31, 2008									
Net sales and other operating revenues ⁽¹⁾	\$ 399	\$ 45	\$ 157	\$ 18	\$ 15	\$ 634	\$ 18	\$ 652	
Income (loss) before taxes ⁽²⁾	\$ 24	\$ 3	\$ 3	\$ (3)	\$ 4	\$ 31	\$ (30)	\$ 1	

⁽¹⁾ Unallocated and other reflects royalties paid by equity affiliates, other operating revenues and external shipping and handling fees.

⁽²⁾ Unallocated and other includes costs that are not controlled by the segments and which primarily benefit corporate interests, certain items and eliminations that are not allocated to the operating segments. Management does not consider these items necessary for an understanding of the operating results of the segments and such amounts are excluded in the segment reporting to the Chief Operating Decision Maker. Income (loss) before taxes for Unallocated and Other includes:

	<u>Three Months Ended December 31</u>	
	<u>2009</u>	<u>2008</u>
(Dollars in millions)		
Interest expense	\$ (9)	\$ (9)
Certain items ^(a)	(17)	(2)
Equity in net income of affiliated companies ^(b)	(3)	(2)
Unallocated corporate costs ^(c)	(11)	(7)
Foreign currency transactions and other losses, net ^(d)	(1)	(10)
Total	<u>\$ (41)</u>	<u>\$ (30)</u>

^(a) Certain items consist of amounts that are not included in segment profit before taxes ("PBT"). Certain items for the three months ended December 31, 2009 include charges of \$15 million related to the 2009 Global Restructuring Plan discussed in Note H, a \$2 million long-lived asset impairment of land related to a former carbon black site discussed in Note I, and \$1 million for environmental reserves. These charges are offset by \$1 million recovered from an investment that was previously impaired. Certain items for the three months ended December 31, 2008 include charges of \$3 million for restructuring initiatives offset by a benefit of \$1 million related to a former carbon black facility.

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- (b) Equity in net income of affiliated companies is included in segment PBT and is removed from Unallocated and other to reconcile to income (loss) from operations before taxes.
- (c) Unallocated corporate costs are not controlled by the segments and primarily benefit corporate interests.
- (d) Foreign currency transaction and other losses, net consists principally of foreign currency transactions, net of other foreign currency risk management activities.

The Performance Segment is comprised of the Performance Products and Fumed Metal Oxides Businesses. The net sales from each of these businesses for the three months ended December 31, 2009 and 2008 are as follows:

	Three Months Ended December 31	
	2009	2008
	(Dollars in millions)	
Performance Products	\$ 122	\$ 105
Fumed Metal Oxides	62	52
Total Performance Segment Sales	\$ 184	\$ 157

The New Business Segment is comprised of the Inkjet Colorants and the Aerogel Businesses and the business development activities of Cabot Superior MicroPowders. The net sales from each of these businesses for the three months ended December 31, 2009 and 2008 are as follows:

	Three Months Ended December 31	
	2009	2008
	(Dollars in millions)	
Inkjet colorants	\$ 14	\$ 13
Aerogel	2	4
Superior MicroPowders	1	1
Total New Business Segment Sales	\$ 17	\$ 18

N. Foreign Currency Losses and Subsequent Events

During the first quarter of fiscal 2010, a \$3 million foreign currency loss was recognized as a result of dividends declared from Cabot's Venezuelan equity affiliate being written down to the less favorable parallel exchange rate from the official exchange rate.

Subsequent to December 31, 2009, the Venezuelan government announced a devaluation of its currency, the Bolivar. In addition, as of December 31, 2009, the three-year cumulative inflation rate exceeded 100%, which will require Cabot to apply highly-inflationary accounting to its Venezuelan operations beginning in the second quarter of fiscal 2010. The U.S. dollar will now be the functional currency of the Company's Venezuelan equity affiliate. As Cabot's equity affiliate had a net monetary liability position relative to Bolivars as of January 1, 2010, the Company anticipates that these changes will result in a one time gain of less than \$10 million on the consolidated statement of operations during the second quarter of fiscal 2010.

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Item 2. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations

I. Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates

The preparation of our financial statements requires management to make estimates and judgments that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenues, and expenses and related disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. We consider an accounting estimate to be critical to the financial statements if 1) the estimate is complex in nature or requires a high degree of judgment and 2) different estimates and assumptions were used, the results could have a material impact on the consolidated financial statements. On an ongoing basis, we evaluate our policies and estimates. We base our estimates on historical experience, current conditions and on various other assumptions that we believe are reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis for making judgments about the carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. Actual results may differ from these estimates under different assumptions or conditions. The estimates that we believe are critical to the preparation of the Consolidated Financial Statements as of December 31, 2009 are presented below. We have other critical accounting policies that are discussed under the "Critical Accounting Policies" heading in management's discussion and analysis in our Fiscal 2009 Annual Report on Form 10-K ("2009 10-K").

Revenue Recognition and Accounts Receivable

We recognize revenue when persuasive evidence of a sales arrangement exists, delivery has occurred, the sales price is fixed or determinable and collectability is probable. We generally are able to ensure that products meet customer specifications prior to shipment. If we are unable to determine that the product has met the specified objective criteria prior to shipment, the revenue is deferred until product acceptance has occurred.

Shipping and handling charges related to sales transactions are recorded as sales revenue when billed to customers or included in the sales price. Shipping and handling costs are included in cost of sales.

The following table shows the relative size of the revenue recognized in each of our reportable segments. Other operating revenues, which are included in the percentages below and represent less than two percent of total revenues, are primarily royalties for licensed technology.

	Three months ended December 31	
	2009	2008
Core Segment		
Rubber Blacks Business	61%	63%
Supermetals Business	7%	7%
Performance Segment	28%	25%
New Business Segment	2%	3%
Specialty Fluids Segment	2%	2%

We derive a substantial majority of revenues from the sale of products in our Core and Performance Segments. Revenue from these products is typically recognized when the product is shipped and title and risk of loss have passed to the customer. We offer certain customers cash discounts and volume rebates as sales incentives. The discounts and volume rebates are recorded as a reduction in sales at the time revenue is recognized and are estimated based on historical experience and contractual obligations. We periodically review the assumptions underlying the estimates of discounts and volume rebates and adjust revenues accordingly. Certain Rubber Blacks Business and Performance Segment customer contracts contain price protection clauses that provide for the potential reduction in past or future sales prices under specific circumstances. We analyze these contract provisions to determine if an obligation related to these clauses exists and record revenue net of any estimated protection commitments.

The majority of the revenue in the Specialty Fluids Segment arises from the rental of cesium formate. This revenue is recognized throughout the rental period based on the contracted rental terms. Customers are also billed and revenue is recognized, typically at the end of the job, for cesium formate product that is not returned.

We maintain allowances for doubtful accounts based on an assessment of the collectability of specific customer accounts, the aging of accounts receivable and other economic information on both an historical and prospective basis. Customer account balances are charged against the allowance when it is probable the receivable will not be recovered. Changes in the allowance during the first quarters of fiscal 2010 and 2009 were not material. There is no off-balance sheet credit exposure related to customer receivable balances.

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Inventory Valuation

The cost of most raw materials, work in process and finished goods inventories in the U.S. is determined by the last-in, first-out ("LIFO") method. Had we used the first-in, first-out ("FIFO") method instead of the LIFO method for such inventories, the value of those inventories would have been \$116 million and \$119 million higher as of December 31, 2009 and September 30, 2009, respectively. The cost of other U.S. and all non-U.S. inventories is determined using the average cost method or the FIFO method. In periods of rapidly rising or declining raw material costs, the inventory method we employ can have a significant impact on our profitability. Under our current LIFO method, when raw material costs are rising, our most recent higher priced purchases are the first to be charged to cost of sales. If, however, we were using a FIFO method, our purchases from earlier periods, which were at lower prices, would instead be the first charged to cost of sales.

At certain times, we may decrease inventory levels to the point where layers of inventory recorded under the LIFO method that were purchased in preceding years are liquidated. The inventory in these layers may be valued at an amount that is different than our current costs. If there is a liquidation of an inventory layer, there may be an impact to our cost of sales and net income for that period. If the liquidated inventory is at a cost lower than our current cost, there would be a reduction in our cost of sales and an increase to our net income during the period. Conversely, if the liquidated inventory is at a cost higher than our current cost, there would be an increase in our cost of sales and a reduction to our net income during the period.

During the three months ended December 31, 2009, inventory quantities were reduced at the Company's U.S. Supermetals site. These reductions led to a liquidation of LIFO inventory quantities carried at lower costs that were prevailing in prior years when compared to current year prices. This resulted in a decrease in cost of goods sold of \$3 million and an increase of net income by \$2 million, or \$0.03 per share, for the three months ended December 31, 2009.

We review inventory for both potential obsolescence and potential declines in anticipated selling prices. In this review, we make assumptions about the future demand for and market value of the inventory and based on these assumptions estimate the amount of any obsolete, unmarketable, slow moving or overvalued inventory. We write down the value of these inventories by an amount equal to the difference between the cost of the inventory and its estimated market value. While there were no significant write downs in the first quarter of fiscal 2010, there were \$10 million of write downs in the first quarter of fiscal 2009.

Goodwill and Long-Lived Assets

Goodwill is comprised of the cost of business acquisitions in excess of the fair value assigned to the net tangible and identifiable intangible assets acquired. Goodwill is not amortized but is reviewed for impairment annually, or when events or changes in the business environment indicate that the carrying value of the reporting unit may exceed its fair value. The annual review is performed as of the period ending March 31 of each year.

For the reporting units that carry goodwill balances, our impairment test consists of a comparison of each reporting unit's carrying value to its estimated fair value. A reporting unit, for the purpose of the impairment test, is at or one level below the operating segment level. The operating segment is presented in accordance with the FASB's authoritative guidance on segment disclosures. We have five reporting segments, and six reporting units for the impairment review. Our six reporting units are Rubber Blacks, Performance Products, Supermetals, Fumed Metal Oxides, Specialty Fluids, and New Business. The estimated fair value of a reporting unit is primarily based on discounted estimated future cash flows, and secondarily we validate this model by considering other factors such as the fair value of comparable companies to our reporting units, and a reconciliation of the fair value of all our reporting units to our overall market capitalization. The assumptions used to estimate the discounted cash flows are based on our best estimates about selling prices, production and sales volumes, costs, future growth rates, capital expenditures and market conditions over an estimate of the remaining operating period at the reporting unit level. The discount rate is based on the weighted average cost of capital that is determined by evaluating the risk free rate of return, cost of debt, and expected equity premiums. If an impairment exists, a loss is recorded to write-down the value of goodwill to its implied fair value. Our goodwill impairment testing methodologies have not changed since the prior year's test. As a result of the test completed for March 31, 2009, the estimated fair value substantially exceeded the carrying value of our reporting units.

As of December 31, 2009, our goodwill balance is allocated between two reporting units: Rubber Blacks, \$25 million, and Fumed Metal Oxides, \$11 million. There have been no goodwill impairment charges during the periods presented in these financial statements.

Our long-lived assets primarily include property, plant, equipment, long-term investments and assets held for rent. We review the carrying values of long-lived assets for impairment whenever events or changes in business circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of an asset may not be recoverable. Such circumstances would include, but are not limited to, a significant decrease in the market price of the long-lived asset, a significant adverse change in the way the asset is being used, a decline in the physical condition of the asset or a history of operating or cash flow losses associated with the use of the asset.

To test for impairment of assets we generally use a probability-weighted estimate of the future undiscounted net cash flows of the assets or asset grouping over the remaining life of the asset to determine if the asset is recoverable. If we determine that the asset is not recoverable, we determine if there is a potential impairment loss by calculating the fair value of the asset using a probability-weighted discounted estimate of future cash flows. The discount rate is based on the weighted average cost of capital that is determined by evaluating the risk free rate of return, cost of debt, and expected equity premiums. To the extent the carrying value exceeds the fair value of the asset or asset group, an impairment loss is recognized in the statement of operations in that period. During the first quarter of fiscal 2010, a \$2 million charge relating to the impairment of long-lived assets was recognized in the consolidated statement of operations.

Financial Instruments

Our financial instruments consist primarily of cash and cash equivalents, short-term and long-term debt, and derivative instruments. The carrying values of our financial instruments approximate fair value with the exception of our long-term debt that has not been designated as part of a fair value hedge. The non-hedged long-term debt is recorded at face value. The fair values of our

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derivative instruments are based on quoted market prices, if such prices are available. In situations where quoted market prices are not available, we rely on valuation models to derive fair value. Such valuation takes into account the ability of the financial counterparty to perform. We use derivative financial instruments primarily for purposes of hedging exposures to fluctuations in interest rates and foreign currency exchange rates, which exist as part of our ongoing business operations. We do not enter into contracts for speculative purposes, nor do we hold or issue any financial instruments for trading purposes. All derivatives are recognized on our consolidated balance sheets at fair value. The changes in the fair value of derivatives are recorded in either earnings or other comprehensive income, depending on whether or not the instrument is designated as part of a hedge transaction and, if designated as part of a hedge transaction, the type of hedge transaction. The gains or losses on derivative instruments reported in other comprehensive income are reclassified to earnings in the period in which earnings are affected by the underlying hedged item. The ineffective portion of all hedges is recognized in earnings during the period in which the ineffectiveness occurs.

In accordance with our risk management strategy, we may enter into certain derivative instruments that may not be designated as hedges for accounting purposes. Although these derivatives are not designated as hedges, we believe that such instruments are closely correlated with the underlying exposure, thus managing the associated risk. We record in earnings the gains or losses from changes in the fair value of derivative instruments that are not designated as hedges.

Assets and liabilities measured at fair value are classified in the fair value hierarchy based on the inputs used for valuation. Assets that are traded on an exchange with a quoted price are classified as Level 1. Assets and liabilities that are valued based on quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets, or standard pricing models using observable inputs are classified as Level 2. As of December 31, 2009, we have no assets or liabilities that are valued using unobservable inputs and, therefore, no assets or liabilities that are classified as Level 3. The sensitivity of fair value estimates is immaterial relative to the assets and liabilities measured at fair value, as well as to our total equity, as of December 31, 2009.

Litigation and Contingencies

We are involved in litigation in the ordinary course of business, including personal injury and environmental litigation. After consultation with counsel, as appropriate, we accrue a liability for litigation when it is probable that a liability has been incurred and the amount can be reasonably estimated. The estimated reserves are recorded based on our best estimate of the liability associated with such matters or the low end of the estimated range of liability if we are unable to identify a better estimate within that range. Our best estimate is determined through the evaluation of various information, including claims, settlement offers, demands by government agencies, estimates performed by independent third parties, identification of other responsible parties and an assessment of their ability to contribute, and our prior experience. Litigation is highly uncertain and there is always the possibility of an unusual result in any particular case that may reduce our earnings and cash flows.

The most significant reserves that we have established are for environmental remediation and respirator litigation claims. The amount accrued for environmental matters reflects our assumptions about remediation requirements at the contaminated sites, the nature of the remedies, the outcome of discussions with regulatory agencies and other potentially responsible parties at multi-party sites, and the number and financial viability of other potentially responsible parties. A portion of the reserve for environmental matters is recognized on a discounted basis, which requires the use of an estimated discount rate and estimates of future cash flows associated with the liability. These liabilities can be affected by the availability of new information, changes in the assumptions on which the accruals are based, unanticipated government enforcement action or changes in applicable government laws and regulations, which could result in higher or lower costs.

Our current estimate of the cost of our share of existing and future respirator liability claims is based on facts and circumstances existing at this time. Developments that could affect our estimate include, but are not limited to, (i) significant changes in the number of future claims, (ii) changes in the rate of dismissals without payment of pending silica and non-malignant asbestos claims, (iii) significant changes in the average cost of resolving claims, (iv) significant changes in the legal costs of defending these claims, (v) changes in the nature of claims received, (vi) changes in the law and procedure applicable to these claims, (vii) the financial viability of other parties which contribute to the settlement of respirator claims, (viii) a change in the availability of insurance coverage maintained by the entity from which we acquired the safety respiration products business, (ix) changes in the allocation of costs among the various parties paying legal and settlement costs and (x) a determination that our interpretation of the contractual obligations on which we have estimated our share of liability is inaccurate. We cannot determine the impact of these potential developments on our current estimate of our share of liability for these existing and future claims. Accordingly, the actual amount of these liabilities for existing and future claims could be different than the reserved amount. Further, if the timing of our actual payments made for respirator claims differs significantly from our estimated payment schedule, and we could no longer reasonably predict the timing of such payments, we could then be required to record the reserve amount on an undiscounted basis on our consolidated balance sheets, causing an immediate impact to earnings.

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Income Taxes

Our business operations are global in nature, and we are subject to taxes in numerous jurisdictions. Tax laws and tax rates vary substantially in these jurisdictions and are subject to change based on the political and economic climate in those countries. We file our tax returns in accordance with our interpretations of each jurisdiction's tax laws.

Significant judgment is required in determining our worldwide provision for income taxes and recording the related tax assets and liabilities. In the ordinary course of our business, there are operational decisions, transactions, facts and circumstances, and calculations which make the ultimate tax determination uncertain. Furthermore, our tax positions are periodically subject to challenge by taxing authorities throughout the world. We have recorded reserves for taxes and associated interest and penalties that may become payable in future years as a result of audits by tax authorities. Any significant impact as a result of changes in underlying facts, law, tax rates, tax audit, or review could lead to adjustments to our income tax expense, our effective tax rate, and/or our cash flow.

We record our tax provision or benefit on an interim basis using an estimated annual effective tax rate. This rate is applied to the current period ordinary income or loss to determine the income tax provision or benefit allocated to the interim period. Losses from jurisdictions for which no benefit can be recognized and the income tax effects of unusual and infrequent items are excluded from the estimated annual effective tax rate and are recognized in the impacted interim period as discrete items. Valuation allowances are provided against all or some of the future tax benefits that arise from the losses in jurisdictions where we believe that we have a less than 50% chance of utilizing the benefit in the future. The estimated annual effective tax rate may be significantly impacted by nondeductible expenses and our projected earnings mix by tax jurisdiction. Adjustments to the estimated annual effective income tax rate are recognized in the period that such estimates are revised.

Additionally, we have established valuation allowances against a variety of deferred tax assets, including net operating loss carry-forwards, foreign tax credits, and other income tax credits. Valuation allowances take into consideration our ability to use these deferred tax assets and reduce the value of such items to the amount that is deemed more likely than not to be recoverable. Our ability to utilize these deferred tax assets is dependent on achieving our forecast of future taxable operating income over an extended period of time. We review our forecast in relation to actual results and expected trends on a quarterly basis. Failure to achieve our operating income targets may change our assessment regarding the recoverability of our net deferred tax assets and such change could result in a valuation allowance being recorded against some or all of our net deferred tax assets. An increase in a valuation allowance would result in additional income tax expense and lower stockholders' equity, and could have a significant impact on our earnings in future periods. The release of valuation allowances in periods when these tax attributes become realizable would reduce our effective tax rate.

Restructuring Activities

Our consolidated financial statements detail specific charges relating to restructuring activities as well as the actual spending that has occurred against the resulting accruals. Our restructuring charges are estimates based on our preliminary assessments of (i) severance and other employee benefits to be granted to employees, which are based on known benefit formulas and identified job grades, (ii) costs to vacate certain facilities and (iii) asset impairments. Because these accruals are estimates, they are subject to change as a result of deviations from initial restructuring plans or subsequent information that may come to our attention. These deviations may lead to changes in estimates, which would then be reflected in our consolidated financial statements.

II. Results of Operations

The following discussion of results includes information on our reportable segment sales and segment (or business) operating profit (loss) before tax ("PBT"). Segment PBT is a non-GAAP financial measure and is not intended to replace income (loss) from operations before taxes, equity in net income of affiliated companies and non-controlling interests, the most directly comparable GAAP financial measure. In calculating segment PBT we exclude certain items, meaning items that are significant and unusual or infrequent, as these amounts are not believed to reflect the true underlying business performance. In addition, in calculating segment PBT we include equity in net income of affiliated companies, royalties paid by equity affiliates and noncontrolling interests but exclude interest expense, foreign currency transaction gains and losses, interest income, dividend income and unallocated corporate costs. Our Chief Operating Decision-Maker uses segment PBT to evaluate changes in the operating results of each segment and to allocate resources to the segments. We believe that this non-GAAP measure also assists our investors in evaluating the changes in our results and performance. A reconciliation of segment PBT to income (loss) from operations is set forth below.

When discussing our business activities we use several terms. The term "operating expenses" means fixed costs, including both fixed manufacturing costs, which includes utilities, and selling, technical and administrative expenses. The term "LIFO" includes two factors: (i) the impact of current inventory costs being recognized immediately in cost of goods sold ("COGS") under a last-in first-out method, compared to the older costs that would have been included in COGS under a first-in first-out method ("COGS impact"); and (ii) the impact of reductions in inventory quantities, causing historical inventory costs to flow through COGS ("liquidation impact"). The LIFO impact on PBT in the first quarter of fiscal 2010 is comprised of a favorable \$3 million of "liquidation impact", partially offset by an unfavorable \$1 million "COGS impact". In the first three months of fiscal 2009, the LIFO impact on PBT was comprised of \$20 million of favorable "COGS impact" with no "liquidation impact". The term "contract lag" refers to the time lag of the price adjustments in certain of our rubber blacks supply contracts to account for changes in feedstock costs and, in some cases, changes in other relevant costs.

In accordance with new accounting guidance, previous references to "minority interest in net income, net of tax" have been changed to "net income (loss) attributable to non-controlling interests, net of tax". This represents the means by which the non-controlling shareholders' portion of the income or loss in our consolidated joint ventures is removed from our consolidated statement of operations.

Overview

In the first quarter of fiscal 2010, our operating results increased compared to the first quarter of fiscal 2009 as the tire, automotive, infrastructure and electronics markets began to recover from the extreme lows of the first quarter of fiscal 2009 and our restructuring program implemented during fiscal 2009 benefited results.

- Profitability in the Rubber Blacks Business increased in the first quarter of fiscal 2010 relative to the same period of fiscal 2009 due to higher volumes, lower operating expenses from restructuring savings and utilization benefits. Also, unfavorable high cost inventory effects in the first quarter of fiscal 2009 did not recur in fiscal 2010 benefiting the comparison. These favorable factors were partially offset by an unfavorable contract lag and LIFO impact of \$3 million compared to a \$32 million benefit in the first quarter of fiscal 2009.
- In the Supermetals Business, profitability in the first quarter of fiscal 2010 increased when compared to the first quarter of fiscal 2009 principally due to lower raw material costs.
- Profitability in the Performance Segment increased in the first quarter of fiscal 2010 when compared to the first quarter of fiscal 2009 largely from higher volumes, lower operating expenses from restructuring savings, and utilization benefits. These benefits were partially offset by an unfavorable LIFO comparison; there was a \$10 million LIFO benefit in the first quarter of fiscal 2009 compared to no LIFO impact in the first quarter of fiscal 2010.
- When compared to the first quarter of fiscal 2009, profitability in the Specialty Fluids Segment increased principally due to higher margin rental revenue.
- Revenue in the New Business Segment was slightly below the first quarter of fiscal 2009 as higher revenues in Inkjet Colorants were offset by a decline in Aerogel revenues due to uneven order patterns.

[Table of Contents](#)***First Quarter Fiscal 2010 versus First Quarter Fiscal 2009—Consolidated******Net Sales and Gross Profit***

	Three Months Ended	
	December 31	
	2009	2008
	(Dollars in millions)	
Net sales and other operating revenues	\$ 679	\$ 652
Gross profit	\$ 136	\$ 92

The \$27 million increase in net sales from the first quarter of fiscal 2009 to the first quarter of fiscal 2010 was due primarily to higher volumes (\$137 million) from stronger demand in our key end markets and by the favorable effect of foreign currency translation (\$28 million). Lower selling prices (\$135 million), principally related to lower raw material costs in the carbon black businesses, partially offset these benefits.

Gross profit increased by \$44 million in the first quarter of fiscal 2010, when compared to the first quarter of fiscal 2009. The increase was principally due to higher volumes from stronger demand in our key end markets and lower operating expenses from our restructuring program. Contract lag and LIFO benefits in the first quarter of fiscal 2009 did not recur in the first quarter of fiscal 2010, partially offsetting these positive factors.

During the first quarter of fiscal 2010 we recorded charges of \$8 million, pre-tax, principally associated with our restructuring activities that reduced gross profit, compared to \$1 million, pre-tax, of restructuring related charges that were recorded in the same period of fiscal 2009.

Selling and Administrative Expenses

	Three Months Ended	
	December 31	
	2009	2008
	(Dollars in millions)	
Selling and administrative expenses	\$ 67	\$ 56

Selling and administrative expenses increased by \$11 million in the first quarter of fiscal 2010 when compared to the same period in fiscal 2009. The increase is principally due to charges of \$9 million, pre-tax, associated with our restructuring activities recorded during the first quarter of fiscal 2010, compared to \$1 million of such charges in the first quarter of fiscal 2009.

Research and Technical Expenses

	Three Months Ended	
	December 31	
	2009	2008
	(Dollars in millions)	
Research and technical expenses	\$ 18	\$ 18

Research and technical expenses were flat in the first quarter of fiscal 2010 when compared to the first quarter of fiscal 2009 as we maintained spending on key research projects.

[Table of Contents](#)*Interest Expense*

	Three Months Ended	
	December 31	
	2009	2008
	(Dollars in millions)	
Interest expense	\$ (9)	\$ (9)

Interest expense was flat in the first quarter of fiscal 2010 when compared to the same period of fiscal 2009. The impact of lower debt balances in the first quarter of fiscal 2010 was offset by higher average interest rates.

Other Income (Expense)

	Three Months Ended	
	December 31	
	2009	2008
	(Dollars in millions)	
Other Expense	\$ —	\$ (9)

The \$9 million improvement in other expense in the first quarter of fiscal 2010 compared to the first quarter of fiscal 2009 was due principally to lower losses on foreign currency transactions. This included an intercompany loan in Brazil denominated in U.S. dollars which unfavorably affected the first quarter of fiscal 2009.

Effective Tax Rate

During the first quarter of fiscal 2010, we recorded a tax provision of \$11 million. This amount included net tax benefits of \$1 million from audit settlements and a \$1 million charge primarily attributable to the timing of losses in certain locations. Net of these factors, the tax rate for the first quarter of 2010 would have been approximately 27%. In the first quarter of fiscal 2009, we recorded an income tax provision of \$1 million. This included an unfavorable impact of \$4 million relating to the effect of non-deductible losses, net tax benefits of \$2 million from the renewal of U.S. research and experimentation credits and benefits of \$1 million from tax settlements and releases.

During the second quarter of fiscal 2010, Cabot expects to close the IRS audit of the fiscal years 2005 and 2006 and an audit with the state of Illinois for the 1992 to 2002 fiscal years. These audit settlements are expected to result in a discrete tax benefit of approximately \$12 million during the second quarter of fiscal 2010. The Company is currently under audit in a number of jurisdictions outside of the U.S. It is possible that some of these audits will be resolved in fiscal 2010, which may impact our tax expense and effective tax rate going forward.

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Net income (loss) attributable to non-controlling interests, net of tax

	Three Months Ended December 31	
	2009	2008
	(Dollars in millions)	
Net income (loss) attributable to non-controlling interests, net of tax	\$ 5	\$ (2)

In the first quarter of fiscal 2010, the \$5 million of net income attributable to non-controlling interests was principally due to the increased profitability of our joint ventures in the Czech Republic and China. In the first quarter of fiscal 2009 our joint ventures, in total, experienced losses, primarily driven by lower volumes and compressed unit margins. This, in turn, led to the non-controlling shareholders in these ventures absorbing a portion of these losses, resulting in a benefit to our consolidated statement of operations.

Net income attributable to Cabot Corporation

We reported net income for the first quarter of fiscal 2010 of \$29 million (\$0.44 per diluted common share) compared to net income of \$4 million (\$0.06 per diluted common share) in the same period of fiscal 2009.

First Quarter Fiscal 2010 versus First Quarter Fiscal 2009—By Business Segment

Total segment PBT, certain items, other unallocated items (which includes unallocated corporate costs), and income (loss) from operations before income taxes for the three months ended December 31, 2009 and 2008 are set forth in the table below.

	Three Months Ended December 31	
	2009	2008
	(Dollars in millions)	
Total segment PBT	\$ 83	\$ 31
Certain items	(17)	(2)
Other unallocated items	(24)	(28)
Income from operations before income taxes	<u>\$ 42</u>	<u>\$ 1</u>

Total segment PBT increased by \$52 million in the first quarter of fiscal 2010 when compared to the same period of fiscal 2009. The increase was driven principally by: i) higher volumes (\$40 million) from stronger demand in the tire, automotive, infrastructure and electronics markets; ii) lower operating expenses resulting from our restructuring actions (\$20 million); iii) utilization benefits from the replenishment of inventory levels to support higher sales volumes (\$15 million); and iv) the positive impact of foreign currency translation resulting from a weaker U.S. dollar (\$5 million). Additionally, unfavorable high cost inventory effects in the first quarter of fiscal 2009 did not recur in the first quarter of fiscal 2010, benefiting the comparison by \$16 million. These favorable factors were partially offset by a \$3 million unfavorable impact from contract lag and LIFO in the first quarter of fiscal 2010, compared to a \$42 million benefit in the same period of fiscal 2009.

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Certain Items:

Details of the certain items for the first quarter of fiscal 2010 and 2009 are as follows:

	Three Months Ended December 31	
	2009	2008
	(Dollars in millions)	
Environmental reserves	\$ (1)	\$ —
Recovery of previously impaired investment	1	—
Long-lived asset impairment	(2)	—
Restructuring initiatives:		
Global	(15)	(2)
North America	—	(1)
Europe	—	1
Total certain items, pre-tax	<u>\$ (17)</u>	<u>\$ (2)</u>

In the first quarter of fiscal 2010, \$17 million, pre-tax, of charges principally related to restructuring initiatives were recorded as certain items. In the same period of fiscal 2009, \$2 million, pre-tax, of charges from restructuring activities were recorded as certain items.

Other Unallocated Items:

	Three Months Ended December 31	
	2009	2008
	(Dollars in millions)	
Interest expense	\$ (9)	\$ (9)
Equity in net income of affiliated companies	(3)	(2)
Unallocated corporate costs	(11)	(7)
Foreign currency transaction losses	—	(7)
Other expense, net	(1)	(3)
Total	<u>\$ (24)</u>	<u>\$ (28)</u>

Charges related to Other Unallocated Items declined by \$4 million in the first quarter of fiscal 2010 due principally to lower losses on foreign currency transactions, including an intercompany loan in Brazil denominated in U.S. dollars which unfavorably affected the first quarter of fiscal 2009.

Core Segment

Sales and PBT for the Rubber Blacks and Supermetals Businesses, which together comprise the Core Segment, for the first quarter of fiscal 2010 and 2009 are as follows:

	Three Months Ended December 31	
	2009	2008
	(Dollars in millions)	
Rubber Blacks Business Sales	\$ 396	\$ 399
Supermetals Business Sales	45	45
Total Sales	<u>\$ 441</u>	<u>\$ 444</u>
Rubber Blacks Business PBT	\$ 42	\$ 24
Supermetals Business PBT	5	3
Total PBT	<u>\$ 47</u>	<u>\$ 27</u>

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Rubber Blacks Business

Sales in the Rubber Blacks Business decreased by \$3 million in the first quarter of fiscal 2010 when compared to the same period of fiscal 2009. The impact of higher volumes from stronger demand in the tire and automotive markets (\$104 million) and the favorable effect of foreign currency translation resulting from a weaker dollar (\$18 million) were offset by lower pricing (\$121 million) driven by lower feedstock costs.

Rubber Blacks PBT increased by \$18 million in the first quarter of fiscal 2010 when compared to the same period of fiscal 2009. In the first quarter of fiscal 2010, volumes were 24% higher than in the first quarter of fiscal 2009 due to stronger global demand in the tire and automotive markets, favorably affecting results by \$31 million. Additionally, the high cost inventory effects in the first quarter of fiscal 2009 that did not recur in fiscal 2010 (\$16 million), utilization benefits from the replenishment of inventory levels and lower operating expenses from restructuring activities favorably affected results. These factors were partially offset by a \$2 million unfavorable contract lag impact and \$1 million unfavorable LIFO impact in the first quarter of fiscal 2010, compared to \$22 million and \$10 million benefits, respectively, in the first quarter of fiscal 2009.

Historically, our rubber blacks supply contracts have provided for a price adjustment on the first day of each quarter to account for changes in feedstock costs and, in some cases, changes in other relevant costs. These feedstock adjustments have been based upon the average of a relevant index over a three-month period, with the result that there is a four month lag in the time when prices are adjusted for feedstock costs. We have been reducing this time delay in our contracts and, while approximately 50% of the total volume of our Rubber Blacks Business continues to be sold under contract, only half of these contracted volumes were sold under agreements containing a four month lag. We continue to actively work to reduce the impact of this contract lag on our business results, and over the course of fiscal 2010 expect to reduce the total volume subject to the four month lag to approximately 10%.

Supermetals Business

Sales in the Supermetals Business were flat in the first quarter of fiscal 2010 when compared to the first quarter of fiscal 2009 as volumes and pricing were comparable over the two periods.

PBT in the Supermetals Business in the first quarter of fiscal 2010 increased by \$2 million when compared to the first quarter of fiscal 2009. The increase was due principally to lower raw material costs.

Performance Segment

Sales and PBT for the Performance Segment for the first quarter of fiscal 2010 and 2009 are as follows:

	Three Months Ended	
	December 31	
	2009	2008
	(Dollars in millions)	
Performance Products Business Sales	\$ 122	\$ 105
Fumed Metal Oxides Business Sales	62	52
Segment Sales	\$ 184	\$ 157
Segment PBT	\$ 34	\$ 3

Sales in the Performance Segment increased by \$27 million in the first quarter of fiscal 2010 when compared to the first quarter of fiscal 2009. The increase was driven principally by higher volumes (\$34 million) from stronger global demand in the automotive, construction and electronics markets and the favorable effect of foreign currency translation (\$8 million), partially offset by lower prices (\$14 million) driven by lower raw material costs.

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PBT in the Performance Segment in the first quarter of fiscal 2010 increased by \$31 million when compared to the first quarter of fiscal 2009. Volumes in the Performance Products and Fumed Metal Oxides Businesses increased by 24% and 19%, respectively, in the first quarter of fiscal 2010 when compared to the same period of fiscal 2009. These higher volumes were driven by increased global demand in the automotive, infrastructure and electronics markets and benefited PBT by \$15 million. The Segment was also favorably impacted by utilization benefits from the replenishment of inventory levels and lower operating expenses from restructuring actions. There was no LIFO impact in the first quarter of fiscal 2010, compared to a \$10 million benefit in the same period of fiscal 2009.

New Business Segment

Sales and PBT for the New Business Segment for the first quarter of fiscal 2010 and 2009 are as follows:

	Three Months Ended	
	December 31	
	2009	2008
	(Dollars in millions)	
Inkjet Colorants Business Sales	\$ 14	\$ 13
Aerogel Business Sales	2	4
Superior MicroPowders Sales	1	1
Segment Sales	\$ 17	\$ 18
Segment PBT	\$ (3)	\$ (3)

Sales in the New Business Segment in the first quarter of fiscal 2010 were \$1 million below the first quarter of fiscal 2009 as higher revenues in Inkjet Colorants were offset by lower Aerogel revenues attributable to uneven order patterns. The loss in the New Business Segment for the first quarter of fiscal 2010 was \$3 million, which is flat when compared to the first quarter of fiscal 2009.

Specialty Fluids Segment

Sales and PBT for the Specialty Fluids Segment for the first quarter of fiscal 2010 and 2009 are as follows:

	Three Months Ended	
	December 31	
	2009	2008
	(Dollars in millions)	
Segment Sales	\$ 15	\$ 15
Segment PBT	\$ 5	\$ 4

Sales in the Specialty Fluids Segment were flat in the first quarter of fiscal 2010 when compared to the first quarter of fiscal 2009. Higher rental revenue was offset by the impact of lower volumes of product sold.

In the first quarter of fiscal 2010, PBT increased by \$1 million when compared to the first quarter of fiscal 2009. The increase was due principally to the impact of higher margin rental revenues partially offset by unfavorable utilization variances associated with the curtailment of production at our manufacturing facility during 2009. In January 2010 we restarted operations at this facility.

III. Cash Flow and Liquidity

Overview

Our liquidity position, as measured by cash and cash equivalents plus borrowing availability, decreased slightly during the first quarter of fiscal 2010. The decrease was attributable to an increase in receivables and inventory levels resulting from an increase in sales activity. At December 31, 2009, we had cash and cash equivalents of \$242 million, and current availability under our revolving and other committed credit facilities of approximately \$460 million. All available cash is on deposit with banking institutions or invested in money market funds that we continue to believe are financially sound.

We anticipate sufficient liquidity from cash on hand, cash flows and access to existing credit facilities to meet our operational needs and financial obligations for the foreseeable future. The existing revolving credit facility which remained undrawn as of December 31, 2009 is scheduled to expire in August 2010. It is our intent to replace this facility and the terms of any new line of credit may differ from the terms of our current facility. The credit facility contains various affirmative, negative and financial covenants which are customary for financings of this type, including limitations on our total debt to total capitalization ratio and our total amount of subsidiary debt to total capitalization. The credit facility also contains an interest coverage covenant that becomes applicable only if Cabot's credit rating is downgraded. As of December 31, 2009, we were in compliance with all of the covenants.

Our liquidity derived from cash flows is, to a large degree, predicated on our ability to collect our receivables in a timely manner, the cost of our raw materials, and our ability to manage inventory levels.

The following discussion of the changes in our cash balance refers to the various sections of our Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows.

Cash Flows from Operating Activities

Cash used in operating activities, which consists of net income adjusted for the various non-cash items included in earnings, changes in working capital and changes in certain other balance sheet accounts, totaled \$32 million in the first three months of fiscal 2010 compared to \$92 million of cash generated from operating activities during the first three months of fiscal 2009. The principal drivers of the cash used in operations in the first three months of fiscal 2010 were (i) a \$43 million decrease in accounts payable and accrued liabilities due to the timing of certain payments (ii) a \$39 million increase in receivables due to higher sales volumes and pricing driven by rising feedstock costs and (iii) a \$22 million increase in inventories to keep pace with higher sales volumes and higher feedstock costs reflected in inventory. The principal drivers of the cash generated from operations in the first quarter of fiscal 2009 were a \$99 million decrease in receivables due to lower sales volumes and a \$49 million decrease in inventories due to reductions in inventory levels and declines in carbon black feedstock costs. These sources of cash were partially offset by the use of cash for accounts payable and accrued liabilities.

Restructurings

As of December 31, 2009, we had \$25 million of restructuring costs in accrued expenses in the consolidated balance sheet related to our 2009 global restructuring plan. We made cash payments of \$12 million during the first quarter of fiscal 2010 and expect to make cash payments of approximately \$15 million during the remainder of fiscal 2010 and approximately \$15 million thereafter.

Venezuela

We own 48% of an operating entity in Venezuela (accounted for as an equity affiliate, as we do not have control of the entity), and holding companies that carry the investment in that operation and receive the dividends paid. Continued political and economic uncertainty in Venezuela led us to the decision to repatriate the majority of our cash from our holding companies using the parallel exchange market, resulting in a foreign exchange loss during the fourth quarter of fiscal 2009 of \$6 million. Beginning in the first quarter of fiscal 2010, as dividends are declared by the operating entity, we will record losses to write down the dividend from the official rate to the parallel rate. This is necessary as it is our intention to repatriate those monies as quickly as possible and we believe neither of the official exchange rates sanctioned by the Venezuelan government will be available to us for the purpose of dividend repatriation. During the first quarter of fiscal 2010, a \$3 million foreign currency loss was recognized as a result of the dividends declared by the operating entity.

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In early January 2010, the Venezuelan government announced a devaluation of the Bolivar from 2.15 to two official rates, essentials at 2.60 and non-essentials at 4.30. We believe that the non-essential rate will be available to the operating entity to transact its ordinary activities. In addition, the operating entity is now considered to be functioning in a highly-inflationary environment, and accordingly, as of the second quarter of fiscal 2010 will record all transactions in U.S. dollars using the non-essentials rate of 4.30. These two factors have required the revaluation of our monetary assets in the operating entity. While businesses in Venezuela that have net monetary assets denominated in Bolivars will be expecting to incur charges to their statement of operations, our operating entity has net monetary liabilities denominated in Bolivars. This net liability position is attributable to the majority of our affiliate's receivables being dollar-denominated due to the export nature of its business. Accordingly, we expect the impact of these events to result in a one-time gain of less than \$10 million to our statement of operations for the second quarter of fiscal 2010.

Environmental and Litigation

We have recorded a \$6 million reserve on a discounted basis (\$6 million on an undiscounted basis) as of December 31, 2009, for environmental remediation costs at various sites. These sites are primarily associated with businesses divested in prior years. Additionally, as of December 31, 2009, we have recorded a \$13 million reserve on a discounted basis (\$23 million on an undiscounted basis) for respirator claims. We anticipate that these expenditures will be made over a number of years, and will not be concentrated in any one year. We also have other litigation costs associated with lawsuits arising in the ordinary course of business including claims filed against us in connection with certain discontinued operations.

Cash Flows from Investing Activities

Cash flows from investing activities consumed \$8 million of cash in the first three months of fiscal 2010 compared to \$35 million in the first three months of fiscal 2009. During the first three months of fiscal 2010, capital expenditures of \$13 million primarily related to maintenance and replacement capital for our rubber blacks facilities. In the first three months of fiscal 2009, capital expenditures of \$32 million included an investment of \$3 million in a carbon black joint venture located in China and residual spending to complete rubber blacks capacity expansion at an existing facility in China and energy centers at other rubber blacks facilities.

Cash Flows from Financing Activities

Financing activities used \$19 million of cash during the first three months of fiscal 2010 and used \$38 million of cash during the same period of fiscal 2009. In the first three months of fiscal 2010, financing cash outflows were primarily driven by \$7 million paid to settle the maturity of our \$20 million to JPY 2.5 billion cross-currency swap. This settlement did not impact our consolidated statement of operations. In addition, we made dividend payments of \$12 million during the first three months of fiscal 2010. During the first three months of fiscal 2009, our financing cash flows were primarily driven by the net reduction in debt of \$25 million and a dividend payment of \$12 million.

Off-balance sheet arrangements

Cabot has no material transactions that meet the definition of an off-balance sheet arrangement.

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Forward-Looking Information

This report on Form 10-Q contains "forward-looking statements" under the Federal securities laws. These forward-looking statements address expectations or projections about the future, including our expectations concerning the amount and timing of the charge to earnings we will record and the cash outlays we will make in connection with our recent restructuring initiative; the amount and timing of charges and payments associated with restructurings and cost reduction initiatives we have previously undertaken; the percentage of our rubber blacks volumes we expect will remain subject to a four-month lag in the time when contract prices are adjusted to reflect changes in feedstock costs; the amount and timing of payments associated with environmental remediation and respirator claims; the benefits we expect to record in the second quarter of fiscal 2010 from the settlement of tax audits; the amount of the gain we expect to record in the second quarter of fiscal 2010 from the application of highly inflationary accounting at our Venezuelan equity affiliate and the devaluation of the Bolivar; the outcome of pending litigation; cash requirements and uses of available cash; and our ability to meet cash requirements for the foreseeable future.

Forward-looking statements are based on our current expectations, assumptions, estimates and projections about Cabot's businesses and strategies, market trends and conditions, economic conditions and other factors. These statements are not guarantees of future performance and are subject to risks, uncertainties, potentially inaccurate assumptions, and other factors, some of which are beyond our control or difficult to predict. If known or unknown risks materialize, or should underlying assumptions prove inaccurate, our actual results could differ materially from those expressed in the forward-looking statements.

In addition to factors described elsewhere in this report, the following are some of the factors that could cause our actual results to differ materially from those expressed in the forward-looking statements: changes in raw material costs; lower than expected demand for our products; fluctuations in currency exchange rates; patent rights of others; stock and credit market conditions; the timely commercialization of products under development (which may be disrupted or delayed by technical difficulties, market acceptance, competitors' new products, as well as difficulties in moving from the experimental stage to the production stage); our ability to successfully implement our cost reduction initiatives and organizational restructurings; demand for our customers' products; competitors' reactions to market conditions; the accuracy of the assumptions we used in establishing a reserve for our share of liability for respirator claims; and the outcome of pending litigation. Other factors and risks are discussed in our 2009 10-K.

We undertake no obligation to publicly update forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, except as required by law. Investors are advised, however, to consult any further disclosures we make on related subjects in future 10-K, 10-Q and 8-K reports filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

IV. Recently Issued Accounting Pronouncements – Not Yet Adopted

In June 2009, the FASB issued authoritative guidance on the consolidation of variable interest entities, which is effective for us beginning October 1, 2010. The new guidance requires revised evaluations of whether entities represent variable interest entities, ongoing assessments of control over such entities, and additional disclosures for variable interests. We are evaluating the impact of this guidance on the consolidated financial statements.

Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk

Information about market risks for the period ended December 31, 2009 does not differ materially from that discussed under Item 7A of our fiscal 2009 Annual Report on Form 10-K.

Item 4. Controls and Procedures

As of December 31, 2009, we carried out an evaluation, under the supervision and with the participation of our management, including our President and Chief Executive Officer and our Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, of the effectiveness of our disclosure controls and procedures pursuant to Rule 13a-15 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"). Based upon that evaluation, our President and Chief Executive Officer and our Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures were effective as of that date.

There were no changes in our internal control over financial reporting that occurred during our fiscal quarter ended December 31, 2009 that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

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Part II. Other Information

Item 1. Legal Proceedings

Respirator Liabilities

We have exposure in connection with a safety respiratory products business that a subsidiary acquired from American Optical Corporation ("AO") in an April 1990 asset purchase transaction. The subsidiary manufactured respirators under the AO brand and disposed of that business in July 1995. In connection with its acquisition of the business, the subsidiary agreed, in certain circumstances, to assume a portion of AO's liabilities, including costs of legal fees together with amounts paid in settlements and judgments, allocable to AO respiratory products used prior to the 1990 purchase by the Cabot subsidiary. As more fully described in our 2009 10-K, our respirator liabilities involve claims for personal injury, including asbestosis, silicosis and coal worker's pneumoconiosis, allegedly resulting from the use of AO respirators that are alleged to have been negligently designed or labeled. As of December 31, 2009 and September 30, 2009, there were approximately 51,000 and 52,000 claimants, respectively, in pending cases asserting claims against AO in connection with respiratory products. We have a reserve to cover our expected share of liability for existing and future respirator liability claims. The book value of the reserve at December 31, 2009 is approximately \$13 million on a discounted basis (or approximately \$23 million on an undiscounted basis). Cash payments related to this liability were less than \$1 million in the first three months of both fiscal 2010 and 2009.

Carbon Black Antitrust Litigation

Cabot was one of several carbon black manufacturer defendants in federal and state class actions initially filed in 2003 alleging that the defendants violated federal and state antitrust laws in connection with the sale of carbon black. During the first quarter of fiscal 2010, the only pending state action was in Florida, with all of the other federal and state class actions having been previously settled. As described in our 2009 10-K, the parties in the Florida action entered into a settlement agreement, which received final court approval in October 2009. We deny any wrongdoing of any kind in these cases and strongly believe we have good defenses to the claims, but agreed to the settlements to avoid further expense, inconvenience, risk and the distraction of burdensome and protracted litigation.

AVX Contract Dispute

In March 2004, AVX Corporation ("AVX") filed an action against us in the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts. The complaint alleged that we violated the federal antitrust laws in connection with the parties' January 1, 2001 tantalum supply agreement (the "Supply Agreement") by purportedly tying AVX's purchases of Cabot's "flake" tantalum powder to its purchases of Cabot's "nodular" tantalum powder. In February 2009, the court granted Cabot's motion for summary judgment in this matter and dismissed this case against Cabot, which AVX appealed. In addition, in September 2005, AVX filed an action in the Superior Court of Massachusetts for Suffolk County, which was moved to the Business Litigation Section of the Superior Court of Massachusetts in November 2005, alleging that Cabot improperly administered the "most favored customer" provisions of the parties' Supply Agreement for the years 2003 through 2005. Cabot filed counterclaims against AVX asserting that AVX actually underpaid for tantalum products during that period. AVX's damage claim had been limited by the court to approximately \$30 million, not including pre-judgment interest. As described in our 2009 10-K, in October 2009, Cabot and AVX entered into an agreement settling both of these matters. We deny any wrongdoing of any kind in these cases and strongly believe we have good defenses to the claims, but agreed to the settlement to avoid further expense, inconvenience, risk and the distraction of burdensome and protracted litigation.

Other Matters

We have various other lawsuits, claims and contingent liabilities arising in the ordinary course of our business, including a number of claims asserting premises liability for asbestos exposure, and in respect of our divested businesses. In our opinion, although final disposition of some or all of these other suits and claims may impact our financial statements in a particular period, they should not, in the aggregate, have a material adverse effect on our consolidated financial position.

Item 1A. Risk Factors

There have been no material changes from the risk factors disclosed in the "Risk Factors" section of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended September 30, 2009.

[Table of Contents](#)**Item 2. *Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds***

The table below sets forth information regarding the Company's purchases of its equity securities during the quarter ended December 31, 2009.

Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities

Period	Total Number of Shares Purchased(1)	Average Price Paid per Share	Total Number of Shares Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Plans or Programs	Maximum Number (or Approximate Dollar Value) of Shares that May Yet Be Purchased Under the Plans or Programs
October 1, 2009 – October 31, 2009	23,778	\$ 19.23	—	4,311,122
November 1, 2009 – November 30, 2009	6,082	\$ 15.03	—	4,311,122
December 1, 2009 – December 31, 2009	16,440	\$ 19.87	—	4,311,122
Total	46,300		—	

- (1) On May 11, 2007, we publicly announced that the Board of Directors authorized us to repurchase five million shares of our common stock on the open market or in privately negotiated transactions. On September 14, 2007, the Board of Directors increased the share repurchase authorization to 10 million shares (the "2007 Authorization"). This authority does not have a set expiration date. We did not repurchase any shares under the 2007 Authorization during the first quarter of fiscal 2010.

In addition to the 2007 Authorization, the Board has authorized us to repurchase shares of restricted stock purchased by recipients of long-term incentive awards in 2006, 2007 and 2008 at any date on or after such shares vest, generally to satisfy tax withholding obligations that arise on the vesting of such shares and to satisfy associated loan repayment liabilities. The shares are repurchased from employees at fair market value. During the first quarter of fiscal 2010, we repurchased 28,600 shares from employees.

From time to time, we also repurchase shares of unvested restricted stock from employees whose employment is terminated before such shares vest. These shares are repurchased pursuant to the terms of our equity incentive plans and are not included in the shares repurchased under the authorizations described above. During the first quarter of fiscal 2010, we repurchased 17,700 forfeited shares pursuant to the terms of our equity incentive plans.

Item 6. *Exhibits*

The following Exhibits are filed herewith:

Exhibit 10.1	Credit Agreement dated August 3, 2005 among Cabot Corporation, Bank of America, N.A., as Administrative Agent, Swing Line Lender, and L/C Issuer, Citibank, N.A., as Syndication Agent, and the other lenders party hereto, as amended through September 18, 2009.
Exhibit 10.2	Form of restricted stock unit award certificate under the Cabot Corporation 2009 Long-Term Incentive Plan.
Exhibit 10.3	Form of non-qualified stock option award agreement under the Cabot Corporation 2009 Long-Term Incentive Plan.
Exhibit 31.1	Certification of Principal Executive Officer required by Rule 13a-14(a) or Rule 15d-14(a) of the Exchange Act.
Exhibit 31.2	Certification of Principal Financial Officer required by Rule 13a-14(a) or Rule 15d-14(a) of the Exchange Act.
Exhibit 32	Certifications of the Principal Executive Officer and the Principal Financial Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350.

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 thereunto duly authorized.

Date: February 9, 2010	<i>CABOT CORPORATION</i> By: <u>/s/ EDUARDO E. CORDEIRO</u> Eduardo E. Cordeiro <i>Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer</i> <i>(Duly Authorized Officer)</i>
Date: February 9, 2010	By: <u>/s/ JAMES P. KELLY</u> James P. Kelly <i>Vice President and Controller</i> <i>(Chief Accounting Officer)</i>

Exhibit Index

<u>Exhibit No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
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PUBLISHED CUSIP NUMBER: _____

CREDIT AGREEMENT

Dated as of August 3, 2005

among

CABOT CORPORATION,
as a Borrower and a Guarantor

and

CERTAIN OF ITS SUBSIDIARIES
as Designated Borrowers,

BANK OF AMERICA, N.A.,
as Administrative Agent, Swing Line Lender
and
L/C Issuer,

CITIBANK, N.A.,
as Syndication Agent,

and

The Other Lenders Party Hereto

BANC OF AMERICA SECURITIES LLC,
as a Joint Lead Arranger and Sole Book Manager

and

CITIGROUP GLOBAL MARKETS INC.,
as a Joint Lead Arranger

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H	Designated Borrower Notice

CREDIT AGREEMENT

This CREDIT AGREEMENT ("Agreement") is entered into as of August 3, 2005, among CABOT CORPORATION, a Delaware corporation (the "Company"), certain Subsidiaries of the Company party hereto pursuant to Section 2.14 (each a "Designated Borrower" and, together with the Company, the "Borrowers" and, each a "Borrower"), each lender from time to time party hereto (collectively, the "Lenders" and individually, a "Lender"), and BANK OF AMERICA, N.A., as Administrative Agent, Swing Line Lender and L/C Issuer.

The Company has requested that the Lenders provide a revolving credit facility, and the Lenders are willing to do so on the terms and conditions set forth herein.

In consideration of the mutual covenants and agreements herein contained, the parties hereto covenant and agree as follows:

ARTICLE I DEFINITIONS AND ACCOUNTING TERMS

1.01 DEFINED TERMS. As used in this Agreement, the following terms shall have the meanings set forth below:

"Acquisition", by any Person, means the acquisition by such Person (other than a transaction that would be classified as a capital expenditure in accordance with GAAP), in a single transaction or in a series of related transactions, of all or any substantial portion of the Property of another Person or at least a majority of the Voting Stock of another Person, in each case whether or not involving a merger or consolidation with such other Person and whether for cash, property, services, assumption of Indebtedness, securities or otherwise.

"Administrative Agent" means Bank of America in its capacity as administrative agent under any of the Loan Documents, or any successor administrative agent.

"Administrative Agent's Office" means, with respect to any currency, the Administrative Agent's address and, as appropriate, account as set forth on Schedule 11.02 with respect to such currency, or such other address or account with respect to such currency as the Administrative Agent may from time to time notify to the Company and the Lenders.

"Administrative Questionnaire" means an Administrative Questionnaire in a form supplied by the Administrative Agent.

"Affiliate" means, as to any Person, any other Person which, directly or indirectly, is in control of, is controlled by, or is under common control with, such Person. For purposes of this definition, "control" of a Person means the power, directly or indirectly, to direct or cause the direction of the management and policies of such Person, whether by contract or otherwise.

"Aggregate Commitments" means the Commitments of all the Lenders.

"Agreement" means this Credit Agreement.

"Alternative Currency" means each of Euro, Yen, Australian Dollars, Canadian Dollars, Sterling, Singapore Dollars, Swiss Francs and each other currency (other than Dollars) that is approved in accordance with Section 1.05.

"Alternative Currency Equivalent" means, at any time, with respect to any amount denominated in Dollars, the equivalent amount thereof in the applicable Alternative Currency as determined by the Administrative Agent at such time on the basis of the Spot Rate (determined in respect of the most recent Revaluation Date) for the purchase of such Alternative Currency with Dollars.

"Alternative Currency Reserve" means, at any time, the Dollar amount equal to 2.5% of the Outstanding Amount of Committed Loans denominated in Alternative Currencies at such time.

"Applicable Foreign Obligor Documents" has the meaning specified in Section 6.15.

"Applicable Percentage" means with respect to any Lender at any time, the percentage of the Aggregate Commitments represented by such Lender's Commitment at such time. If the Commitment of each Lender to make Loans and the obligation of the L/C Issuer to make L/C Credit Extensions have been terminated pursuant to Section 9.02 or if the Aggregate Commitments have expired, then the Applicable Percentage of each Lender shall be determined based on the Applicable Percentage of such Lender most recently in effect, giving effect to any subsequent assignments. The initial Applicable Percentage of each Lender is set forth opposite the name of such Lender on Schedule 2.01 or in the Assignment and Assumption pursuant to which such Lender becomes a party hereto, as applicable.

"Applicable Rate" means, from time to time, with respect to each of the Facility Fee, the Utilization Fee, Letters of Credit, Eurocurrency Rate Loans and Base Rate Loans, the following percentages per annum, based upon the Debt Rating as set forth in the table below (the "Pricing Table"):

PRICING LEVEL	DEBT RATINGS S&P/MOODY'S	FACILITY FEE	UTILIZATION FEE	EUROCURRENCY MARGIN	LETTER OF CREDIT FEE	BASE RATE MARGIN
1	A/A2 or better	0.070%	0.075%	0.180%	0.180%	0.0%
2	A-/A3	0.080%	0.075%	0.220%	0.220%	0.0%
3	BBB+/Baa1	0.100%	0.100%	0.300%	0.300%	0.0%
4	BBB/Baa2	0.125%	0.125%	0.375%	0.375%	0.0%
5	BBB-/Baa3 or worse	0.175%	0.125%	0.450%	0.450%	0.0%

Initially, the Applicable Rate shall be determined based upon the Debt Rating specified in the certificate delivered pursuant to Section 5.01(a)(vii). Thereafter, each change in the Applicable Rate resulting from a publicly announced change in the Debt Rating shall be effective, in the case of an upgrade, during the period commencing on the date of delivery by the Company to the Administrative Agent of notice thereof pursuant to Section 7.03(e) and ending on the date immediately preceding the effective date of the next such change and, in the case of a downgrade, during the period commencing on the date of the public announcement thereof and ending on the date immediately preceding the effective date of the next such change.

"Applicable Time" means, with respect to any borrowings and payments in any Alternative Currency, the local time in the place of settlement for such Alternative Currency as may be determined by the Administrative Agent to be necessary for timely settlement on the relevant date in accordance with normal banking procedures in the place of payment.

"Applicant Borrower" has the meaning specified in Section 2.14.

"Approved Fund" means any Fund that is administered or managed by (a) a Lender, (b) an Affiliate of a Lender or (c) an entity or an Affiliate of an entity that administers or manages a Lender.

"Approving Lenders" has the meaning specified in Section 2.15(e).

"Arrangers" means BAS and Citigroup Global Markets, Inc. in their capacities as joint lead arrangers.

"Assignee Group" means two or more Eligible Assignees that are Affiliates of one another or two or more Approved Funds managed by the same investment advisor.

"Assignment and Assumption" means an assignment and assumption entered into by a Lender and an Eligible Assignee (with the consent of any party whose consent is required by Section 11.06(b), and accepted by the Administrative Agent, in substantially the form of Exhibit F or any other form approved by the Administrative Agent.

"Attributable Indebtedness" means, on any date, (a) in respect of any Capital Lease of any Person, the capitalized amount thereof that would appear on a balance sheet of such Person prepared as of such date in accordance with GAAP, (b) in respect of any Synthetic Lease Obligation, the capitalized amount of the remaining lease payments under the relevant lease that would appear on a balance sheet of such Person prepared as of such date in accordance with GAAP if such lease were accounted for as a Capital Lease and (c) in respect of any Securitization Transaction of any Person, the outstanding principal amount of such financing, after taking into account reserve accounts.

"Audited Financial Statements" means the audited consolidated balance sheet of the Company and its Subsidiaries for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2004, and the related consolidated statements of income or operations, shareholders' equity and cash flows for such fiscal year of the Company and its Subsidiaries, including the notes thereto.

"Availability Period" means the period from and including the Closing Date to the earliest of (a) the Maturity Date then in effect for such Lender, (b) the date of termination of the Aggregate Commitments pursuant to Section 2.06, and (c) the date of termination of the commitment of each Lender to make Loans and of the obligation of the L/C Issuer to make L/C Credit Extensions pursuant to Section 9.02.

"Bank of America" means Bank of America, N.A. and its successors.

"BAS" means Banc of America Securities LLC and its successors.

"Base Rate" means for any day a fluctuating rate per annum equal to the higher of (a) the Federal Funds Rate plus 1/2 of 1% and (b) the rate of interest in effect for such day as publicly announced from time to time by Bank of America as its "prime rate." The "prime rate" is a rate set by Bank of America based upon various factors including Bank of America's costs and desired return, general economic conditions and other factors, and is used as a reference point for pricing some loans, which may be priced at, above, or below such announced rate. Any change in such rate announced by Bank of America shall take effect at the opening of business on the day specified in the public announcement of such change.

"Base Rate Committed Loan" means a Committed Loan that is a Base Rate Loan.

"Base Rate Loan" means a Loan that bears interest based on the Base Rate. All Base Rate Loans shall be denominated in Dollars.

"Borrower" and "Borrowers" each has the meaning specified in the introductory paragraph hereto.

"Borrower Materials" has the meaning specified in Section 7.02.

"Borrowing" means a Committed Borrowing or a Swing Line Borrowing, as the context may require.

"Business Day" means any day other than a Saturday, Sunday or other day on which commercial banks are authorized to close under the Laws of, or are in fact closed in, the state where the Administrative Agent's Office with respect to Obligations denominated in Dollars is located and:

(a) if such day relates to any interest rate settings as to a Eurocurrency Rate Loan denominated in Dollars, any fundings, disbursements, settlements and payments in Dollars in respect of any such Eurocurrency Rate Loan, or any other dealings in Dollars to be carried out pursuant to this Agreement in respect of any such Eurocurrency Rate Loan, means any such day on which dealings in deposits in Dollars are conducted by and between banks in the London interbank eurodollar market;

(b) if such day relates to any interest rate settings as to a Eurocurrency Rate Loan denominated in Euro, any fundings, disbursements, settlements and payments in Euro in respect of any such Eurocurrency Rate Loan, or any other dealings in Euro to be carried out pursuant to this Agreement in respect of any such Eurocurrency Rate Loan, means a TARGET Day;

(c) if such day relates to any interest rate settings as to a Eurocurrency Rate Loan denominated in a currency other than Dollars or Euro, means any such day on which dealings in deposits in the relevant currency are conducted by and between banks in the London or other applicable offshore interbank market for such currency; and

(d) if such day relates to any fundings, disbursements, settlements and payments in a currency other than Dollars or Euro in respect of a Eurocurrency Rate Loan denominated in a currency other than Dollars or Euro, or any other dealings in any currency other than Dollars or Euro to be carried out pursuant to this Agreement in respect of any such Eurocurrency Rate Loan (other than any interest rate settings), means any such day on which banks are open for foreign exchange business in the principal financial center of the country of such currency.

"Capital Lease" means, as applied to any Person, any lease of any Property by that Person as lessee which, in accordance with GAAP, is required to be accounted for as a capital lease on the balance sheet of that Person.

"Cash Collateral" has the meaning specified in Section 2.03(g).

"Cash Collateralize" has the meaning specified in Section 2.03(g).

"Cash Equivalents" means any Investment in (i) securities of the U.S. Treasury; (ii) securities of agencies of the U.S. Government; (iii) commercial paper, with a rating in the United States of A-1 by S&P and a rating in the United States of P-1 by Moody's or better; or in the case of a foreign issuer, an equivalent rating by another recognized credit rating service; (iv) bankers' acceptances, certificates of deposit, and time deposits issued by any Lender or by a bank having capital in excess of \$1,000,000,000; (v) repurchase agreements with a "primary" dealer of the Federal Reserve or a bank described in clause (iv) of this definition which is collateralized by obligations of the U.S. Government or federal agencies with a value not to be below 102% of the face value of the repurchase agreement; (vi) municipal obligations with a rating of MIG-1 by S&P and a rating of SP-1 by Moody's or better, (vii) preferred stock which is rated A by S&P or A2 by Moody's or better and whose dividend rate is set no longer than every 49 days through a Dutch auction process and (viii) money market funds substantially all of whose investments listed in the relevant prospectus are of the types listed in the foregoing items (i) through (vii).

"Change in Law" means the occurrence, after the date of this Agreement, of any of the following: (a) the adoption or taking effect of any law, rule, regulation or treaty, (b) any change in any law, rule, regulation or treaty or in the administration, interpretation or application thereof by any Governmental Authority or (c) the making or issuance of any request, guideline or directive (whether or not having the force of law) by any Governmental Authority.

"Change of Control" means an event or series of events by which:

(a) any "person" or "group" (as such terms are used in Sections 13(d) and 14(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, but excluding members of the Cabot family, any employee benefit plan of such person or its subsidiaries, and any person or entity acting in its capacity as trustee, agent or other fiduciary or administrator of any such plan) becomes the "beneficial owner" (as defined in Rules 13d-3 and 13d-5 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, except that a person or group shall be deemed to have "beneficial ownership" of all securities that such person or group has the right to acquire (such right, an "option right"), whether such right is exercisable immediately or only after the passage of time), directly or indirectly, of 25% or more of the equity securities of the Company entitled to vote for members of the board of directors or equivalent governing body of the Company on a fully-diluted basis (and taking into account all such securities that such person or group has the right to acquire pursuant to any option right); or

(b) during any period of 24 consecutive months, a majority of the members of the board of directors or other equivalent governing body of the Company cease to be composed of individuals (i) who were members of that board or equivalent governing body on the first day of such period, (ii) whose election or nomination to that board or equivalent governing body was approved by individuals referred to in clause (i) above constituting at the time of such election or nomination at least a majority of that board or equivalent governing body or (iii) whose election or nomination to that board or other equivalent governing body was approved by individuals referred to in clauses (i) and (ii) above constituting at the time of such election or nomination at least a majority of that board or equivalent governing body (excluding, in the case of both clause (ii) and clause (iii), any individual whose initial nomination for, or assumption of office as, a member of that board or equivalent governing body occurs as a result of an actual or threatened solicitation of proxies or consents for the election or removal of one or more directors by any person or group other than a solicitation for the election of one or more directors by or on behalf of the board of directors).

"Closing Date" means August 3, 2005.

"Code" means the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

"Commitment" means, as to each Lender, its obligation to (a) make Committed Loans to the Borrowers pursuant to Section 2.01, (b) purchase participations in L/C Obligations, and (c) purchase participations in Swing Line Loans, in an aggregate principal amount at any one time outstanding not to exceed the Dollar amount set forth opposite such Lender's name on Schedule 2.01 or in the Assignment and Assumption pursuant to which such Lender becomes a party hereto, as applicable, as such amount may be adjusted from time to time in accordance with this Agreement.

"Committed Borrowing" means a borrowing consisting of simultaneous Committed Loans of the same Type, in the same currency and, in the case of Eurocurrency Rate Loans, having the same Interest Period made by each of the Lenders pursuant to Section 2.01.

"Committed Loan" has the meaning specified in Section 2.01.

"Committed Loan Notice" means a notice of (a) a Committed Borrowing, (b) a conversion of Committed Loans from one Type to the other, or (c) a continuation of Eurocurrency Rate Loans, pursuant to Section 2.02(a), which, if in writing, shall be substantially in the form of Exhibit A.

"Company" has the meaning specified in the introductory paragraph hereto.

"Compliance Certificate" means a certificate substantially in the form of Exhibit E.

"Consolidated EBITDA" means, for any period, for the Company and its Consolidated Subsidiaries on a consolidated basis, an amount equal to Consolidated Net Income for such period plus (a) the following to the extent deducted in calculating such Consolidated Net Income: (i) Consolidated Interest Expense for such period, (ii) the provision for Federal, state, local and foreign income taxes payable by the Company and its Subsidiaries for such period, (iii) depreciation and amortization expense and (iv) other noncash charges for such period minus (b) to the extent included in calculating Consolidated Net Income for such period, all noncash income or gains (including income tax benefits) for such period, all as determined in accordance with GAAP.

"Consolidated Indebtedness" means at any date the Indebtedness of the Company and its Consolidated Subsidiaries, determined on a consolidated basis as of such date.

"Consolidated Interest Coverage Ratio" means, as of any date of determination, the ratio of (a) Consolidated EBITDA for the period of the four prior fiscal quarters ending on such date to (b) the cash portion of Consolidated Interest Expense for such period, each as determined on a consolidated basis in accordance with GAAP.

"Consolidated Interest Expense" means, for any period, for the Company and its Consolidated Subsidiaries on a consolidated basis, the sum of all interest, premium payments, debt discount, fees, charges and related expenses of the Company and its Consolidated Subsidiaries in connection with borrowed money (including capitalized interest and other fees and charges incurred under any Securitization Transactions) or in connection with the deferred purchase price of assets, in each case to the extent treated as interest in accordance with GAAP.

"Consolidated Net Income" means, for any period, for the Company and its Subsidiaries on a consolidated basis, the net income of the Company and its Subsidiaries (excluding extraordinary nonrecurring gains and losses) for that period, determined on a consolidated basis in accordance with GAAP.

"Consolidated Subsidiary" means at any date any Subsidiary or other entity the accounts of which are consolidated with those of the Company in its consolidated financial statements prepared as of such date, in accordance with GAAP.

"Consolidated Tangible Net Worth" means at any date (i) the consolidated stockholders' equity of the Company as of such date (calculated excluding adjustments to translate foreign assets and liabilities for changes in foreign exchange rates made in accordance with Financial Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 52 and 133), minus (ii) to the extent reflected in determining such consolidated stockholders' equity at such date, the amount of consolidated Intangible Assets of the Company and its Consolidated Subsidiaries.

"Contractual Obligation" means, as to any Person, any provision of any security issued by such Person or of any agreement, instrument or other undertaking to which such Person is a party or by which it or any of its property is bound.

"Credit Extension" means each of the following: (a) a Borrowing and (b) an L/C Credit Extension.

"Debt Rating" means, as of any date of determination, the rating as determined by either S&P or Moody's (collectively, the "Debt Ratings") of the Company's non-credit-enhanced, senior unsecured long-term debt; provided that if a Debt Rating is issued by each of the foregoing rating agencies, then the higher of such Debt Ratings shall apply (with the Debt Rating for Pricing Level 1 being the highest and the Debt Rating for Pricing Level 5 being the lowest), unless there is a split in Debt Ratings of more than one level, in which case the Pricing Level that is one level higher than the Pricing Level of the lower Debt Rating shall apply.

"Debtor Relief Laws" means the Bankruptcy Code of the United States, and all other liquidation, conservatorship, bankruptcy, assignment for the benefit of creditors, moratorium, rearrangement, receivership, insolvency, reorganization, or similar debtor relief Laws of the United States or other applicable jurisdictions from time to time in effect and affecting the rights of creditors generally.

"Default" means any event or condition that constitutes an Event of Default or that, with the giving of any notice, the passage of time, or both, would be an Event of Default.

"Default Rate" means (a) when used with respect to Obligations other than Letter of Credit Fees, an interest rate equal to (i) the Base Rate plus (ii) the Applicable Rate, if any, applicable to Base Rate Loans shown in the column labeled Base Rate Margin in the Pricing Table, plus (iii) 2% per annum; provided, however, that with respect to a Eurocurrency Rate Loan, the Default Rate shall be an interest rate equal to the Eurocurrency Rate plus the Applicable Rate shown in the column labeled Eurocurrency Margin in the Pricing Table, plus Mandatory Cost, if any, plus 2% per annum, and (b) when used with respect to Letter of Credit Fees, a rate equal to the Applicable Rate shown in the column labeled Letter of Credit Fee in the Pricing Table, plus 2% per annum.

"Defaulting Lender" means any Lender that (a) has failed to fund any portion of the Committed Loans, participations in L/C Obligations or participations in Swing Line Loans required to be funded by it hereunder within one Business Day of the date required to be funded by it hereunder, (b) has otherwise failed to pay over to the Administrative Agent or any other Lender any other amount required to be paid by it hereunder within one Business Day of the date when due, unless the subject of a good faith dispute, or (c) has been deemed insolvent or become the subject of a bankruptcy or insolvency proceeding.

"Designated Borrower" has the meaning specified in the introductory paragraph hereto.

"Designated Borrower Notice" has the meaning specified in Section 2.14.

"Designated Borrower Obligations" means all advances to, and debts, liabilities, obligations, covenants and duties of, the Designated Borrowers arising under any Loan Document or otherwise with respect to any Loan or Letter of Credit, whether direct or indirect (including those acquired by assumption), absolute or contingent, due or to become due, now existing or hereafter arising and including interest and fees that accrue after the commencement by or against any Designated Borrower or any Affiliate thereof of any proceeding under any Debtor Relief Laws naming such Person as the debtor in such proceeding, regardless of whether such interest and fees are allowed claims in such proceeding.

"Designated Borrower Request and Assumption Agreement" has the meaning specified in Section 2.14.

"Disposition" or "Dispose" means the sale, transfer, license, lease or other disposition (including any sale and leaseback transaction) of any property by any Person, including any sale, assignment, transfer or other disposal, with or without recourse, of any notes or accounts receivable or any rights and claims associated therewith.

"Dollar" and "\$" mean lawful money of the United States.

"Dollar Equivalent" means, at any time, (a) with respect to any amount denominated in Dollars, such amount, and (b) with respect to any amount denominated in any Alternative Currency, the equivalent amount thereof in Dollars as determined by the Administrative Agent or the L/C Issuer, as the case may be, at such time on the basis of the Spot Rate (determined in respect of the most recent Revaluation Date) for the purchase of Dollars with such Alternative Currency.

"Domestic Subsidiary" means any Subsidiary that is organized under the laws of any political subdivision of the United States.

"Eligible Assignee" means (a) a Lender; (b) an Affiliate of a Lender; (c) an Approved Fund; and (d) any other Person (other than a natural person) approved by (i) the Administrative Agent, the L/C Issuer and the Swing Line Lender, and (ii) unless an Event of Default has occurred and is continuing, the Company (each such approval not to be unreasonably withheld or delayed); provided that notwithstanding the foregoing, "Eligible Assignee" shall not include the Company or any of the Company's Affiliates or Subsidiaries; and provided further, however, that an Eligible Assignee shall include only a Lender, an Affiliate of a Lender or another Person, which, through its Lending Offices, is capable of lending to the relevant Borrowers without the imposition of any additional Indemnified Taxes.

"EMU" means the economic and monetary union in accordance with the Treaty of Rome 1957, as amended by the Single European Act 1986, the Maastricht Treaty of 1992 and the Amsterdam Treaty of 1998.

"EMU Legislation" means the legislative measures of the European Council for the introduction of, changeover to or operation of a single or unified European currency.

"Environmental Laws" means any and all Federal, state, local, and foreign statutes, laws, regulations, ordinances, rules, judgments, orders, decrees, permits, concessions, grants, franchises, licenses, agreements or governmental restrictions relating to pollution and the protection of the environment or the release of any materials into the environment, including those related to hazardous substances or wastes, air emissions and discharges to waste or public systems.

"Environmental Liability" means any liability, contingent or otherwise (including any liability for damages, costs of environmental remediation, fines, penalties or indemnities), of the Company, any other Loan Party or any of their respective Subsidiaries directly or indirectly resulting from or based upon (a) violation of any Environmental Law, (b) the generation, use, handling, transportation, storage, treatment or disposal of any Hazardous Materials, (c) exposure to any Hazardous Materials, (d) the release or threatened release of any Hazardous Materials into the environment or (e) any contract, agreement or other consensual arrangement pursuant to which liability is assumed or imposed with respect to any of the foregoing.

"Equity Interests" means, with respect to any Person, all of the shares of capital stock of (or other ownership or profit interests in) such Person, all of the warrants, options or other rights for the purchase or acquisition from such Person of shares of capital stock of (or other ownership or profit interests in) such Person, all of the securities convertible into or exchangeable for shares of capital stock of (or other ownership or profit interests in) such Person or warrants, rights or options for the purchase or acquisition from such Person of such shares (or such other interests), and all of the other ownership or profit interests in such Person (including partnership, member or trust interests therein), whether voting or nonvoting, and whether or not such shares, warrants, options, rights or other interests are outstanding on any date of determination.

"ERISA" means the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974.

"ERISA Affiliate" means any trade or business (whether or not incorporated) under common control with the Company within the meaning of Section 414(b) or (c) of the Code (and Sections 414(m) and (o) of the Code for purposes of provisions relating to Section 412 of the Code).

"ERISA Event" means (a) a Reportable Event with respect to a Pension Plan; (b) a withdrawal by the Company or any ERISA Affiliate from a Pension Plan subject to Section 4063 of ERISA during a plan year in which it was a substantial employer (as defined in Section 4001(a)(2) of ERISA) or a cessation of operations that is treated as such a withdrawal under Section 4062(e) of ERISA; (c) a complete or partial withdrawal by the Company or any ERISA Affiliate from a Multiemployer Plan or notification that a Multiemployer Plan is in reorganization; (d) the filing of a notice of intent to terminate, the treatment of a Plan amendment as a termination under Sections 4041 or 4041A of ERISA, or the commencement of proceedings by the PBGC to terminate a Pension Plan or Multiemployer Plan; (e) an event or condition which constitutes grounds under Section 4042 of ERISA for the termination of, or the appointment of a trustee to administer, any Pension Plan or Multiemployer Plan; or (f) the imposition of any liability under Title IV of ERISA, other than for PBGC premiums due but not delinquent under Section 4007 of ERISA, upon the Company or any ERISA Affiliate.

"Euro" and "EUR" mean the lawful currency of the Participating Member States introduced in accordance with the EMU Legislation.

"Eurocurrency Rate" means, for any Interest Period with respect to a Eurocurrency Rate Loan, the rate per annum equal to the British Bankers Association LIBOR Rate ("BBA LIBOR"), as published by Reuters (or other commercially available source providing quotations of BBA LIBOR as designated by the Administrative Agent from time to time) at approximately 11:00 a.m., London time, two Business Days prior to the commencement of such Interest Period, for deposits in the relevant currency (for delivery on the first day of such Interest Period) with a term equivalent to such Interest Period. If such rate is not available at such time for any reason, then the "Eurocurrency Rate" for such Interest Period shall be the rate per annum determined by the Administrative Agent to be the rate at which deposits in the relevant currency for delivery on the first day of such Interest Period in Same Day Funds in the approximate amount of the Eurocurrency Rate Loan being made, continued or converted by Bank of America and with a term equivalent to such Interest Period would be offered by Bank of America's London Branch (or other Bank of America branch or Affiliate) to major banks in the London or other offshore interbank market for such currency at their request at approximately 11:00 a.m. (London time) two Business Days prior to the commencement of such Interest Period.

"Eurocurrency Rate Loan" means a Committed Loan that bears interest at a rate based on the Eurocurrency Rate. Eurocurrency Rate Loans may be denominated in Dollars or in an Alternative Currency. All Committed Loans denominated in an Alternative Currency must be Eurocurrency Rate Loans.

"Event of Default" has the meaning specified in Section 9.01.

"Excluded Taxes" means, with respect to the Administrative Agent, any Lender, the L/C Issuer or any other recipient of any payment to be made by or on account of any obligation of any Borrower hereunder, (a) taxes imposed on or measured by its overall net income (however denominated), and franchise taxes imposed on it (in lieu of net income taxes), by the jurisdiction (or any political subdivision thereof) under the laws of which such recipient is organized or in which its principal office is located or, in the case of any Lender, in which its applicable Lending Office is located, (b) any branch profits taxes imposed by the United States or any similar tax imposed by any other jurisdiction in which such Borrower is located and (c) except as provided in the following sentence, in the case of a Lender (other than an assignee pursuant to a request by the Company under Section 11.13), any withholding tax that is imposed on amounts payable to such Lender at the time such Lender becomes a party hereto (or designates a new Lending Office) or is attributable to such Lender's failure or inability (other than as a result of a Change in Law) to comply with Section 3.01(e), except to the extent that such Lender (or its assignor, if any) was entitled, at the time of designation of a new Lending Office (or assignment), to receive additional amounts from the applicable Borrower with respect to such withholding tax pursuant to Section 3.01(a). Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in this definition, "Excluded Taxes" shall not include any withholding tax that arises solely as a result of a designation pursuant to Section 2.14 and that is imposed at any time on payments made by or on behalf of a Foreign Obligor to any Lender hereunder or under any other Loan Document, provided that such Lender shall have complied with the last paragraph of Section 3.01(e).

"Existing Credit Agreement" means that certain Credit Agreement dated as of July 13, 2001 among the Company, Fleet National Bank, now known as Bank of America, N.A., as agent, and a syndicate of lenders.

"Existing Maturity Date" has the meaning specified in Section 2.15(a).

"Facility Fee" has the meaning specified in Section 2.09(a).

"Federal Funds Rate" means, for any day, the rate per annum equal to the weighted average of the rates on overnight Federal funds transactions with members of the Federal Reserve System arranged by Federal funds brokers on such day, as published by the Federal Reserve Bank of New York on the Business Day next succeeding such day; provided that (a) if such day is not a Business Day, the Federal Funds Rate for such day shall be such rate on such transactions on the next preceding Business Day as so published on the next succeeding Business Day, and (b) if no such rate is so published on such next succeeding Business Day, the Federal Funds Rate for such day shall be the average rate (rounded upward, if necessary, to a whole multiple of 1/100 of 1%) charged to Bank of America on such day on such transactions as determined by the Administrative Agent.

"Fee Letter" means the letter agreement, dated May 19, 2005 among the Company, Bank of America and BAS.

"Financial Letter of Credit" means a standby letter of credit not constituting a Performance Letter of Credit.

"Foreign Lender" means, with respect to any Borrower, any Lender that is organized under the laws of a jurisdiction other than that in which such Borrower is resident for tax purposes. For purposes of this definition, the United States, each State thereof and the District of Columbia shall be deemed to constitute a single jurisdiction.

"Foreign Obligor" means a Designated Borrower that is a Foreign Subsidiary.

"Foreign Subsidiary" means any Subsidiary that is organized under the laws of a jurisdiction other than the United States, a State thereof or the District of Columbia.

"FRB" means the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System of the United States.

"Fully Satisfied" means, with respect to the Obligations as of any date, that, as of such date, (a) all principal of and interest accrued to such date which constitute Obligations shall have been paid in full in cash, (b) all fees, expenses and other amounts then due and payable which constitute Obligations shall have been paid in cash, (c) all outstanding Letters of Credit shall have been (i) terminated, (ii) fully Cash Collateralized or (iii) secured by one or more letters of credit on terms and conditions, and with one or more financial institutions, reasonably satisfactory to the L/C Issuer and (d) the Commitments shall have expired or been terminated in full.

"Fund" means any Person (other than a natural person) that is (or will be) engaged in making, purchasing, holding or otherwise investing in commercial loans and similar extensions of credit in the ordinary course of its business.

"GAAP" means generally accepted accounting principles in the United States set forth in the opinions and pronouncements of the Accounting Principles Board and the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and statements and pronouncements of the Financial Accounting Standards Board or such other principles as may be approved by a significant segment of the accounting profession in the United States, that are applicable to the circumstances as of the date of determination, consistently applied.

"Governmental Authority" means the government of the United States or any other nation, or of any political subdivision thereof, whether state or local, and any agency, authority, instrumentality, regulatory body, court, central bank or other entity exercising executive, legislative, judicial, taxing, regulatory or administrative powers or functions of or pertaining to government (including any supra-national bodies such as the European Union or the European Central Bank).

"Guarantee" means, as to any Person, (a) any obligation, contingent or otherwise, of such Person guaranteeing or having the economic effect of guaranteeing any Indebtedness payable or performable by another Person (the "primary obligor") in any manner, whether directly or indirectly, and including any obligation of such Person, direct or indirect, (i) to purchase or pay (or advance or supply funds for the purchase or payment of) such Indebtedness, (ii) to purchase or lease property, securities or services for the purpose of assuring the obligee in respect of such Indebtedness of the payment or performance of such Indebtedness, (iii) to maintain working capital, equity capital or any other financial statement condition or liquidity or level of income or cash flow of the primary obligor so as to enable the primary obligor to pay such Indebtedness, or (iv) entered into for the purpose of assuring in any other manner the obligee in respect of such Indebtedness of the payment or performance thereof or to protect such obligee against loss in respect thereof (in whole or in part), or (b) any Lien on any assets of such Person securing any Indebtedness of any other Person, whether or not such Indebtedness is assumed by such Person (or any right, contingent or otherwise, of any holder of such Indebtedness to obtain any such Lien). The amount of any Guarantee shall be deemed to be an amount equal to the stated or determinable amount of the related primary obligation, or portion thereof, in respect of which such Guarantee is made or, if not stated or determinable, the maximum reasonably anticipated liability in respect thereof as determined by the guaranteeing Person in good faith. The term "Guarantee" as a verb has a corresponding meaning.

"Guaranty" means the Guaranty made by the Company in favor of the Administrative Agent and the Lenders pursuant to Article IV hereof.

"Hazardous Materials" means all explosive or radioactive substances or wastes and all hazardous or toxic substances, wastes or other pollutants, including petroleum or petroleum distillates, asbestos or asbestos-containing materials, polychlorinated biphenyls, radon gas, infectious or medical wastes and all other substances or wastes of any nature regulated pursuant to any Environmental Law.

"Indebtedness" means, as to any Person at a particular time, without duplication, all of the following, whether or not included as indebtedness or liabilities in accordance with GAAP:

(a) all obligations of such Person for borrowed money and all obligations of such Person evidenced by bonds, debentures, notes, loan agreements or other similar instruments;

(b) all direct or contingent obligations of such Person arising under Financial Letters of Credit, bankers' acceptances, bank guaranties, surety bonds and similar instruments;

(c) all obligations of such Person to pay the deferred purchase price of property or services (other than trade accounts payable in the ordinary course of business and payable in accordance with customary practices);

(d) indebtedness (excluding prepaid interest thereon) secured by a Lien on property owned or being purchased by such Person (including indebtedness arising under conditional sales or other title retention agreements), whether or not such indebtedness shall have been assumed by such Person or is limited in recourse;

(e) the Attributable Indebtedness of Capital Leases and Securitization Transactions;

(f) all Guarantees of such Person in respect of any of the foregoing; and

(g) all Indebtedness of the types referred to in clauses (a) through (f) above of any partnership or joint venture (other than a joint venture that is itself a corporation or limited liability company) in which the Company or any Subsidiary is a general partner or a joint venturer, unless such Indebtedness is expressly made non-recourse to the Company or such Subsidiary.

The amount of any Capital Lease or Securitization Transaction as of any date shall be deemed to be the amount of Attributable Indebtedness in respect thereof as of such date.

"Indemnified Taxes" means Taxes other than Excluded Taxes.

"Indemnitees" has the meaning specified in Section 11.04(b).

"Information" has the meaning specified in Section 11.07.

"Intangible Assets" means the amount of all unamortized debt discount and expense, unamortized deferred charges, goodwill, patents, trademarks, service marks, trade names, anticipated future benefit of tax loss carry-forwards, copyrights, organization or developmental expenses and other assets treated as intangible assets under GAAP.

"Interest Payment Date" means, (a) as to any Loan other than a Base Rate Loan, the last day of each Interest Period applicable to such Loan and the Maturity Date; provided, however, that if any Interest Period for a Eurocurrency Rate Loan exceeds three months, the respective dates that fall every three months after the beginning of such Interest Period shall also be Interest Payment Dates; and (b) as to any Base Rate Loan (including a Swing Line Loan), the last Business Day of each March, June, September and December and the Maturity Date.

"Interest Period" means, as to each Eurocurrency Rate Loan, the period commencing on the date such Eurocurrency Rate Loan is disbursed or converted to or continued as a Eurocurrency Rate Loan and ending on the date one, two, three or six months thereafter, as selected by the Company in its Committed Loan Notice; provided that:

- (i) any Interest Period that would otherwise end on a day that is not a Business Day shall be extended to the next succeeding Business Day unless such Business Day falls in another calendar month, in which case such Interest Period shall end on the next preceding Business Day;
- (ii) any Interest Period that begins on the last Business Day of a calendar month (or on a day for which there is no numerically corresponding day in the calendar month at the end of such Interest Period) shall end on the last Business Day of the calendar month at the end of such Interest Period; and
- (iii) no Interest Period shall extend beyond the Maturity Date.

"Investment" means, as to any Person, any direct or indirect acquisition or investment by such Person, whether by means of (a) the purchase or other acquisition of capital stock or other securities of another Person, (b) a loan, advance or capital contribution to, Guarantee or guaranty of any obligation or assumption of debt of, or purchase or other acquisition of any other debt or equity participation or interest in, another Person, including any partnership or joint venture interest in such other Person and any arrangement pursuant to which the investor Guarantees Indebtedness of such other Person, or (c) the purchase or other acquisition (in one transaction or a series of transactions) of assets of another Person that constitute a business unit. For purposes of covenant compliance, the amount of any Investment shall be the amount actually invested, without adjustment for subsequent increases or decreases in the value of such Investment.

"IRS" means the United States Internal Revenue Service.

"ISP" means, with respect to any Letter of Credit, the "International Standby Practices 1998" published by the Institute of International Banking Law & Practice (or such later version thereof as may be in effect at the time of issuance).

"Issuer Documents" means with respect to any Letter of Credit, the Letter of Credit Application, and any other document, agreement and instrument entered into by the L/C Issuer and the Company (or any Subsidiary) or in favor the L/C Issuer and relating to any such Letter of Credit.

"Laws" means, collectively, all international, foreign, Federal, state and local statutes, treaties, rules, guidelines, regulations, ordinances, codes and administrative or judicial precedents or authorities, including the interpretation or administration thereof by any Governmental Authority charged with the enforcement, interpretation or administration thereof, and all applicable administrative orders, directed duties, requests, licenses, authorizations and permits of, and agreements with, any Governmental Authority, in each case whether or not having the force of law.

"L/C Advance" means, with respect to each Lender, such Lender's funding of its participation in any L/C Borrowing in accordance with its Applicable Percentage. All L/C Advances shall be denominated in Dollars.

"L/C Borrowing" means an extension of credit resulting from a drawing under any Letter of Credit which has not been reimbursed on the date when made or refinanced as a Committed Borrowing. All L/C Borrowings shall be denominated in Dollars.

"L/C Credit Extension" means, with respect to any Letter of Credit, the issuance thereof or extension of the expiry date thereof, or the increase of the amount thereof.

"L/C Issuer" means Bank of America in its capacity as issuer of Letters of Credit hereunder, or any successor issuer of Letters of Credit hereunder.

"L/C Obligations" means, as at any date of determination, the aggregate amount available to be drawn under all outstanding Letters of Credit plus the aggregate of all Unreimbursed Amounts, including all L/C Borrowings. For purposes of computing the amount available to be drawn under any Letter of Credit, the amount of such Letter of Credit shall be determined in accordance with Section 1.08. For all purposes of this Agreement, if on any date of determination a Letter of Credit has expired by its terms but any amount may still be drawn thereunder by reason of the operation of Rule 3.14 of the ISP, such Letter of Credit shall be deemed to be "outstanding" in the amount so remaining available to be drawn.

"Lender" has the meaning specified in the introductory paragraph hereto and, as the context requires, includes the Swing Line Lender.

"Lending Office" means, as to any Lender, the office or offices of such Lender described as such in such Lender's Administrative Questionnaire, or such other office or offices as a Lender may from time to time notify the Company and the Administrative Agent.

"Letter of Credit" means any letter of credit issued hereunder. A Letter of Credit may be a commercial letter of credit or a standby letter of credit. Letters of Credit may be issued in Dollars only.

"Letter of Credit Application" means an application and agreement for the issuance or amendment of a Letter of Credit in the form from time to time in use by the L/C Issuer.

"Letter of Credit Expiration Date" means the day that is seven days prior to the Maturity Date then in effect (or, if such day is not a Business Day, the next preceding Business Day).

"Letter of Credit Fee" has the meaning specified in Section 2.03(i).

"Letter of Credit Sublimit" means an amount equal to \$100,000,000. The Letter of Credit Sublimit is part of, and not in addition to, the Aggregate Commitments.

"Lien" means any mortgage, pledge, hypothecation, assignment, deposit arrangement, encumbrance, lien (statutory or other), charge, or preference, priority or other security interest or preferential arrangement in the nature of a security interest of any kind or nature whatsoever (including any conditional sale or other title retention agreement, any easement, right of way or other encumbrance on title to real property, and any Capital Lease having substantially the same economic effect as any of the foregoing).

"Loan" means an extension of credit by a Lender to a Borrower under Article II in the form of a Committed Loan or a Swing Line Loan.

"Loan Documents" means this Agreement, each Designated Borrower Request and Assumption Agreement, each Note, each Issuer Document and the Fee Letter, each as amended, modified, supplemented, extended, renewed, restated or substituted from time to time.

"Loan Parties" means, collectively, the Company and each Designated Borrower.

"Mandatory Cost" means, with respect to any period, the percentage rate per annum determined in accordance with Schedule 1.01.

"Material Adverse Effect" means (a) a material adverse change in, or a material adverse effect upon, the operations, business, properties, liabilities (actual or contingent) or condition (financial or otherwise) of the Company or the Company and its Subsidiaries taken as a whole; or (b) a material adverse effect upon the legality, validity, binding effect or enforceability against any Loan Party of any Loan Document to which it is a party.

"Maturity Date" means the later of (a) August 3, 2010 and (b) with respect to some or all of the Lenders if maturity is extended pursuant to Section 2.15, such extended maturity date as determined pursuant to such Section.

"Moody's" means Moody's Investors Service, Inc. and any successor thereto.

"Multiemployer Plan" means any employee benefit plan of the type described in Section 4001(a)(3) of ERISA, to which the Company or any ERISA Affiliate makes or is obligated to make contributions, or during the preceding five plan years, has made or been obligated to make contributions.

"Non-Consenting Lender" has the meaning specified in Section 11.13.

"Note" means a Revolving Note or a Swing Line Note, as the context may require.

"Obligations" means all advances to, and debts, liabilities, obligations, covenants and duties of, any Loan Party arising under any Loan Document or otherwise with respect to any Loan or Letter of Credit, whether direct or indirect (including those acquired by assumption), absolute or contingent, due or to become due, now existing or hereafter arising and including interest and fees that accrue after the commencement by or against any Loan Party or any Affiliate thereof of any proceeding under any Debtor Relief Laws naming such Person as the debtor in such proceeding, regardless of whether such interest and fees are allowed claims in such proceeding.

"OFAC" means the U.S. Department of the Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control.

"Organization Documents" means, (a) with respect to any corporation, the certificate or articles of incorporation and the bylaws (or equivalent or comparable constitutive documents with respect to any non-U.S. jurisdiction); (b) with respect to any limited liability company, the certificate or articles of formation or organization and operating agreement; and (c) with respect to any partnership, joint venture, trust or other form of business entity, the partnership, joint venture or other applicable agreement of formation or organization and any agreement, instrument, filing or notice with respect thereto filed in connection with its formation or organization with the applicable Governmental Authority in the jurisdiction of its formation or organization and, if applicable, any certificate or articles of formation or organization of such entity.

"Other Taxes" means all present or future stamp or documentary taxes or any other excise or property taxes, charges or similar levies arising from any payment made hereunder or under any other Loan Document or from the execution, delivery or enforcement of, or otherwise with respect to, this Agreement or any other Loan Document.

"Outstanding Amount" means (i) with respect to Committed Loans on any date, the Dollar Equivalent amount of the aggregate outstanding principal amount thereof after giving effect to any borrowings and prepayments or repayments of such Committed Loans occurring on such date; (ii) with respect to Swing Line Loans on any date, the aggregate outstanding principal amount thereof after giving effect to any borrowings and prepayments or repayments of such Swing Line Loans occurring on such date; and (iii) with respect to any L/C Obligations on any date, the aggregate outstanding amount of such L/C Obligations on such date after giving effect to any L/C Credit Extension occurring on such date and any other changes in the aggregate amount of the L/C Obligations as of such date, including as a result of any reimbursements by the Company of Unreimbursed Amounts.

"Overnight Rate" means, for any day, (a) with respect to any amount denominated in Dollars, the greater of (i) the Federal Funds Rate and (ii) an overnight rate determined by the Administrative Agent, the L/C Issuer, or the Swing Line Lender, as the case may be, in accordance with banking industry rules on interbank compensation, and (b) with respect to any amount denominated in an Alternative Currency, the rate of interest per annum at which overnight deposits in the applicable Alternative Currency, in an amount approximately equal to the amount with respect to which such rate is being determined, would be offered for such day by a branch or Affiliate of Bank of America in the applicable offshore interbank market for such currency to major banks in such interbank market.

"Participant" has the meaning specified in Section 11.06(d).

"Participating Member State" means each state so described in any EMU Legislation.

"PBGC" means the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation.

"Pension Plan" means any "employee pension benefit plan" (as such term is defined in Section 3(2) of ERISA), other than a Multiemployer Plan, that is subject to Title IV of ERISA and is sponsored or maintained by the Company or any ERISA Affiliate or to which the Company or any ERISA Affiliate contributes or has an obligation to contribute, or in the case of a multiple employer or other plan described in Section 4064(a) of ERISA, has made contributions at any time during the immediately preceding five plan years.

"Performance Letter of Credit" means a standby letter of credit issued to ensure the performance of services and/or delivery of goods.

"Permitted Acquisition" means any Acquisition by any the Borrower or any Subsidiary that satisfies the following conditions:

(a) in the case of an Acquisition of the Equity Interest of any Person, the board of directors (or other comparable governing body) of such other Person shall have approved the Acquisition; and

(b) (i) no Default or Event of Default shall exist and be continuing immediately before or immediately after giving effect thereto, (ii) the representations and warranties made by the Loan Parties in any Loan Document (other than the representations and warranties contained in Sections 6.05(c), 6.06, 6.08 and 6.10 hereof) shall be true and correct in all material respects at and as if made as of the date of such Acquisition (after giving effect thereto) except to the extent such representations and warranties expressly relate to an earlier date, and (iii) in the case of an Acquisition of the Equity Interest of any Person where the aggregate cash consideration exceeds \$100,000,000, the Company shall have delivered to the Administrative Agent a certificate demonstrating that, upon giving effect to such Acquisition on a Pro Forma Basis, the Loan Parties would be in compliance with the financial covenants set forth in Section 8.06 as of the most recent fiscal quarter for which the Company has delivered financial statements pursuant to Section 7.01(a) or (b).

"Permitted Investment" means any Investment by any the Borrower or any Subsidiary that satisfies the following conditions: (a) no Default or Event of Default shall exist and be continuing immediately before or immediately after giving effect thereto, (b) the representations and warranties made by the Loan Parties in any Loan Document (other than the representations and warranties contained in Sections 6.05(c), 6.06, 6.08 and 6.10 hereof) shall be true and correct in all material respects at and as if made as of the date of such Investment (after giving effect thereto) except to the extent such representations and warranties expressly relate to an earlier date, and (c) in the case of an Investment of an Equity Interest in any Person where the aggregate cash consideration exceeds \$100,000,000, the Company shall have delivered to the Administrative Agent a certificate demonstrating that, upon giving effect to such Investment on a Pro Forma Basis, the Loan Parties would be in compliance with the financial covenants set forth in Section 8.06 as of the most recent fiscal quarter for which the Company has delivered financial statements pursuant to Section 7.01(a) or (b).

"Permitted Liens" means those Liens permitted to exist pursuant to Section 8.01.

"Person" means any natural person, corporation, limited liability company, trust, joint venture, association, company, partnership, Governmental Authority or other entity.

"Plan" means any "employee benefit plan" (as such term is defined in Section 3(3) of ERISA) established by the Company or, with respect to any such plan that is subject to Section 412 of the Code or Title IV of ERISA, any ERISA Affiliate.

"Platform" has the meaning specified in Section 7.02.

"Pricing Table" has the meaning specified in the definition of "Applicable Percentage."

"Pro Forma Basis" means, for purposes of calculating the financial covenants set forth in Section 8.06 (including for purposes of determining the Applicable Rate), that any Investment of an Equity Interest shall be deemed to have occurred as of the first day of the most recent four fiscal quarter period preceding the date of such transaction for which the Company has delivered financial statements pursuant to Section 7.01(a) or (b). In connection with the foregoing, (a) income statement items (whether positive or negative) attributable to the Person or property acquired shall be included to the extent relating to any period applicable in such calculations to the extent (i) such items are not otherwise included in such income statement items for the Company and its Subsidiaries in accordance with GAAP or in accordance with any defined terms set forth in Section 1.01 and (ii) such items are supported by audited financial statements or other information reasonably satisfactory to the Administrative Agent and (b) any Indebtedness incurred or assumed by the Company or any Subsidiary (including the Person or property acquired) in connection with such transaction and any Indebtedness of the Person or property acquired which is not retired in connection with such transaction (i) shall be deemed to have been incurred as of the first day of the applicable period and (ii) if such Indebtedness has a floating or formula rate, shall have an implied rate of interest for the applicable period for purposes of this definition determined by utilizing the rate which is or would be in effect with respect to such Indebtedness as at the relevant date of determination.

"Property" means any interest of any kind in any property or asset, whether real, personal or mixed, or tangible or intangible.

"Register" has the meaning specified in Section 11.06(c).

"Registered Public Accounting Firm" has the meaning specified in the Securities Laws and shall be independent of the Company as prescribed by the Securities Laws.

"Regulation U" means Regulation U of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, as in effect from time to time.

"Related Parties" means, with respect to any Person, such Person's Affiliates and the partners, directors, officers, employees, agents and advisors of such Person and of such Person's Affiliates.

"Reportable Event" means any of the events set forth in Section 4043(c) of ERISA, other than events for which the 30 day notice period has been waived.

"Request for Credit Extension" means (a) with respect to a Borrowing, conversion or continuation of Committed Loans, a Committed Loan Notice, (b) with respect to an L/C Credit Extension, a Letter of Credit Application, and (c) with respect to a Swing Line Loan, a Swing Line Loan Notice.

"Required Lenders" means, as of any date of determination, Lenders having more than 50% of the Aggregate Commitments or, if the commitment of each Lender to make Loans and the obligation of the L/C Issuer to make L/C Credit Extensions have been terminated pursuant to Section 9.02, Lenders holding in the aggregate more than 50% of the Total Outstandings (with the aggregate amount of each Lender's risk participation and funded participation in L/C Obligations and Swing Line Loans being deemed "held" by such Lender for purposes of this definition); provided that the Commitment of, and the portion of the Total Outstandings held or deemed held by, any Defaulting Lender shall be excluded for purposes of making a determination of Required Lenders.

"Responsible Officer" means the chief executive officer, president, chief financial officer, treasurer or assistant treasurer of a Loan Party. Any document delivered hereunder that is signed by a Responsible Officer of a Loan Party shall be conclusively presumed to have been authorized by all necessary corporate, partnership and/or other action on the part of such Loan Party and such Responsible Officer shall be conclusively presumed to have acted on behalf of such Loan Party.

"Revaluation Date" means with respect to any Loan, each of the following: (a) each date of a Borrowing of a Eurocurrency Rate Loan denominated in an Alternative Currency, (b) each date of a continuation of a Eurocurrency Rate Loan denominated in an Alternative Currency pursuant to Section 2.02, and (c) such additional dates as the Administrative Agent shall determine or the Required Lenders shall require.

"Revolving Note" has the meaning specified in Section 2.11.

"S&P" means Standard & Poor's Ratings Services, a division of The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc. and any successor thereto.

"Same Day Funds" means (a) with respect to disbursements and payments in Dollars, immediately available funds, and (b) with respect to disbursements and payments in an Alternative Currency, same day or other funds as may be determined by the Administrative Agent or the L/C Issuer, as the case may be, to be customary in the place of disbursement or payment for the settlement of international banking transactions in the relevant Alternative Currency.

"Sarbanes-Oxley" means the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

"SEC" means the Securities and Exchange Commission, or any Governmental Authority succeeding to any of its principal functions.

"Securities Laws" means the Securities Act of 1933, the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Sarbanes-Oxley and the applicable accounting and auditing principles, rules, standards and practices promulgated, approved or incorporated by the SEC or the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board, as each of the foregoing may be amended and in effect on any applicable date hereunder.

"Securitization Subsidiary" has the meaning specified in the definition of "Securitization Transaction".

"Securitization Transaction" means any financing transaction or series of financing transactions (including factoring arrangements) pursuant to which the Company or any Subsidiary may sell, convey or otherwise transfer, or grant a security interest in, accounts, payments, receivables, rights to future lease payments or residuals or similar rights to payment to a special purpose subsidiary or affiliate of the Company, each a "Securitization Subsidiary".

"Significant Subsidiary" means each Domestic Subsidiary now existing or hereafter acquired or formed, and each successor thereto, which, after giving pro forma effect to such acquisition or formation, or at any other time thereafter:

- (1) The Company's and its other Subsidiaries' Investments in and advances to such Domestic Subsidiary exceed 10 percent of the total assets of the Company and its Subsidiaries on a consolidated basis; or
- (2) The Company's and its other Subsidiaries' proportionate share of the total assets (after intercompany eliminations) of such Domestic Subsidiary exceeds 10 percent of the total assets of the Company and its Subsidiaries on a consolidated basis; or
- (3) The Company's and its other Subsidiaries' equity in the income from continuing operations before income taxes, extraordinary items and cumulative effect of a change in accounting principle of such Domestic Subsidiary exceeds 10 percent of such income of the Company and its Subsidiaries on a consolidated basis.

"Special Notice Currency" means at any time an Alternative Currency, other than the currency of a country that is a member of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development at such time located in North America or Europe.

"Spot Rate" for a currency means the rate determined by the Administrative Agent or the L/C Issuer, as applicable, to be the rate quoted by the Person acting in such capacity as the spot rate for the purchase by such Person of such currency with another currency through its principal foreign exchange trading office at approximately 11:00 a.m. on the date two Business Days prior to the date as of which the foreign exchange computation is made; provided that the Administrative Agent or the L/C Issuer may obtain such spot rate from another financial institution designated by the Administrative Agent or the L/C Issuer if the Person acting in such capacity does not have as of the date of determination a spot buying rate for any such currency.

"Sterling" and "(pound)" mean the lawful currency of the United Kingdom.

"Subsidiary" of a Person means a corporation, partnership, joint venture, limited liability company or other business entity of which a majority of the shares of securities or other interests having ordinary voting power for the election of directors or other governing body (other than securities or interests having such power only by reason of the happening of a contingency) are at the time beneficially owned, or the management of which is otherwise controlled, directly, or indirectly through one or more intermediaries, or both, by such Person. Unless otherwise specified, all references herein to a "Subsidiary" or to "Subsidiaries" shall refer to a Subsidiary or Subsidiaries of the Company.

"Swing Line" means the revolving credit facility made available by the Swing Line Lender pursuant to Section 2.04.

"Swing Line Borrowing" means a borrowing of a Swing Line Loan pursuant to Section 2.04.

"Swing Line Lender" means Bank of America in its capacity as provider of Swing Line Loans, or any successor swing line lender hereunder.

"Swing Line Loan" has the meaning specified in Section 2.04(a).

"Swing Line Loan Notice" means a notice of a Swing Line Borrowing pursuant to Section 2.04(b), which, if in writing, shall be substantially in the form of Exhibit B.

"Swing Line Note" has the meaning specified in Section 2.11.

"Swing Line Sublimit" means an amount equal to the lesser of (a) \$25,000,000 and (b) the Aggregate Commitments. The Swing Line Sublimit is part of, and not in addition to, the Aggregate Commitments.

"Synthetic Lease Obligation" means the monetary obligation of a Person under (a) a so-called synthetic, off-balance sheet or tax retention lease, or (b) an agreement for the use or possession of property creating obligations that do not appear on the balance sheet of such Person but which, upon the insolvency or bankruptcy of such Person, would be characterized as the indebtedness of such Person (without regard to accounting treatment).

"TARGET Day" means any day on which the Trans-European Automated Real-time Gross Settlement Express Transfer (TARGET) payment system (or, if such payment system ceases to be operative, such other payment system (if any) determined by the Administrative Agent to be a suitable replacement) is open for the settlement of payments in Euro.

"Taxes" means all present or future taxes, levies, imposts, duties, deductions, withholdings, assessments, fees or other charges imposed by any Governmental Authority, including any interest, additions to tax or penalties applicable thereto.

"Threshold Amount" means \$30,000,000.

"Total Capitalization" means, at any date, Consolidated Indebtedness plus the consolidated stockholders' equity of the Company (calculated excluding adjustments to translate foreign assets and liabilities for changes in foreign exchange rates made in accordance with Financial Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 52 and 133), all as would be presented according to GAAP in a consolidated balance sheet of the Company as of such date.

"Total Outstandings" means the aggregate Outstanding Amount of all Loans and all L/C Obligations.

"Type" means, with respect to a Committed Loan, its character as a Base Rate Loan or a Eurocurrency Rate Loan.

"UCP" means the Uniform Customs and Practice for Documentary Credits (1993 Revision), International Chamber of Commerce Publication No. 500, as the same may be amended from time to time.

"Unfunded Pension Liability" means the excess of a Pension Plan's benefit liabilities under Section 4001(a)(16) of ERISA, over the current value of that Pension Plan's assets, determined in accordance with the assumptions used for funding the Pension Plan pursuant to Section 412 of the Code for the applicable plan year.

"United States" and "U.S." mean the United States of America.

"Unreimbursed Amount" has the meaning specified in Section 2.03(c)(i).

"Utilization Fee" has the meaning specified in Section 2.09(b).

"Wholly Owned Subsidiary" means a Subsidiary of the Company, the Equity Interest of which is 100% owned and controlled, directly or indirectly, by the Company (excluding directors' qualifying shares or shares required by Law to be held by residents of the jurisdiction where such Subsidiary is domiciled).

"Yen" and "(yen)" mean the lawful currency of Japan.

1.02 OTHER INTERPRETIVE PROVISIONS. With reference to this Agreement and each other Loan Document, unless otherwise specified herein or in such other Loan Document:

(a) The definitions of terms herein shall apply equally to the singular and plural forms of the terms defined. Whenever the context may require, any pronoun shall include the corresponding masculine, feminine and neuter forms. The words "include," "includes" and "including" shall be deemed to be followed by the phrase "without limitation." The word "will" shall be construed to have the same meaning and effect as the word "shall." Unless the context requires otherwise, (i) any definition of or reference to any agreement, instrument or other document (including any Organization Document) shall be construed as referring to such agreement, instrument or other document as from time to time amended, supplemented or otherwise modified (subject to any restrictions on such amendments, supplements or modifications set forth herein or in any other Loan Document), (ii) any reference herein to any Person shall be construed to include such Person's successors and assigns, (iii) the words "herein," "hereof" and "hereunder," and words of similar import when used in any Loan Document, shall be construed to refer to such Loan Document in its entirety and not to any particular provision thereof, (iv) all references in a Loan Document to Articles, Sections, Exhibits and Schedules shall be construed to refer to Articles and Sections of, and Exhibits and Schedules to, the Loan Document in which such references appear, (v) any reference to any law shall include all statutory and regulatory provisions consolidating, amending, replacing or interpreting such law and any reference to any law or regulation shall, unless otherwise specified, refer to such law or regulation as amended, modified or supplemented from time to time, and (vi) the words "asset" and "property" shall be construed to have the same meaning and effect and to refer to any and all tangible and intangible assets and properties, including cash, securities, accounts and contract rights.

(b) In the computation of periods of time from a specified date to a later specified date, the word "from" means "from and including;" the words "to" and "until" each mean "to but excluding;" and the word "through" means "to and including."

(c) Section headings herein and in the other Loan Documents are included for convenience of reference only and shall not affect the interpretation of this Agreement or any other Loan Document.

1.03 ACCOUNTING TERMS.

(a) Generally. All accounting terms not specifically or completely defined herein shall be construed in conformity with, and all financial data (including financial ratios and other financial calculations) required to be submitted pursuant to this Agreement shall be prepared in conformity with, GAAP applied on a consistent basis, as in effect from time to time, applied in a manner consistent with that used in preparing the Audited Financial Statements, except as otherwise specifically prescribed herein.

(b) Changes in GAAP. If at any time any change in GAAP would affect the computation of any financial ratio or requirement set forth in any Loan Document, and either the Company or the Required Lenders shall so request, the Administrative Agent, the Lenders and the Company shall negotiate in good faith to amend such ratio or requirement to preserve the original intent thereof in light of such change in GAAP (subject to the approval of the Required Lenders); provided that, until so amended, (i) such ratio or requirement shall continue to be computed in accordance with GAAP prior to such change therein and (ii) the Company shall provide to the Administrative Agent and the Lenders financial statements and other documents required under this Agreement or as reasonably requested hereunder setting forth a reconciliation between calculations of such ratio or requirement made before and after giving effect to such change in GAAP.

(c) Pro Forma Basis. Notwithstanding the above, the parties hereto acknowledge and agree that all calculations of financial covenants in Section 8.06 shall be made on a Pro Forma Basis.

1.04 EXCHANGE RATES; CURRENCY EQUIVALENTS.

(a) The Administrative Agent or the L/C Issuer, as applicable, shall determine the Spot Rates as of each Revaluation Date to be used for calculating Dollar Equivalent amounts of Credit Extensions and Outstanding Amounts denominated in Alternative Currencies. Such Spot Rates shall become effective as of such Revaluation Date and shall be the Spot Rates employed in converting any amounts between the applicable currencies until the next Revaluation Date to occur. Except for purposes of financial statements delivered by Loan Parties hereunder or calculating financial covenants hereunder or except as otherwise provided herein, the applicable amount of any currency (other than Dollars) for purposes of the Loan Documents shall be such Dollar Equivalent amount as so determined by the Administrative Agent or the L/C Issuer, as applicable.

(b) Wherever in this Agreement in connection with a Committed Borrowing, conversion, continuation or prepayment of a Eurocurrency Rate Loan, an amount, such as a required minimum or multiple amount, is expressed in Dollars, but such Committed Borrowing or Eurocurrency Rate Loan is denominated in an Alternative Currency, such amount shall be the relevant Alternative Currency Equivalent of such Dollar amount (rounded to the nearest unit of such Alternative Currency, with 0.5 of a unit being rounded upward), as determined by the Administrative Agent.

1.05 ADDITIONAL ALTERNATIVE CURRENCIES.

(a) The Company may from time to time request that Eurocurrency Rate Loans be made in a currency other than those specifically listed in the definition of "Alternative Currency;" provided that such requested currency is a lawful currency (other than Dollars) that is readily available and freely transferable and convertible into Dollars. Such request shall be subject to the approval of the Administrative Agent and the Lenders.

(b) Any such request shall be made to the Administrative Agent not later than 11:00 a.m., 10 Business Days prior to the date of the desired Credit Extension (or such other time or date as may be agreed by the Administrative Agent in its sole discretion). In the case of any such request pertaining to Eurocurrency Rate Loans, the Administrative Agent shall promptly notify each Lender thereof. Each Lender shall notify the Administrative Agent, not later than 11:00 a.m., ten Business Days after receipt of such request whether it consents, in its sole discretion, to the making of Eurocurrency Rate Loans in such requested currency.

(c) Any failure by a Lender to respond to such request within the time period specified in the preceding sentence shall be deemed to be a refusal by such Lender to permit Eurocurrency Rate Loans to be made in such requested currency. If the Administrative Agent and all the Lenders consent to making Eurocurrency Rate Loans in such requested currency, the Administrative Agent shall so notify the Company and such currency shall thereupon be deemed for all purposes to be an Alternative Currency hereunder for purposes of any Committed Borrowings of Eurocurrency Rate Loans. If the Administrative Agent shall fail to obtain consent to any request for an additional currency under this Section 1.05, the Administrative Agent shall promptly so notify the Company.

1.06 CHANGE OF CURRENCY.

(a) Each obligation of the Borrowers to make a payment denominated in the national currency unit of any member state of the European Union that adopts the Euro as its lawful currency after the date hereof shall be redenominated into Euro at the time of such adoption (in accordance with the EMU Legislation). If, in relation to the currency of any such member state, the basis of accrual of interest expressed in this Agreement in respect of that currency shall be inconsistent with any convention or practice in the London interbank market for the basis of accrual of interest in respect of the Euro, such expressed basis shall be replaced by such convention or practice with effect from the date on which such member state adopts the Euro as its lawful currency; provided that if any Committed Borrowing in the currency of such member state is outstanding immediately prior to such date, such replacement shall take effect, with respect to such Committed Borrowing, at the end of the then current Interest Period.

(b) Each provision of this Agreement shall be subject to such reasonable changes of construction as the Administrative Agent may from time to time specify to be appropriate to reflect the adoption of the Euro by any member state of the European Union and any relevant market conventions or practices relating to the Euro.

(c) Each provision of this Agreement also shall be subject to such reasonable changes of construction as the Administrative Agent may from time to time specify to be appropriate to reflect a change in currency of any other country and any relevant market conventions or practices relating to the change in currency.

1.07 TIMES OF DAY. Unless otherwise specified, all references herein to times of day shall be references to Eastern time (daylight or standard, as applicable).

1.08 LETTER OF CREDIT AMOUNTS. Unless otherwise specified herein, the amount of a Letter of Credit at any time shall be deemed to be the stated amount of such Letter of Credit in effect at such time; provided, however, that with respect to any Letter of Credit that, by its terms or the terms of any Issuer Document related thereto, provides for one or more automatic increases in the stated amount thereof, the amount of such Letter of Credit shall be deemed to be the maximum stated amount of such Letter of Credit after giving effect to all such increases, whether or not such maximum stated amount is in effect at such time.

ARTICLE II THE COMMITMENTS AND CREDIT EXTENSIONS

2.01 COMMITTED LOANS.

Subject to the terms and conditions set forth herein, each Lender severally agrees to make loans (each such loan, a "Committed Loan") to the Borrowers in Dollars or in one or more Alternative Currencies from time to time, on any Business Day during the Availability Period, in an aggregate amount not to exceed at any time outstanding the amount of such Lender's Commitment; provided, however, that after giving effect to any Committed Borrowing, (i) the Total Outstandings shall not exceed the Aggregate Commitments and (ii) the aggregate Outstanding Amount of the Committed Loans of any Lender, plus such Lender's Applicable Percentage of the Outstanding Amount of all L/C Obligations, plus such Lender's Applicable Percentage of the Outstanding Amount of all Swing Line Loans shall not exceed such Lender's Commitment; and provided further that the availability of the Aggregate Commitments at any time for the making of Loans and the issuance of Letters of Credit shall be reduced by the amount of the Alternative Currency Reserve. Within the limits of each Lender's Commitment, and subject to the other terms and conditions hereof, the Borrowers may borrow under this Section 2.01, prepay under Section 2.05, and reborrow under this Section 2.01. Committed Loans may be Base Rate Loans or Eurocurrency Rate Loans, as further provided herein. All Committed Loans made on the Closing Date shall be Base Rate Loans.

2.02 BORROWINGS, CONVERSIONS AND CONTINUATIONS OF COMMITTED LOANS.

(a) Each Committed Borrowing, each conversion of Committed Loans from one Type to the other, and each continuation of Eurocurrency Rate Loans shall be made upon the Company's irrevocable notice to the Administrative Agent, which may be given by telephone. Each such notice must be received by the Administrative Agent not later than 11:00 a.m. (i) three Business Days prior to the requested date of any Borrowing of, conversion to or continuation of Eurocurrency Rate Loans denominated in Dollars or of any conversion of Eurocurrency Rate Loans denominated in Dollars to Base Rate Committed Loans, 24 (ii) four Business Days (or five Business Days in the case of a Special Notice Currency) prior to the requested date of any Borrowing or continuation of Eurocurrency Rate Loans denominated in Alternative Currencies, and (iii) on the requested date of any Borrowing of Base Rate Committed Loans. Each telephonic notice by the Company pursuant to this Section 2.02(a) must be confirmed promptly by delivery to the Administrative Agent of a written Committed Loan Notice, appropriately completed and signed by a Responsible Officer of the Company. Each Borrowing of, conversion to or continuation of Eurocurrency Rate Loans shall be in a principal amount of \$5,000,000 or a whole multiple of \$1,000,000 in excess thereof. Except as provided in Sections 2.03(c) and 2.04(c), each Committed Borrowing of or conversion to Base Rate Committed Loans shall be in a principal amount of \$1,000,000 or a whole multiple of \$100,000 in excess thereof. Each Committed Loan Notice (whether telephonic or written) shall specify (i) whether the Company is requesting a Committed Borrowing, a conversion of Committed Loans from one Type to the other, or a continuation of Eurocurrency Rate Loans, (ii) the requested date of the Borrowing, conversion or continuation, as the case may be (which shall be a Business Day), (iii) the principal amount of Committed Loans to be borrowed, converted or continued, (iv) the Type of Committed Loans to be borrowed or to which existing Committed Loans are to be converted, (v) if applicable, the duration of the Interest Period with respect thereto, (vi) the currency of the Committed Loans to be borrowed, and (vii) if applicable, the Designated Borrower. If the Company fails to specify a currency in a Committed Loan Notice requesting a Borrowing, then the Committed Loans so requested shall be made in Dollars. If the Company fails to specify a Type of Committed Loan in a Committed Loan Notice or if the Company fails to give a timely notice requesting a conversion or continuation, then the applicable Committed Loans shall be made as, or converted to, Base Rate Loans; provided, however, that in the case of a failure to timely request a continuation of Committed Loans denominated in an Alternative Currency, such Loans shall be continued as Eurocurrency Rate Loans in their original currency with an Interest Period of one month. Any automatic conversion to Base Rate Loans shall be effective as of the last day of the Interest Period then in effect with respect to the applicable Eurocurrency Rate Loans. If the Company requests a Borrowing of, conversion to, or continuation of Eurocurrency Rate Loans in any such Committed Loan Notice, but fails to specify an Interest Period, it will be deemed to have specified an Interest Period of one month. No Committed Loan may be converted into or continued as a Committed Loan denominated in a different currency, but instead must be prepaid in the original currency of such Committed Loan and reborrowed in the other currency.

(b) Following receipt of a Committed Loan Notice, the Administrative Agent shall promptly notify each Lender of the amount (and currency) of its Applicable Percentage of the applicable Committed Loans, and if no timely notice of a conversion or continuation is provided by the Company, the Administrative Agent shall notify each Lender of the details of any automatic conversion to Base Rate Loans or continuation of Committed Loans denominated in a currency other than Dollars, in each case as described in the preceding subsection. In the case of a Committed Borrowing, each Lender shall make the amount of its Committed Loan available to the Administrative Agent in Same Day Funds at the Administrative Agent's Office for the applicable currency not later than 1:00 p.m., in the case of any Committed Loan denominated in Dollars, and not later than the Applicable Time specified by the Administrative Agent in the case of any Committed Loan in an Alternative Currency, in each case on the Business Day specified in the applicable Committed Loan Notice. Upon satisfaction of the applicable conditions set forth in Section 5.02 (and, if such Borrowing is the initial Credit Extension, Section 5.01), the Administrative Agent shall make all funds so received available to the Company or the other applicable Borrower in like funds as received by the Administrative Agent either by (i) crediting the account of such Borrower on the books of Bank of America with the amount of such funds or (ii) wire transfer of such funds, in each case in accordance with instructions provided to (and reasonably acceptable to) the Administrative Agent by the Company; provided, however, that if, on the date the Committed Loan Notice with respect to such Borrowing denominated in Dollars is given by the Company, there are L/C Borrowings outstanding, then the proceeds of such Borrowing, first, shall be applied to the payment in full of any such L/C Borrowings, and, second, shall be made available to the applicable Borrower as provided above.

(c) Except as otherwise provided herein, a Eurocurrency Rate Loan may be continued or converted only on the last day of an Interest Period for such Eurocurrency Rate Loan. During the existence of a Default, no Loans may be requested as, converted to or continued as Eurocurrency Rate Loans (whether in Dollars or any Alternative Currency) without the consent of the Required Lenders, and the Required Lenders may demand that any or all of the then outstanding Eurocurrency Rate Loans denominated in an Alternative Currency be prepaid, or redenominated into Dollars in the amount of the Dollar Equivalent thereof, on the last day of the then current Interest Period with respect thereto.

(d) The Administrative Agent shall promptly notify the Company and the Lenders of the interest rate applicable to any Interest Period for Eurocurrency Rate Loans upon determination of such interest rate. At any time that Base Rate Loans are outstanding, the Administrative Agent shall notify the Company and the Lenders of any change in Bank of America's prime rate used in determining the Base Rate promptly following the public announcement of such change.

(e) After giving effect to all Committed Borrowings, all conversions of Committed Loans from one Type to the other, and all continuations of Committed Loans as the same Type, there shall not be more than ten Interest Periods in effect with respect to Committed Loans.

(f) The Company may at any time and from time to time, upon prior written notice by the Company to the Administrative Agent, increase the Aggregate Commitments (but not the Letter of Credit Sublimit) by up to \$100 MILLION DOLLARS (\$100,000,000) with additional Commitments from any existing Lender or new Commitments from any other Person selected by the Company and approved by the Administrative Agent; provided that:

(i) any such increase shall be in a minimum principal amount of \$10,000,000 and in integral multiples of \$5,000,000 in excess thereof;

(ii) no Default or Event of Default shall exist and be continuing at the time of any such increase;

(iii) no existing Lender shall be under any obligation to increase its Commitment and any such decision whether to increase its Commitment shall be in such Lender's sole and absolute discretion;

(iv) any new Lender shall join this Agreement by executing such joinder documents required by the Administrative Agent; and

(v) as a condition precedent to such increase, the Company shall deliver to the Administrative Agent a certificate of each Borrower dated as of the date of such increase (in sufficient copies for each Lender) signed by a Responsible Officer of such Borrower (A) certifying and attaching the resolutions adopted by such Borrower approving or consenting to such increase, and (B) in the case of the Company, certifying that, before and after giving effect to such increase, (1) the representations and warranties contained in Article VI and the other Loan Documents are true and correct in all material respects on and as of the date of such increase, except to the extent that such representations and warranties specifically refer to an earlier date, in which case they are true and correct in all material respects as of such earlier date, and except that for purposes of this Section 2.02(f), the representations and warranties contained in subsections (a) and (b) of Section 6.05 shall be deemed to refer to the most recent statements furnished pursuant to clauses (a) and (b), respectively, of Section 7.01, and (2) no Default or Event of Default exists.

The Company shall prepay any Committed Loans owing by it and outstanding on the date of any such increase (and pay any additional amounts required pursuant to Section 3.06) to the extent necessary to keep the outstanding Committed Loans ratable with any revised Commitments arising from any nonratable increase in the Commitments under this Section. In connection with any such increase in the Aggregate Commitments, Schedule 2.01 shall be revised by the Administrative Agent to reflect the new Commitments and distributed to the Lenders.

2.03 LETTERS OF CREDIT.

(a) The Letter of Credit Commitment.

(i) Subject to the terms and conditions set forth herein, (A) the L/C Issuer agrees, in reliance upon the agreements of the Lenders set forth in this Section 2.03, (1) from time to time on any Business Day during the period from the Closing Date until the Letter of Credit Expiration Date, to issue Letters of Credit denominated in Dollars for the account of the Company or its Subsidiaries, and to amend or extend Letters of Credit previously issued by it, in accordance with subsection (b) below, and (2) to honor drawings under the Letters of Credit; and (B) the Lenders severally agree to participate in Letters of Credit issued for the account of the Company or its Subsidiaries and any drawings thereunder; provided that after giving effect to any L/C Credit Extension with respect to any Letter of Credit, (x) the Total Outstandings shall not exceed the Aggregate Commitments, (y) the aggregate Outstanding Amount of the Committed Loans of any Lender, plus such Lender's Applicable Percentage of the Outstanding Amount of all L/C Obligations, plus such Lender's Applicable Percentage of the Outstanding Amount of all Swing Line Loans shall not exceed such Lender's Commitment, and (z) the Outstanding Amount of the L/C Obligations shall not exceed the Letter of Credit Sublimit; and provided further that the availability of the Aggregate Commitments at any time for the making of Loans and the issuance of Letters of Credit shall be reduced by the amount of the Alternative Currency Reserve. Each request by the Company for the issuance or amendment of a Letter of Credit shall be deemed to be a representation by the Company that the L/C Credit Extension so requested complies with the conditions set forth in the provisos to the preceding sentence. Within the foregoing limits, and subject to the terms and conditions hereof, the Company's ability to obtain Letters of Credit shall be fully revolving, and accordingly the Company may, during the foregoing period, obtain Letters of Credit to replace Letters of Credit that have expired or that have been drawn upon and reimbursed.

(ii) The L/C Issuer shall not issue any Letter of Credit, if:

(A) subject to Section 2.03(b)(iii), the expiry date of such requested Letter of Credit would occur more than twelve months after the date of issuance or last extension, unless the Required Lenders have approved such expiry date; or

(B) the expiry date of such requested Letter of Credit would occur after the Letter of Credit Expiration Date, unless all the Lenders have approved such expiry date.

(iii) The L/C Issuer shall not be under any obligation to issue any Letter of Credit if:

(A) any order, judgment or decree of any Governmental Authority or arbitrator shall by its terms purport to enjoin or restrain the L/C Issuer from issuing such Letter of Credit, or any Law applicable to the L/C Issuer or any request or directive (whether or not having the force of law) from any Governmental Authority with jurisdiction over the L/C Issuer shall prohibit, or request that the L/C Issuer refrain from, the issuance of letters of credit generally or such Letter of Credit in particular or shall impose upon the L/C Issuer with respect to such Letter of Credit any restriction, reserve or capital requirement (for which the L/C Issuer is not otherwise compensated hereunder) not in effect on the Closing Date, or shall impose upon the L/C Issuer any unreimbursed loss, cost or expense which was not applicable on the Closing Date and which the L/C Issuer in good faith deems material to it;

(B) the issuance of such Letter of Credit would violate one or more policies of the L/C Issuer applicable to borrowers generally;

(C) except as otherwise agreed by the Administrative Agent and the L/C Issuer, such Letter of Credit is in an initial stated amount less than \$100,000, in the case of a commercial Letter of Credit, or \$500,000, in the case of a standby Letter of Credit;

(D) such Letter of Credit is to be denominated in a currency other than Dollars; or

(E) a default of any Lender's obligations to fund under Section 2.03(c) exists or any Lender is at such time a Defaulting Lender hereunder, unless the L/C Issuer has entered into satisfactory arrangements with the Company or such Lender to eliminate the L/C Issuer's risk with respect to such Lender.

(iv) The L/C Issuer shall not amend any Letter of Credit if the L/C Issuer would not be permitted at such time to issue such Letter of Credit in its amended form under the terms hereof.

(v) The L/C Issuer shall be under no obligation to amend any Letter of Credit if (A) the L/C Issuer would have no obligation at such time to issue such Letter of Credit in its amended form under the terms hereof, or (B) the beneficiary of such Letter of Credit does not accept the proposed amendment to such Letter of Credit.

(vi) The L/C Issuer shall act on behalf of the Lenders with respect to any Letters of Credit issued by it and the documents associated therewith, and the L/C Issuer shall have all of the benefits and immunities (A) provided to the Administrative Agent in Article X with respect to any acts taken or omissions suffered by the L/C Issuer in connection with Letters of Credit issued by it or proposed to be issued by it and Issuer Documents pertaining to such Letters of Credit as fully as if the term "Administrative Agent" as used in Article X included the L/C Issuer with respect to such acts or omissions, and (B) as additionally provided herein with respect to the L/C Issuer.

(b) Procedures for Issuance and Amendment of Letters of Credit; Auto Extension Letters of Credit.

(i) Each Letter of Credit shall be issued or amended, as the case may be, upon the request of the Company delivered to the L/C Issuer (with a copy to the Administrative Agent) in the form of a Letter of Credit Application, appropriately completed and signed by a Responsible Officer of the Company. Such Letter of Credit Application must be received by the L/C Issuer and the Administrative Agent not later than 11:00 a.m. at least two Business Days (or such later date and time as the Administrative Agent and the L/C Issuer may agree in a particular instance in their sole discretion) prior to the proposed issuance date or date of amendment, as the case may be. In the case of a request for an initial issuance of a Letter of Credit, such Letter of Credit Application shall specify in form and detail reasonably satisfactory to the L/C Issuer: (A) the proposed issuance date of the requested Letter of Credit (which shall be a Business Day); (B) the amount and currency thereof; (C) the expiry date thereof; (D) the name and address of the beneficiary thereof; (E) the documents to be presented by such beneficiary in case of any drawing thereunder; (F) the full text of any certificate to be presented by such beneficiary in case of any drawing thereunder; and (G) such other matters as the L/C Issuer may require. In the case of a request for an amendment of any outstanding Letter of Credit, such Letter of Credit Application shall specify in form and detail reasonably satisfactory to the L/C Issuer (A) the Letter of Credit to be amended; (B) the proposed date of amendment thereof (which shall be a Business Day); (C) the nature of the proposed amendment; and (D) such other matters as the L/C Issuer may require. Additionally, the Company shall furnish to the L/C Issuer and the Administrative Agent such other documents and information pertaining to such requested Letter of Credit issuance or amendment, including any Issuer Documents, as the L/C Issuer or the Administrative Agent may reasonably require.

(ii) Promptly after receipt of any Letter of Credit Application, the L/C Issuer will confirm with the Administrative Agent (by telephone or in writing) that the Administrative Agent has received a copy of such Letter of Credit Application from the Company and, if not, the L/C Issuer will provide the Administrative Agent with a copy thereof. Unless the L/C Issuer has received written notice from any Lender, the Administrative Agent or any Loan Party, at least one Business Day prior to the requested date of issuance or amendment of the applicable Letter of Credit, that one or more applicable conditions contained in Article V shall not then be satisfied, then, subject to the terms and conditions hereof, the L/C Issuer shall, on the requested date, issue a Letter of Credit for the account of the Company (or the applicable Subsidiary) or enter into the applicable amendment, as the case may be, in each case in accordance with the L/C Issuer's usual and customary business practices. Immediately upon the issuance of each Letter of Credit, each Lender shall be deemed to, and hereby irrevocably and unconditionally agrees to, purchase from the L/C Issuer a risk participation in such Letter of Credit in an amount equal to the product of such Lender's Applicable Percentage times the amount of such Letter of Credit.

(iii) If the Company so requests in any applicable Letter of Credit Application, the L/C Issuer may, in its sole and absolute discretion, agree to issue a Letter of Credit that has automatic extension provisions (each, an "Auto-Extension Letter of Credit"); provided that any such Auto-Extension Letter of Credit must permit the L/C Issuer to prevent any such extension at least once in each twelve-month period (commencing with the date of issuance of such Letter of Credit) by giving prior notice to the beneficiary thereof not later than a day (the "Non-Extension Notice Date") in each such twelve-month period to be agreed upon at the time such Letter of Credit is issued. Unless otherwise directed by the L/C Issuer, the Company shall not be required to make a specific request to the L/C Issuer for any such extension. Once an Auto-Extension Letter of Credit has been issued, the Lenders shall be deemed to have authorized (but may not require) the L/C Issuer to permit the extension of such Letter of Credit at any time to an expiry date not later than the Letter of Credit Expiration Date; provided, however, that the L/C Issuer shall not permit any such extension if (A) the L/C Issuer has determined that it would not be permitted, or would have no obligation, at such time to issue such Letter of Credit in its revised form (as extended) under the terms hereof (by reason of the provisions of clause (ii) or (iii) of Section 2.03(a) or otherwise), or (B) it has received notice (which may be by telephone or in writing) on or before the day that is five Business Days before the Non-Extension Notice Date (1) from the Administrative Agent that the Required Lenders have elected not to permit such extension or (2) from the Administrative Agent, any Lender or the Company that one or more of the applicable conditions specified in Section 5.02 is not then satisfied, and in each such case directing the L/C Issuer not to permit such extension.

(iv) Promptly after its delivery of any Letter of Credit or any amendment to a Letter of Credit to an advising bank with respect thereto or to the beneficiary thereof, the L/C Issuer will also deliver to the Company and the Administrative Agent a true and complete copy of such Letter of Credit or amendment. The L/C Issuer shall provide the Administrative Agent with a written update on a quarterly basis of the outstanding Letters of Credit, and the Administrative Agent shall promptly send a copy of each such update to the Lenders and the Company upon its receipt.

(c) Drawings and Reimbursements; Funding of Participations.

(i) Upon receipt from the beneficiary of any Letter of Credit of any notice of a drawing under such Letter of Credit, the L/C Issuer shall notify the Company and the Administrative Agent thereof. Not later than 11:00 a.m. on the date of any payment by the L/C Issuer under a Letter of Credit (each such date, an "Honor Date"), the Company shall reimburse the L/C Issuer through the Administrative Agent in an amount equal to the amount of such drawing and in Dollars. If the Company fails to so reimburse the L/C Issuer by such time, the Administrative Agent shall promptly notify each Lender of the Honor Date, the amount of the unreimbursed drawing (the "Unreimbursed Amount"), and the amount of such Lender's Applicable Percentage thereof. In such event, the Company shall be deemed to have requested a Committed Borrowing of Base Rate Loans to be disbursed on the Honor Date in an amount equal to the Unreimbursed Amount, without regard to the minimum and multiples specified in Section 2.02 for the principal amount of Base Rate Loans, but subject to the amount of the unutilized portion of the Aggregate Commitments and the conditions set forth in Section 5.02 (other than the delivery of a Committed Loan Notice). Any notice given by the L/C Issuer or the Administrative Agent pursuant to this Section 2.03(c)(i) may be given by telephone if immediately confirmed in writing; provided that the lack of such an immediate confirmation shall not affect the conclusiveness or binding effect of such notice.

(ii) Each Lender shall upon any notice pursuant to Section 2.03(c)(i) make funds available to the Administrative Agent for the account of the L/C Issuer, in Dollars, at the Administrative Agent's Office for Dollar-denominated payments in an amount equal to its Applicable Percentage of the Unreimbursed Amount not later than 1:00 p.m. on the Business Day specified in such notice by the Administrative Agent, whereupon, subject to the provisions of Section 2.03(c)(iii), each Lender that so makes funds available shall be deemed to have made a Base Rate Committed Loan to the Company in such amount. The Administrative Agent shall remit the funds so received to the L/C Issuer in Dollars.

(iii) With respect to any Unreimbursed Amount that is not fully refinanced by a Committed Borrowing of Base Rate Loans because the conditions set forth in Section 5.02 cannot be satisfied or for any other reason, the Company shall be deemed to have incurred from the L/C Issuer an L/C Borrowing in the amount of the Unreimbursed Amount that is not so refinanced, which L/C Borrowing shall be due and payable on demand (together with interest) and shall bear interest at the Default Rate. In such event, each Lender's payment to the Administrative Agent for the account of the L/C Issuer pursuant to Section 2.03(c)(ii) shall be deemed payment in respect of its participation in such L/C Borrowing and shall constitute an L/C Advance from such Lender in satisfaction of its participation obligation under this Section 2.03.

(iv) Until each Lender funds its Committed Loan or L/C Advance pursuant to this Section 2.03(c) to reimburse the L/C Issuer for any amount drawn under any Letter of Credit, interest in respect of such Lender's Applicable Percentage of such amount shall be solely for the account of the L/C Issuer.

(v) Each Lender's obligation to make Committed Loans or L/C Advances to reimburse the L/C Issuer for amounts drawn under Letters of Credit, as contemplated by this Section 2.03(c), shall be absolute and unconditional and shall not be affected by any circumstance, including (A) any setoff, counterclaim, recoupment, defense or other right which such Lender may have against the L/C Issuer, the Company, any Subsidiary or any other Person for any reason whatsoever; (B) the occurrence or continuance of a Default or Event of Default, or (C) any other occurrence, event or condition, whether or not similar to any of the foregoing; provided, however, that each Lender's obligation to make Committed Loans pursuant to this Section 2.03(c) is subject to the conditions set forth in Section 5.02 (other than delivery by the Company of a Committed Loan Notice). No such making of an L/C Advance shall relieve or otherwise impair the obligation of the Company to reimburse the L/C Issuer for the amount of any payment made by the L/C Issuer under any Letter of Credit, together with interest as provided herein.

(vi) If any Lender fails to make available to the Administrative Agent for the account of the L/C Issuer any amount required to be paid by such Lender pursuant to the foregoing provisions of this Section 2.03(c) by the time specified in Section 2.03(c)(ii), the L/C Issuer shall be entitled to recover from such Lender (acting through the Administrative Agent), on demand, such amount with interest thereon for the period from the date such payment is required to the date on which such payment is immediately available to the L/C Issuer at a rate per annum equal to the applicable Overnight Rate from time to time in effect. A certificate of the L/C Issuer submitted to any Lender (through the Administrative Agent) with respect to any amounts owing under this clause (vi) shall be conclusive absent manifest error.

(d) Repayment of Participations.

(i) At any time after the L/C Issuer has made a payment under any Letter of Credit and has received from any Lender such Lender's L/C Advance in respect of such payment in accordance with Section 2.03(c), if the Administrative Agent receives for the account of the L/C Issuer any payment in respect of the related Unreimbursed Amount or interest thereon (whether directly from the Company or otherwise, including proceeds of Cash Collateral applied thereto by the Administrative Agent), the Administrative Agent will distribute to such Lender its Applicable Percentage thereof (appropriately adjusted, in the case of interest payments, to reflect the period of time during which such Lender's L/C Advance was outstanding) in Dollars and in the same funds as those received by the Administrative Agent.

(ii) If any payment received by the Administrative Agent for the account of the L/C Issuer pursuant to Section 2.03(c)(i) is required to be returned under any of the circumstances described in Section 11.05 (including pursuant to any settlement entered into by the L/C Issuer in its discretion), each Lender shall pay to the Administrative Agent for the account of the L/C Issuer its Applicable Percentage thereof on demand of the Administrative Agent, plus interest thereon from the date of such demand to the date such amount is returned by such Lender, at a rate per annum equal to the applicable Overnight Rate from time to time in effect. The obligations of the Lenders under this clause shall survive the payment in full of the Obligations and the termination of this Agreement.

(e) Obligations Absolute. The obligation of the Company to reimburse the L/C Issuer for each drawing under each Letter of Credit and to repay each L/C Borrowing shall be absolute, unconditional and irrevocable, and shall be paid strictly in accordance with the terms of this Agreement under all circumstances, including the following:

(i) any lack of validity or enforceability of such Letter of Credit, this Agreement, or any other Loan Document;

(ii) the existence of any claim, counterclaim, setoff, defense or other right that the Company or any Subsidiary may have at any time against any beneficiary or any transferee of such Letter of Credit (or any Person for whom any such beneficiary or any such transferee may be acting), the L/C Issuer or any other Person, whether in connection with this Agreement, the transactions contemplated hereby or by such Letter of Credit or any agreement or instrument relating thereto, or any unrelated transaction;

(iii) any draft, demand, certificate or other document presented under such Letter of Credit proving to be forged, fraudulent, invalid or insufficient in any respect or any statement therein being untrue or inaccurate in any respect; or any loss or delay in the transmission or otherwise of any document required in order to make a drawing under such Letter of Credit;

(iv) any payment by the L/C Issuer under such Letter of Credit against presentation of a draft or certificate that does not strictly comply with the terms of such Letter of Credit; or any payment made by the L/C Issuer under such Letter of Credit to any Person purporting to be a trustee in bankruptcy, debtor-in-possession, assignee for the benefit of creditors, liquidator, receiver or other representative of or successor to any beneficiary or any transferee of such Letter of Credit, including any arising in connection with any proceeding under any Debtor Relief Law;

(v) any adverse change in the relevant exchange rates or in the availability of the relevant Alternative Currency to the Company or any Subsidiary or in the relevant currency markets generally; or

(vi) any other circumstance or happening whatsoever, whether or not similar to any of the foregoing, including any other circumstance that might otherwise constitute a defense available to, or a discharge of, the Company or any Subsidiary.

The Company shall promptly examine a copy of each Letter of Credit and each amendment thereto that is delivered to it and, in the event of any claim of noncompliance with the Company's instructions or other irregularity, the Company will immediately notify the L/C Issuer. The Company shall be conclusively deemed to have waived any such claim against the L/C Issuer and its correspondents unless such notice is given as aforesaid.

(f) Role of L/C Issuer. Each Lender and the Company agree that, in paying any drawing under a Letter of Credit, the L/C Issuer shall not have any responsibility to obtain any document (other than any sight draft, certificates and documents expressly required by the Letter of Credit) or to ascertain or inquire as to the validity or accuracy of any such document or the authority of the Person executing or delivering any such document. None of the L/C Issuer, the Administrative Agent, any of their respective Related Parties nor any correspondent, participant or assignee of the L/C Issuer shall be liable to any Lender for (i) any action taken or omitted in connection herewith at the request or with the approval of the Lenders or the Required Lenders, as applicable; (ii) any action taken or omitted in the absence of gross negligence or willful misconduct; or (iii) the due execution, effectiveness, validity or enforceability of any document or instrument related to any Letter of Credit or Issuer Document. The Company hereby assumes all risks of the acts or omissions of any beneficiary or transferee with respect to its use of any Letter of Credit; provided, however, that this assumption is not intended to, and shall not, preclude the Company's pursuing such rights and remedies as it may have against the beneficiary or transferee at law or under any other agreement. None of the L/C Issuer, the Administrative Agent, any of their respective Related Parties nor any correspondent, participant or assignee of the L/C Issuer shall be liable or responsible for any of the matters described in clauses (i) through (v) of Section 2.03(e); provided, however, that anything in such clauses to the contrary notwithstanding, the Company may have a claim against the L/C Issuer, and the L/C Issuer may be liable to the Company, to the extent, but only to the extent, of any direct, as opposed to consequential or exemplary, damages suffered by the Company which the Company proves were caused by the L/C Issuer's willful misconduct or gross negligence or the L/C Issuer's willful failure to pay under any Letter of Credit after the presentation to it by the beneficiary of a sight draft and certificate(s) strictly complying with the terms and conditions of a Letter of Credit. In furtherance and not in limitation of the foregoing, the L/C Issuer may accept documents that appear on their face to be in order, without responsibility for further investigation, regardless of any notice or information to the contrary, and the L/C Issuer shall not be responsible for the validity or sufficiency of any instrument transferring or assigning or purporting to transfer or assign a Letter of Credit or the rights or benefits thereunder or proceeds thereof, in whole or in part, which may prove to be invalid or ineffective for any reason.

(g) Cash Collateral. (i) Upon the request of the Administrative Agent, (A) if the L/C Issuer has honored any full or partial drawing request under any Letter of Credit and such drawing has resulted in an L/C Borrowing, or (B) if, as of the Letter of Credit Expiration Date, any L/C Obligation for any reason remains outstanding, the Company shall, in each case, immediately Cash Collateralize the then Outstanding Amount of all L/C Obligations.

(ii) In addition, if the Administrative Agent notifies the Company at any time that the Outstanding Amount of all L/C Obligations at such time exceeds the Letter of Credit Sublimit then in effect, then, within two Business Days after receipt of such notice, the Company shall Cash Collateralize the L/C Obligations in an amount equal to the amount by which the Outstanding Amount of all L/C Obligations exceeds the Letter of Credit Sublimit.

(iii) The Administrative Agent may, at any time and from time to time after the initial deposit of Cash Collateral, request that additional Cash Collateral be provided in order to protect against the results of exchange rate fluctuations.

(iv) Sections 2.05 and 9.02(c) set forth certain additional requirements to deliver Cash Collateral hereunder. For purposes of this Section 2.03, Section 2.05 and Section 9.02(c), "Cash Collateralize" means to pledge and deposit with or deliver to the Administrative Agent, for the benefit of the L/C Issuer and the Lenders, as collateral for the L/C Obligations, cash or deposit account balances ("Cash Collateral") pursuant to documentation in form and substance satisfactory to the Administrative Agent and the L/C Issuer (which documents are hereby consented to by the Lenders). Derivatives of such term have corresponding meanings. The Company hereby grants to the Administrative Agent, for the benefit of the L/C Issuer and the Lenders, a security interest in all such Cash Collateral consisting of cash, deposit accounts and all balances therein and all proceeds of the foregoing. Cash Collateral shall be maintained in blocked, non-interest bearing deposit accounts at Bank of America.

(h) Applicability of ISP and UCP. Unless otherwise expressly agreed by the L/C Issuer and the Company when a Letter of Credit is issued, (i) the rules of the ISP shall apply to each standby Letter of Credit, and (ii) the rules of the Uniform Customs and Practice for Documentary Credits, as most recently published by the International Chamber of Commerce at the time of issuance shall apply to each commercial Letter of Credit.

(i) Letter of Credit Fees. The Company shall pay to the Administrative Agent for the account of each Lender in accordance with its Applicable Percentage, in Dollars, a Letter of Credit fee (the "Letter of Credit Fee") for each Letter of Credit in an amount equal to the Applicable Rate shown in the column labeled Letter of Credit Fee in the Pricing Table, multiplied by the daily amount available to be drawn under such Letter of Credit. For purposes of computing the daily amount available to be drawn under any Letter of Credit, the amount of such Letter of Credit shall be determined in accordance with Section 1.08. Letter of Credit Fees shall be (i) computed on a quarterly basis in arrears and (ii) due and payable on the first Business Day after the end of each March, June, September and December, commencing with the first such date to occur after the issuance of such Letter of Credit, on the Letter of Credit Expiration Date and thereafter on demand. If there is any change in the Applicable Rate during any quarter, the daily amount available to be drawn under each Letter of Credit shall be computed and multiplied by the Applicable Rate separately for each period during such quarter that such Applicable Rate was in effect. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained herein, upon the request of the Required Lenders, while any Event of Default exists, all Letter of Credit Fees shall accrue at the Default Rate.

(j) Fronting Fee and Documentary and Processing Charges Payable to L/C Issuer. The Company shall pay directly to the L/C Issuer for its own account, in Dollars, a fronting fee (i) with respect to each commercial Letter of Credit, at the rate specified in the Fee Letter, computed on the amount of such Letter of Credit, and payable upon the issuance thereof, (ii) with respect to any amendment of a commercial Letter of Credit increasing the amount of such Letter of Credit, at a rate separately agreed between the Company and the L/C Issuer, computed on the amount of such increase, and payable upon the effectiveness of such amendment, and (iii) with respect to each standby Letter of Credit, at the rate per annum specified in the Fee Letter, computed on the daily amount available to be drawn under such Letter of Credit on a quarterly basis in arrears. Such fronting fee shall be due and payable on the tenth Business Day after the end of each March, June, September and December in respect of the most recently-ended quarterly period (or portion thereof, in the case of the first payment), commencing with the first such date to occur after the issuance of such Letter of Credit, on the Letter of Credit Expiration Date and thereafter on demand. For purposes of computing the daily amount available to be drawn under any Letter of Credit, the amount of such Letter of Credit shall be determined in accordance with Section 1.08. In addition, the Company shall pay directly to the L/C Issuer for its own account, in Dollars, the customary issuance, presentation, amendment and other processing fees, and other standard costs and charges, of the L/C Issuer relating to letters of credit as from time to time in effect. Such customary fees and standard costs and charges are due and payable on demand and are nonrefundable.

(k) Conflict with Issuer Documents. In the event of any conflict between the terms hereof and the terms of any Issuer Document, the terms hereof shall control.

(l) Letters of Credit Issued for Subsidiaries. Notwithstanding that a Letter of Credit issued or outstanding hereunder is in support of any obligations of, or is for the account of, a Subsidiary, the Company shall be obligated to reimburse the L/C Issuer hereunder for any and all drawings under such Letter of Credit. The Company hereby acknowledges that the issuance of Letters of Credit for the account of Subsidiaries inures to the benefit of the Company, and that the Company's business derives substantial benefits from the businesses of such Subsidiaries.

2.04 SWING LINE LOANS.

(a) The Swing Line. Subject to the terms and conditions set forth herein, the Swing Line Lender agrees, in reliance upon the agreements of the other Lenders set forth in this Section 2.04, to make loans in Dollars (each such loan, a "Swing Line Loan") to the Company from time to time on any Business Day during the Availability Period in an aggregate amount not to exceed at any time outstanding the amount of the Swing Line Sublimit, notwithstanding the fact that such Swing Line Loans, when aggregated with the Applicable Percentage of the Outstanding Amount of Committed Loans and L/C Obligations of the Lender acting as Swing Line Lender, may exceed the amount of such Lender's Commitment; provided, however, that after giving effect to any Swing Line Loan, (i) the Total Outstandings shall not exceed the Aggregate Commitments, and (ii) the aggregate Outstanding Amount of the Committed Loans of any Lender, plus such Lender's Applicable Percentage of the Outstanding Amount of all L/C Obligations, plus such Lender's Applicable Percentage of the Outstanding Amount of all Swing Line Loans shall not exceed such Lender's Commitment, and provided, further, that (i) the Company shall not use the proceeds of any Swing Line Loan to refinance any outstanding Swing Line Loan; and (ii) the availability of the Aggregate Commitments at any time for the making of Loans and the issuance of Letters of Credit shall be reduced by the amount of the Alternative Currency Reserve. Within the foregoing limits, and subject to the other terms and conditions hereof, the Company may borrow under this Section 2.04, prepay under Section 2.05, and reborrow under this Section 2.04. Each Swing Line Loan shall be a Base Rate Loan. Immediately upon the making of a Swing Line Loan, each Lender shall be deemed to, and hereby irrevocably and unconditionally agrees to, purchase from the Swing Line Lender a risk participation in such Swing Line Loan in an amount equal to the product of such Lender's Applicable Percentage times the amount of such Swing Line Loan.

(b) Borrowing Procedures. Each Swing Line Borrowing shall be made upon the Company's irrevocable notice to the Swing Line Lender and the Administrative Agent, which may be given by telephone. Each such notice must be received by the Swing Line Lender and the Administrative Agent not later than 1:00 p.m. on the requested borrowing date, and shall specify (i) the amount to be borrowed, which shall be a minimum of \$250,000, and (ii) the requested borrowing date, which shall be a Business Day. Each such telephonic notice must be confirmed promptly by delivery to the Swing Line Lender and the Administrative Agent of a written Swing Line Loan Notice, appropriately completed and signed by a Responsible Officer of the Company. Promptly after receipt by the Swing Line Lender of any telephonic Swing Line Loan Notice, the Swing Line Lender will confirm with the Administrative Agent (by telephone or in writing) that the Administrative Agent has also received such Swing Line Loan Notice and, if not, the Swing Line Lender will notify the Administrative Agent (by telephone or in writing) of the contents thereof. Unless the Swing Line Lender has received notice (by telephone or in writing) from the Administrative Agent (including at the request of any Lender) prior to 2:00 p.m. on the date of the proposed Swing Line Borrowing (A) directing the Swing Line Lender not to make such Swing Line Loan as a result of the limitations set forth in the proviso to the first sentence of Section 2.04(a), or (B) that one or more of the applicable conditions specified in Section 5.02 is not then satisfied, then, subject to the terms and conditions hereof, the Swing Line Lender will, not later than 3:00 p.m. on the borrowing date specified in such Swing Line Loan Notice, make the amount of its Swing Line Loan available to the Company at its office by crediting the account of the Company on the books of the Swing Line Lender in Same Day Funds.

(c) Refinancing of Swing Line Loans.

(i) The Swing Line Lender at any time in its sole and absolute discretion may request, on behalf of the Company (which hereby irrevocably authorizes the Swing Line Lender to so request on its behalf), that each Lender make a Base Rate Committed Loan in an amount equal to such Lender's Applicable Percentage of the amount of Swing Line Loans then outstanding. Such request shall be made in writing (which written request shall be deemed to be a Committed Loan Notice for purposes hereof) and in accordance with the requirements of Section 2.02, without regard to the minimum and multiples specified therein for the principal amount of Base Rate Loans, but subject to the unutilized portion of the Aggregate Commitments and the conditions set forth in Section 5.02. The Swing Line Lender shall furnish the Company with a copy of the applicable Committed Loan Notice promptly after delivering such notice to the Administrative Agent. Each Lender shall make an amount equal to its Applicable Percentage of the amount specified in such Committed Loan Notice available to the Administrative Agent in Same Day Funds for the account of the Swing Line Lender at the Administrative Agent's Office for Dollar-denominated payments not later than 1:00 p.m. on the day specified in such Committed Loan Notice, whereupon, subject to Section 2.04(c)(ii), each Lender that so makes funds available shall be deemed to have made a Base Rate Committed Loan to the Company in such amount. The Administrative Agent shall remit the funds so received to the Swing Line Lender.

(ii) If for any reason any Swing Line Loan cannot be refinanced by such a Committed Borrowing in accordance with Section 2.04(c)(i), the request for Base Rate Committed Loans submitted by the Swing Line Lender as set forth herein shall be deemed to be a request by the Swing Line Lender that each of the Lenders fund its risk participation in the relevant Swing Line Loan and each Lender's payment to the Administrative Agent for the account of the Swing Line Lender pursuant to Section 2.04(c)(i) shall be deemed payment in respect of such participation.

(iii) If any Lender fails to make available to the Administrative Agent for the account of the Swing Line Lender any amount required to be paid by such Lender pursuant to the foregoing provisions of this Section 2.04(c) by the time specified in Section 2.04(c)(i), the Swing Line Lender shall be entitled to recover from such Lender (acting through the Administrative Agent), on demand, such amount with interest thereon for the period from the date such payment is required to the date on which such payment is immediately available to the Swing Line Lender at a rate per annum equal to the applicable Overnight Rate from time to time in effect. A certificate of the Swing Line Lender submitted to any Lender (through the Administrative Agent) with respect to any amounts owing under this clause (iii) shall be conclusive absent manifest error.

(iv) Each Lender's obligation to make Committed Loans or to purchase and fund risk participations in Swing Line Loans pursuant to this Section 2.04(c) shall be absolute and unconditional and shall not be affected by any circumstance, including (A) any setoff, counterclaim, recoupment, defense or other right which such Lender may have against the Swing Line Lender, the Company or any other Person for any reason whatsoever, (B) the occurrence or continuance of a Default or an Event of Default, or (C) any other occurrence, event or condition, whether or not similar to any of the foregoing; provided, however, that each Lender's obligation to make Committed Loans pursuant to this Section 2.04(c) is subject to the conditions set forth in Section 5.02. No such funding of risk participations shall relieve or otherwise impair the obligation of the Company to repay Swing Line Loans, together with interest as provided herein.

(d) Repayment of Participations.

(i) At any time after any Lender has purchased and funded a risk participation in a Swing Line Loan, if the Swing Line Lender receives any payment on account of such Swing Line Loan, the Swing Line Lender will distribute to such Lender its Applicable Percentage of such payment (appropriately adjusted, in the case of interest payments, to reflect the period of time during which such Lender's risk participation was funded) in the same funds as those received by the Swing Line Lender.

(ii) If any payment received by the Swing Line Lender in respect of principal or interest on any Swing Line Loan is required to be returned by the Swing Line Lender under any of the circumstances described in Section 11.05 (including pursuant to any settlement entered into by the Swing Line Lender in its discretion), each Lender shall pay to the Swing Line Lender its Applicable Percentage thereof on demand of the Administrative Agent, plus interest thereon from the date of such demand to the date such amount is returned, at a rate per annum equal to the applicable Overnight Rate. The Administrative Agent will make such demand upon the request of the Swing Line Lender. The obligations of the Lenders under this clause shall survive the payment in full of the Obligations and the termination of this Agreement.

(e) Interest for Account of Swing Line Lender. The Swing Line Lender shall be responsible for invoicing the Company for interest on the Swing Line Loans. Until each Lender funds its Base Rate Committed Loan or risk participation pursuant to this Section 2.04 to refinance such Lender's Applicable Percentage of any Swing Line Loan, interest in respect of such Applicable Percentage shall be solely for the account of the Swing Line Lender.

(f) Payments Directly to Swing Line Lender. The Company shall make all payments of principal and interest in respect of the Swing Line Loans directly to the Swing Line Lender.

2.05 PREPAYMENTS.

(a) Each Borrower may, upon notice from the Company to the Administrative Agent, at any time or from time to time voluntarily prepay Committed Loans in whole or in part without premium or penalty; provided that (i) such notice must be received by the Administrative Agent not later than 11:00 a.m. (A) three Business Days prior to any date of prepayment of Eurocurrency Rate Loans denominated in Dollars, (B) four Business Days (or five, in the case of prepayment of Loans denominated in Special Notice Currencies) prior to any date of prepayment of Eurocurrency Rate Loans denominated in Alternative Currencies, and (C) on the date of prepayment of Base Rate Committed Loans; (ii) any prepayment of Eurocurrency Rate Loans denominated in Dollars shall be in a principal amount of \$5,000,000 or a whole multiple of \$1,000,000 in excess thereof; (iii) any prepayment of Eurocurrency Rate Loans denominated in Alternative Currencies shall be in a minimum principal amount of \$5,000,000 or a whole multiple of \$1,000,000 in excess thereof; and (iv) any prepayment of Base Rate Committed Loans shall be in a principal amount of \$1,000,000 or a whole multiple of \$100,000 in excess thereof or, in each case, if less, the entire principal amount thereof then outstanding. Each such notice shall specify the date and amount of such prepayment and the Type(s) of Committed Loans to be prepaid and, if Eurocurrency Loans are to be prepaid, the Interest Period(s) of such Loans. The Administrative Agent will promptly notify each Lender of its receipt of each such notice, and of the amount of such Lender's Applicable Percentage of such prepayment. If such notice is given by the Company, the applicable Borrower shall make such prepayment and the payment amount specified in such notice shall be due and payable on the date specified therein. Any prepayment of a Eurocurrency Rate Loan shall be accompanied by all accrued interest on the amount prepaid, together with any additional amounts required pursuant to Section 3.05. Each such prepayment shall be applied to the Committed Loans of the Lenders in accordance with their respective Applicable Percentages.

(b) The Company may, upon notice to the Swing Line Lender (with a copy to the Administrative Agent), at any time or from time to time, voluntarily prepay Swing Line Loans in whole or in part without premium or penalty; provided that (i) such notice must be received by the Swing Line Lender and the Administrative Agent not later than 1:00 p.m. on the date of the prepayment, and (ii) any such prepayment shall be in a minimum principal amount of \$100,000. Each such notice shall specify the date and amount of such prepayment. If such notice is given by the Company, the Company shall make such prepayment and the payment amount specified in such notice shall be due and payable on the date specified therein.

(c) If as a result of foreign currency translation the Outstanding Amount of all Loans denominated in Alternative Currencies at such time exceeds the Aggregate Commitments then in effect by an amount in excess of the Dollar Equivalent of \$400,000, then, within two Business Days after receipt of notice from the Administrative Agent of such occurrence, the Borrowers shall prepay Loans in an aggregate amount sufficient to reduce such Outstanding Amount as of such date of payment to an amount not to exceed the Dollar Equivalent of \$400,000 in excess of the Aggregate Commitments then in effect.

(d) If for any reason other than as a result of foreign currency translation the Total Outstandings at any time exceed the Aggregate Commitments then in effect, the Company shall promptly after notice from the Administrative Agent prepay Loans and/or Cash Collateralize the L/C Obligations in an aggregate amount equal to such excess; provided, however, that the Company shall not be required to Cash Collateralize the L/C Obligations pursuant to this Section 2.05(c) unless after the prepayment in full of the Loans the Total Outstandings exceed the Aggregate Commitments then in effect. If for any reason the Outstanding Amount of all Swing Line Loans exceed the Swing Line Sublimit, the Company shall immediately prepay the Swing Line Loans in aggregate amount equal to such excess. The Administrative Agent may, at any time and from time to time after the initial deposit of such Cash Collateral, request that additional Cash Collateral be provided in order to protect against the results of exchange rate fluctuations.

2.06 TERMINATION OR REDUCTION OF COMMITMENTS.

The Company may, upon notice to the Administrative Agent, terminate the Aggregate Commitments, or from time to time permanently reduce the Aggregate Commitments; provided that (i) any such notice shall be received by the Administrative Agent not later than 11:00 a.m. five Business Days prior to the date of termination or reduction, (ii) any such partial reduction shall be in an aggregate amount of \$10,000,000 or any whole multiple of \$1,000,000 in excess thereof, (iii) the Company shall not terminate or reduce the Aggregate Commitments if, after giving effect thereto and to any concurrent prepayments hereunder, the Total Outstandings plus the Alternative Currency Reserve would exceed the Aggregate Commitments, and (iv) if, after giving effect to any reduction of the Aggregate Commitments, the Letter of Credit Sublimit or the Swing Line Sublimit exceeds the amount of the Aggregate Commitments, such Sublimit shall be automatically reduced by the amount of such excess. The Administrative Agent will promptly notify the Lenders of any such notice of termination or reduction of the Aggregate Commitments. The amount of any such Aggregate Commitment reduction shall not be applied to the Letter of Credit Sublimit or the Swing Line Sublimit unless otherwise specified by the Company. Any reduction of the Aggregate Commitments shall be applied to the Commitment of each Lender according to its Applicable Percentage. All fees accrued until the effective date of any termination of the Aggregate Commitments shall be paid on the effective date of such termination.

2.07 REPAYMENT OF LOANS.

(a) Each Borrower shall repay to the Lenders on the Maturity Date the aggregate principal amount of Committed Loans made to such Borrower outstanding on such date.

(b) The Company shall repay each Swing Line Loan on the earlier to occur of (i) the date ten Business Days after such Loan is made and (ii) the Maturity Date.

2.08 INTEREST.

(a) Subject to the provisions of subsection (b) below, (i) each Eurocurrency Rate Loan shall bear interest on the outstanding principal amount thereof for each Interest Period at a rate per annum equal to the Eurocurrency Rate for such Interest Period plus the Applicable Rate shown in the column labeled Eurocurrency Margin in the Pricing Table plus (in the case of a Eurocurrency Rate Loan of any Lender which is lent from a Lending Office in the United Kingdom or a Participating Member State) the Mandatory Cost; (ii) each Base Rate Committed Loan shall bear interest on the outstanding principal amount thereof from the applicable borrowing date at a rate per annum equal to the Base Rate plus the Applicable Rate shown in the column labeled Base Rate Margin in the Pricing Table; and (iii) each Swing Line Loan shall bear interest on the outstanding principal amount thereof from the applicable borrowing date at a rate per annum equal to the Base Rate plus the Applicable Rate shown in the column labeled Base Rate Margin in the Pricing Table.

(b) (i) If any amount payable by any Borrower under any Loan Document is not paid when due (without regard to any applicable grace periods), whether at stated maturity, by acceleration or otherwise, such amount shall thereafter bear interest at a fluctuating interest rate per annum at all times equal to the Default Rate to the fullest extent permitted by applicable Laws.

(ii) Upon the request of the Required Lenders, while any Event of Default exists, the Borrowers shall pay interest on the principal amount of all outstanding Obligations hereunder at a fluctuating interest rate per annum at all times equal to the Default Rate to the fullest extent permitted by applicable Laws.

(iii) Accrued and unpaid interest on past due amounts (including interest on past due interest) shall be due and payable upon demand.

(c) Interest on each Loan shall be due and payable in arrears on each Interest Payment Date applicable thereto and at such other times as may be specified herein. Interest hereunder shall be due and payable in accordance with the terms hereof before and after judgment, and before and after the commencement of any proceeding under any Debtor Relief Law.

2.09 FEES.

In addition to certain fees described in subsections (i) and (j) of Section 2.03:

(a) Facility Fee. The Company shall pay to the Administrative Agent for the account of each Lender in accordance with its Applicable Percentage, a facility fee (the "Facility Fee") in Dollars in an amount equal to the Applicable Rate shown in the column labeled Facility Fee in the Pricing Table multiplied by the actual daily amount of the Aggregate Commitments (or, if the Aggregate Commitments have terminated, on the Outstanding Amount of all Committed Loans, Swing Line Loans and L/C Obligations), regardless of usage. The Facility Fee shall accrue at all times during the Availability Period (and thereafter so long as any Committed Loans, Swing Line Loans or L/C Obligations remain outstanding), including at any time during which one or more of the conditions in Article V is not met, and shall be due and payable quarterly in arrears on the last Business Day of each March, June, September and December, commencing with the first such date to occur after the Closing Date, and on the Maturity Date (and, if applicable, thereafter on demand). The Facility Fee shall be calculated quarterly in arrears, and if there is any change in the Applicable Rate during any quarter, the actual daily amount shall be computed and multiplied by the Applicable Rate separately for each period during such quarter that such Applicable Rate was in effect.

(b) Utilization Fee. The Company shall pay to the Administrative Agent for the account of each Lender in accordance with its Applicable Percentage, a utilization fee (the "Utilization Fee") in Dollars in an amount equal to the Applicable Rate shown in the column labeled Utilization Fee in the Pricing Table multiplied by the Total Outstandings on each day that the Total Outstandings exceed 50% of the actual daily amount of the Aggregate Commitments then in effect (or, if terminated, in effect immediately prior to such termination). The Utilization Fee shall be due and payable quarterly in arrears on the last Business Day of each March, June, September and December, commencing with the first such date to occur after the Closing Date, and on the Maturity Date. The Utilization Fee shall be calculated quarterly in arrears and if there is any change in the Applicable Rate during any quarter, the daily amount shall be computed and multiplied by the Applicable Rate for each period during which such Applicable Rate was in effect. The Utilization Fee shall accrue at all times, including at any time during which one or more of the conditions in Article V is not met.

(c) Other Fees. (i) The Company shall pay to BAS and the Administrative Agent for their own respective accounts, in Dollars, fees in the amounts and at the times specified in the Fee Letter. Such fees shall be fully earned when paid and shall not be refundable for any reason whatsoever.

(ii) The Company shall pay to the Lenders, in Dollars, such fees as shall have been separately agreed upon in writing in the amounts and at the times so specified. Such fees shall be fully earned when paid and shall not be refundable for any reason whatsoever.

2.10 COMPUTATION OF INTEREST AND FEES.

All computations of interest for Base Rate Loans when the Base Rate is determined by Bank of America's "prime rate" shall be made on the basis of a year of 365 or 366 days, as the case may be, and actual days elapsed. All other computations of fees and interest shall be made on the basis of a 360-day year and actual days elapsed (which results in more fees or interest, as applicable, being paid than if computed on the basis of a 365-day year), or, in the case of interest in respect of Committed Loans denominated in Alternative Currencies as to which market practice differs from the foregoing, in accordance with such market practice. Interest shall accrue on each Loan for the day on which the Loan is made, and shall not accrue on a Loan, or any portion thereof, for the day on which the Loan or such portion is paid, provided that any Loan that is repaid on the same day on which it is made shall, subject to Section 2.12(a), bear interest for one day. Each determination by the Administrative Agent of an interest rate or fee hereunder shall be conclusive and binding for all purposes, absent manifest error.

2.11 EVIDENCE OF INDEBTEDNESS.

(a) The Credit Extensions made by each Lender shall be evidenced by one or more accounts or records maintained by such Lender and by the Administrative Agent in the ordinary course of business. The accounts or records maintained by the Administrative Agent and each Lender shall be conclusive absent manifest error of the amount of the Credit Extensions made by the Lenders to the Borrowers and the interest and payments thereon. Any failure to so record or any error in doing so shall not, however, limit or otherwise affect the obligation of the Borrowers hereunder to pay any amount owing with respect to the Obligations. In the event of any conflict between the accounts and records maintained by any Lender and the accounts and records of the Administrative Agent in respect of such matters, the accounts and records of the Administrative Agent shall control in the absence of manifest error. Upon the request of any Lender to a Borrower made through the Administrative Agent, such Borrower shall execute and deliver to such Lender (through the Administrative Agent) a Note, which shall evidence such Lender's Loans to such Borrower in addition to such accounts or records. Each such Note shall (i) in the case of Committed Loans, be in the form of Exhibit C (a "Revolving Note") and (ii) in the case of Swing Line Loans, be in the form of Exhibit D (a "Swing Line Note"). Each Lender may attach schedules to a Note and endorse thereon the date, Type (if applicable), amount, currency and maturity of its Loans and payments with respect thereto.

(b) In addition to the accounts and records referred to in subsection (a), each Lender and the Administrative Agent shall maintain in accordance with its usual practice accounts or records evidencing the purchases and sales by such Lender of participations in Letters of Credit and Swing Line Loans. In the event of any conflict between the accounts and records maintained by the Administrative Agent and the accounts and records of any Lender in respect of such matters, the accounts and records of the Administrative Agent shall control in the absence of manifest error.

2.12 PAYMENTS GENERALLY; ADMINISTRATIVE AGENT'S CLAWBACK.

(a) General. All payments to be made by the Borrowers shall be made without condition or deduction for any counterclaim, defense, recoupment or setoff. Except as otherwise expressly provided herein and except with respect to principal of and interest on Loans denominated in an Alternative Currency, all payments by the Borrowers hereunder shall be made to the Administrative Agent, for the account of the respective Lenders to which such payment is owed, at the applicable Administrative Agent's Office in Dollars and in Same Day Funds not later than 2:00 p.m. on the date specified herein. Except as otherwise expressly provided herein, all payments by the Borrowers hereunder with respect to principal and interest on Loans denominated in an Alternative Currency shall be made to the Administrative Agent, for the account of the respective Lenders to which such payment is owed, at the applicable Administrative Agent's Office in such Alternative Currency and in Same Day Funds not later than the Applicable Time specified by the Administrative Agent on the dates specified herein. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the Administrative Agent may require that any payments due under this Agreement be made in the United States. If, for any reason, any Borrower is prohibited by any Law from making any required payment hereunder in an Alternative Currency, such Borrower shall make such payment in Dollars in the Dollar Equivalent of the Alternative Currency payment amount. The Administrative Agent will promptly distribute to each Lender its Applicable Percentage (or other applicable share as provided herein) of such payment in like funds as received by wire transfer to such Lender's Lending Office. All payments received by the Administrative Agent (i) after 2:00 p.m., in the case of payments in Dollars, or (ii) after the Applicable Time specified by the Administrative Agent in the case of payments in an Alternative Currency, shall in each case be deemed received on the next succeeding Business Day and any applicable interest or fee shall continue to accrue. If any payment to be made by any Borrower shall come due on a day other than a Business Day, payment shall be made on the next following Business Day, and such extension of time shall be reflected in computing interest or fees, as the case may be.

(b) (i) Funding by Lenders; Presumption by Administrative Agent. Unless the Administrative Agent shall have received notice from a Lender prior to the proposed date of any Committed Borrowing of Eurocurrency Rate Loans (or, in the case of any Committed Borrowing of Base Rate Loans, prior to 12:00 noon on the date of such Committed Borrowing) that such Lender will not make available to the Administrative Agent such Lender's share of such Committed Borrowing, the Administrative Agent may assume that such Lender has made such share available on such date in accordance with Section 2.02 (or, in the case of a Committed Borrowing of Base Rate Loans, that such Lender has made such share available in accordance with and at the time required by Section 2.02) and may, in reliance upon such assumption, make available to the applicable Borrower a corresponding amount. In such event, if a Lender has not in fact made its share of the applicable Committed Borrowing available to the Administrative Agent, then the applicable Lender and the applicable Borrower severally agree to pay to the Administrative Agent forthwith on demand such corresponding amount in Same Day Funds with interest thereon, for each day from and including the date such amount is made available to such Borrower to but excluding the date of payment to the Administrative Agent, at (A) in the case of a payment to be made by such Lender, the Overnight Rate and (B) in the case of a payment to be made by such Borrower, the interest rate applicable to Base Rate Loans. If such Borrower and such Lender shall pay such interest to the Administrative Agent for the same or an overlapping period, the Administrative Agent shall promptly remit to such Borrower the amount of such interest paid by such Borrower for such period. If such Lender pays its share of the applicable Committed Borrowing to the Administrative Agent, then the amount so paid shall constitute such Lender's Committed Loan included in such Committed Borrowing. Any payment by such Borrower shall be without prejudice to any claim such Borrower may have against a Lender that shall have failed to make such payment to the Administrative Agent.

(ii) Payments by Borrowers; Presumptions by Administrative Agent. Unless the Administrative Agent shall have received notice from a Borrower prior to the date on which any payment is due to the Administrative Agent for the account of the Lenders or the L/C Issuer hereunder that such Borrower will not make such payment, the Administrative Agent may assume that such Borrower has made such payment on such date in accordance herewith and may, in reliance upon such assumption, distribute to the Lenders or the L/C Issuer, as the case may be, the amount due. In such event, if such Borrower has not in fact made such payment, then each of the Lenders or the L/C Issuer, as the case may be, severally agrees to repay to the Administrative Agent forthwith on demand the amount so distributed to such Lender or the L/C Issuer, in Same Day Funds with interest thereon, for each day from and including the date such amount is distributed to it to but excluding the date of payment to the Administrative Agent, at the Overnight Rate.

A notice of the Administrative Agent to any Lender or Borrower with respect to any amount owing under this subsection (b) shall be conclusive, absent manifest error.

(c) Failure to Satisfy Conditions Precedent. If any Lender makes available to the Administrative Agent funds for any Loan to be made by such Lender to any Borrower as provided in the foregoing provisions of this Article II, and such funds are not made available to such Borrower by the Administrative Agent because the conditions to the applicable Credit Extension set forth in Article V are not satisfied or waived in accordance with the terms hereof, the Administrative Agent shall return such funds (in like funds as received from such Lender) to such Lender, without interest.

(d) Obligations of Lenders Several. The obligations of the Lenders hereunder to make Committed Loans, to fund participations in Letters of Credit and Swing Line Loans and to make payments pursuant to Section 11.04(c) are several and not joint. The failure of any Lender to make any Committed Loan, to fund any such participation or to make any payment under Section 11.04(c) on any date required hereunder shall not relieve any other Lender of its corresponding obligation to do so on such date, and no Lender shall be responsible for the failure of any other Lender to so make its Committed Loan, to purchase its participation or to make its payment under Section 11.04(c).

(e) Funding Source. Nothing herein shall be deemed to obligate any Lender to obtain the funds for any Loan in any particular place or manner or to constitute a representation by any Lender that it has obtained or will obtain the funds for any Loan in any particular place or manner.

2.13 SHARING OF PAYMENTS BY LENDERS.

If any Lender shall, by exercising any right of setoff or counterclaim or otherwise, obtain payment in respect of any principal of or interest on any of the Committed Loans made by it, or the participations in L/C Obligations or in Swing Line Loans held by it resulting in such Lender's receiving payment of a proportion of the aggregate amount of such Committed Loans or participations and accrued interest thereon greater than its pro rata share thereof as provided herein, then the Lender receiving such greater proportion shall (a) notify the Administrative Agent of such fact, and (b) purchase (for cash at face value) participations in the Committed Loans and subparticipations in L/C Obligations and Swing Line Loans of the other Lenders, or make such other adjustments as shall be equitable, so that the benefit of all such payments shall be shared by the Lenders ratably in accordance with the aggregate amount of principal of and accrued interest on their respective Committed Loans and other amounts owing them, provided that:

(i) if any such participations or subparticipations are purchased and all or any portion of the payment giving rise thereto is recovered, such participations or subparticipations shall be rescinded and the purchase price restored to the extent of such recovery, without interest; and

(ii) the provisions of this Section shall not be construed to apply to (x) any payment made by a Borrower pursuant to and in accordance with the express terms of this Agreement or (y) any payment obtained by a Lender as consideration for the assignment of or sale of a participation in any of its Committed Loans or subparticipations in L/C Obligations or Swing Line Loans to any assignee or participant, other than to the Company or any Subsidiary thereof (as to which the provisions of this Section shall apply).

Each Borrower consents to the foregoing and agrees, to the extent it may effectively do so under applicable law, that any Lender acquiring a participation pursuant to the foregoing arrangements may exercise against such Borrower rights of setoff and counterclaim with respect to such participation as fully as if such Lender were a direct creditor of such Borrower in the amount of such participation.

2.14 DESIGNATED BORROWERS.

(a) Effective as of the date hereof each Wholly Owned Subsidiary identified on Schedule 2.14 shall be a "Designated Borrower" hereunder and may receive Loans for its account on the terms and conditions set forth in this Agreement.

(b) The Company may at any time, upon not less than 15 Business Days' notice from the Company to the Administrative Agent (or such shorter period as may be agreed by the Administrative Agent in its sole discretion), designate any additional Wholly Owned Subsidiary of the Company (an "Applicant Borrower") as a Designated Borrower to receive Loans hereunder by delivering to the Administrative Agent (which shall promptly deliver counterparts thereof to each Lender) a duly executed notice and agreement in substantially the form of Exhibit G (a "Designated Borrower Request and Assumption Agreement"). The parties hereto acknowledge and agree that prior to any Applicant Borrower becoming entitled to utilize the credit facilities provided for herein the Administrative Agent and the Lenders shall have received such supporting resolutions, incumbency certificates, opinions of counsel and other documents or information, in form, content and scope reasonably satisfactory to the Administrative Agent, as may be required by the Administrative Agent or the Required Lenders in their reasonable discretion, and Notes signed by such new Borrowers to the extent any Lenders so require. If the Administrative Agent and the Required Lenders agree that an Applicant Borrower shall be entitled to receive Loans hereunder, then promptly following receipt of all such requested resolutions, incumbency certificates, opinions of counsel and other documents or information, the Administrative Agent shall send a notice in substantially the form of Exhibit H (a "Designated Borrower Notice") to the Company and the Lenders specifying the effective date upon which the Applicant Borrower shall constitute a Designated Borrower for purposes hereof, whereupon each of the Lenders agrees to permit such Designated Borrower to receive Loans hereunder, on the terms and conditions set forth herein, and each of the parties agrees that such Designated Borrower otherwise shall be a Borrower for all purposes of this Agreement; provided that no Committed Loan Notice or Letter of Credit Application may be submitted by or on behalf of such Designated Borrower until the date five Business Days after such effective date.

(c) The Obligations of the Company and each Designated Borrower that is a Domestic Subsidiary shall be joint and several in nature regardless of which Designated Borrower that is a Domestic Subsidiary actually receives Credit Extensions hereunder or the amount of such Credit Extensions received or the manner in which the Administrative Agent or any Lender accounts for such Credit Extensions on its books and records. The obligations of each Designated Borrower that is a Domestic Subsidiary with respect to Credit Extensions made to it, and each such Borrower's obligations arising as a result of the joint and several liability of such Borrower hereunder, with respect to Credit Extensions made to and other Obligations owing hereunder by the other Designated Borrowers that are Domestic Subsidiaries, shall be separate and distinct obligations, but all such obligations shall be primary obligations of each such Designated Borrower that is a Domestic Subsidiary. The Obligations of all Designated Borrowers that are Foreign Subsidiaries shall be several in nature.

(d) Each Subsidiary of the Company that is or becomes a "Designated Borrower" pursuant to this Section 2.14 hereby irrevocably appoints the Company as its agent for all purposes relevant to this Agreement and each of the other Loan Documents, including (i) the giving and receipt of notices, (ii) the execution and delivery of all documents, instruments and certificates contemplated herein and all modifications hereto, and (iii) the receipt of the proceeds of any Loans made by the Lenders, to any such Designated Borrower hereunder. Any acknowledgment, consent, direction, certification or other action which might otherwise be valid or effective only if given or taken by all Borrowers, or by each Borrower acting singly, shall be valid and effective if given or taken only by the Company, whether or not any such other Borrower joins therein. Any notice, demand, consent, acknowledgement, direction, certification or other communication delivered to the Company in accordance with the terms of this Agreement shall be deemed to have been delivered to each Designated Borrower.

(e) The Company may from time to time, upon not less than 15 Business Days' notice from the Company to the Administrative Agent (or such shorter period as may be agreed by the Administrative Agent in its sole discretion), terminate a Designated Borrower's status as such, provided that there are no outstanding Loans payable by such Designated Borrower, or other amounts payable by such Designated Borrower on account of any Loans made to it, as of the effective date of such termination. The Administrative Agent will promptly notify the Lenders of any such termination of a Designated Borrower's status.

(f) If the selection of a particular Designated Borrower results (or is reasonably anticipated to result) in amounts becoming payable under Section 3.01 or Section 3.04(a)(ii), or notices being given under Section 3.02, the Company may make a written request to the Administrative Agent for an amendment to this Agreement that would create a separate tranche of Lenders to provide credit to such Designated Borrower in a manner that would eliminate or minimize amounts payable under Sections 3.01 and 3.04(a)(ii) and notices under Section 3.02. The Administrative Agent and the Lenders agree to consider such amendment request in good faith. The Company hereby agrees to pay (or to cause the applicable Designated Borrower to pay) all reasonable costs and expenses incurred by the Administrative Agent or any Lender in connection with any such amendment.

(g) Each Lender may, at its option, make any Loan available to any Foreign Obligor by causing any foreign or domestic branch or Affiliate of such Lender to make such Loan; provided that any exercise of such option (i) shall not affect the obligation of such Foreign Obligor to repay such Loan in accordance with the terms of this Agreement and (ii) shall be made subject to inter alia Section 3.01.

2.15 EXTENSION OF MATURITY DATE.

(a) Requests for Extension. The Company may on a one-time basis by notice to the Administrative Agent (who shall promptly notify the Lenders) (i) at any time during the first four years following the Closing Date or (ii) during the fifth year following the Closing Date, not later than 35 days prior to August 3, 2010 (the "Existing Maturity Date"), request that each Lender extend the Existing Maturity Date for an additional one year from the Existing Maturity Date.

(b) Lender Elections to Extend. Each Lender, acting in its sole and individual discretion, shall, by notice to the Administrative Agent given not later than 15 days following the receipt of notice of such request from the Administrative Agent (the "Notice Date"), advise the Administrative Agent whether or not such Lender agrees to such extension (and each Lender that determines not to so extend its Maturity Date (a "Non-Extending Lender") shall notify the Administrative Agent of such fact promptly after such determination (but in any event no later than the Notice Date) and any Lender that does not so advise the Administrative Agent on or before the Notice Date shall be deemed to be a Non-Extending Lender. The election of any Lender to agree to such extension shall not obligate any other Lender to so agree.

(c) Notification by Administrative Agent. The Administrative Agent shall notify the Company of each Lender's determination under this Section no later than the date 15 days after the Notice Date (or, if such date is not a Business Day, on the next preceding Business Day).

(d) Additional Commitment Lenders. The Company shall have the right on or before the Existing Maturity Date to replace each Non-Extending Lender with, and add as "Lenders" under this Agreement in place thereof, one or more Eligible Assignees (each, an "Additional Commitment Lender") as provided in Section 11.13, each of which Additional Commitment Lenders shall have entered into an Assignment and Assumption pursuant to which such Additional Commitment Lender shall, effective as of the Existing Maturity Date, undertake a Commitment (and, if any such Additional Commitment Lender is already a Lender, its Commitment shall be in addition to such Lender's Commitment hereunder on such date) and shall be a "Lender" for all purposes of this Agreement.

(e) Minimum Extension Requirement. If all of the Lenders agree to the request for extension of the Maturity Date then the Maturity Date for all Lenders shall be August 3, 2011. If there exists any Non-Extending Lenders then the Company shall (i) withdraw its extension request and the Maturity Date will remain unchanged or (ii) provided that the Required Lenders (but for the avoidance of doubt, not including any Additional Commitment Lenders) have agreed to the extension request (such Lenders agreeing to such extension, the "Approving Lenders"), then the Company may extend the Maturity Date solely as to the Approving Lenders and the Additional Commitment Lenders with a reduced amount of Aggregate Commitments during such extension period equal to the aggregate Commitments of the Approving Lenders and the Additional Commitment Lenders; it being understood that (A) the Maturity Date relating to any Non-Extending Lenders not replaced by an Additional Commitment Lender shall remain August 3, 2010 and the repayment of all obligations owed to them and the termination of their Commitments shall occur on such date and (B) the Maturity Date relating to the Approving Lenders and the Additional Commitment Lenders shall be August 3, 2011.

(f) Conditions to Effectiveness of Extensions. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the extension of the Maturity Date pursuant to this Section shall not be effective with respect to any Lender unless:

(i) no Default or Event of Default shall have occurred and be continuing on the date of such extension and after giving effect thereto;

(ii) the representations and warranties contained in this Agreement are true and correct in all material respects on and as of the date of such extension and after giving effect thereto, as though made on and as of such date (or, if any such representation or warranty is expressly stated to have been made as of a specific date, as of such specific date); and

(iii) on the Existing Maturity Date, the Borrowers shall prepay any Committed Loans outstanding on such date (and pay any additional amounts required pursuant to Section 3.05) to the extent necessary to keep outstanding Committed Loans ratable with any revised Applicable Percentages of the respective Lenders effective as of such date.

(g) Conflicting Provisions. This Section shall supersede any provisions in Section 2.13 or 11.01 to the contrary.

ARTICLE III TAXES, YIELD PROTECTION AND ILLEGALITY

3.01 TAXES.

(a) Payments Free of Taxes. Any and all payments by or on account of any obligation of the respective Borrowers hereunder or under any other Loan Document shall be made free and clear of and without reduction or withholding for any Indemnified Taxes or Other Taxes, provided that if the applicable Borrower shall be required by applicable law to deduct any Indemnified Taxes (including any Other Taxes) from such payments, then (i) the sum payable shall be increased as necessary so that after making all required deductions (including deductions applicable to additional sums payable under this Section) the Administrative Agent, Lender or L/C Issuer, as the case may be, receives an amount equal to the sum it would have received had no such deductions been made, (ii) such Borrower shall make such deductions and (iii) such Borrower shall timely pay the full amount deducted to the relevant Governmental Authority in accordance with applicable law.

(b) Payment of Other Taxes by the Borrowers. Without limiting the provisions of subsection (a) above, each Borrower shall timely pay any Other Taxes to the relevant Governmental Authority in accordance with applicable law.

(c) Indemnification by the Borrowers. Each Borrower shall indemnify the Administrative Agent, each Lender and the L/C Issuer, within 10 days after demand therefor, for the full amount of any Indemnified Taxes or Other Taxes (including Indemnified Taxes or Other Taxes imposed or asserted on or attributable to amounts payable under this Section) paid by the Administrative Agent, such Lender or the L/C Issuer, as the case may be, and any penalties, interest and reasonable expenses arising therefrom or with respect thereto, whether or not such Indemnified Taxes or Other Taxes were correctly or legally imposed or asserted by the relevant Governmental Authority. A certificate showing the calculation (in reasonable detail) as to the amount of such payment or liability delivered to a Borrower by a Lender or the L/C Issuer (with a copy to the Administrative Agent), or by the Administrative Agent on its own behalf or on behalf of a Lender or the L/C Issuer, shall be conclusive absent manifest error.

(d) Evidence of Payments. As soon as practicable after any payment of Indemnified Taxes or Other Taxes by any Borrower to a Governmental Authority, such Borrower shall deliver to the Administrative Agent the original or a certified copy of a receipt issued by such Governmental Authority evidencing such payment, a copy of the return reporting such payment or other evidence of such payment reasonably satisfactory to the Administrative Agent.

(e) Status of Lenders. Any Foreign Lender that is entitled to an exemption from or reduction of withholding tax under the law of the jurisdiction in which a Borrower is resident for tax purposes, or any treaty to which such jurisdiction is a party, with respect to payments hereunder or under any other Loan Document shall deliver to the Company (with a copy to the Administrative Agent), at the time or times prescribed by applicable law or reasonably requested by the Company or the Administrative Agent, such properly completed and executed documentation prescribed by applicable law as will permit such payments to be made without withholding or at a reduced rate of withholding. In addition, any Lender, if requested by the Company or the Administrative Agent, shall deliver such other documentation prescribed by applicable law or reasonably requested by the Company or the Administrative Agent as will enable the Company or the Administrative Agent to determine whether or not such Lender is subject to backup withholding or information reporting requirements.

Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, in the event that a Borrower is resident for tax purposes in the United States, any Foreign Lender shall deliver to Company and the Administrative Agent (in such number of copies as shall be requested by the recipient) on or prior to the date on which such Foreign Lender becomes a Lender under this Agreement (and from time to time thereafter upon the request of the Company or the Administrative Agent, but only if such Foreign Lender is legally entitled to do so), whichever of the following is applicable:

(i) duly completed copies of Internal Revenue Service Form W-8BEN claiming eligibility for benefits of an income tax treaty to which the United States is a party,

(ii) duly completed copies of Internal Revenue Service Form W-8ECI,

(iii) in the case of a Foreign Lender claiming the benefits of the exemption for portfolio interest under section 881(c) of the Code, (x) a certificate to the effect that such Foreign Lender is not (A) a "bank" within the meaning of section 881(c)(3)(A) of the Code, (B) a "10 percent shareholder" of the applicable Borrower within the meaning of section 881(c)(3)(B) of the Code, or (C) a "controlled foreign corporation" described in section 881(c)(3)(C) of the Code and (y) duly completed copies of Internal Revenue Service Form W-8BEN, or

(iv) any other form prescribed by applicable law as a basis for claiming exemption from or a reduction in United States Federal withholding tax duly completed together with such supplementary documentation as may be prescribed by applicable law to permit the Company to determine the withholding or deduction required to be made.

Without limiting the obligations of the Lenders set forth above regarding delivery of certain forms and documents to establish each Lender's status for U.S. withholding tax purposes, each Lender agrees promptly to deliver to the Administrative Agent or the Company, as the Administrative Agent or the Company shall reasonably request, on or prior to the Closing Date, and in a timely fashion thereafter, such other documents and forms required by any relevant taxing authorities under the Laws of any other jurisdiction, duly executed and completed by such Lender, as are required under such Laws to confirm such Lender's entitlement to any available exemption from, or reduction of, applicable withholding taxes in respect of all payments to be made to such Lender outside of the U.S. by the Borrowers pursuant to this Agreement or otherwise to establish such Lender's status for withholding tax purposes in such other jurisdiction. Each Lender shall promptly (i) notify the Administrative Agent of any change in circumstances which would modify or render invalid any such claimed exemption or reduction, and (ii) take such steps as shall not be materially disadvantageous to it, in the reasonable judgment of such Lender, and as may be reasonably necessary (including the re-designation of its Lending Office) to avoid any requirement of applicable Laws of any such jurisdiction that any Borrower make any deduction or withholding for taxes from amounts payable to such Lender. Additionally, each of the Borrowers shall promptly deliver to the Administrative Agent or any Lender, as the Administrative Agent or such Lender shall reasonably request, on or prior to the Closing Date, and in a timely fashion thereafter, such documents and forms required by any relevant taxing authorities under the Laws of any jurisdiction, duly executed and completed by such Borrower, as are required to be furnished by such Lender or the Administrative Agent under such Laws in connection with any payment by the Administrative Agent or any Lender of Taxes or Other Taxes, or otherwise in connection with the Loan Documents, with respect to such jurisdiction.

(f) Treatment of Certain Refunds. If the Administrative Agent, any Lender or the L/C Issuer determines, in its sole discretion, that it has received a refund of any Taxes or Other Taxes as to which it has been indemnified by any Borrower or with respect to which any Borrower has paid additional amounts pursuant to this Section, it shall pay to such Borrower an amount equal to such refund (but only to the extent of indemnity payments made, or additional amounts paid, by such Borrower under this Section with respect to the Taxes or Other Taxes giving rise to such refund), net of all out-of-pocket expenses of the Administrative Agent, such Lender or the L/C Issuer, as the case may be, and without interest (other than any interest paid by the relevant Governmental Authority with respect to such refund), provided that each Borrower, upon the request of the Administrative Agent, such Lender or the L/C Issuer, agrees to repay the amount paid over to such Borrower (plus any penalties, interest or other charges imposed by the relevant Governmental Authority) to the Administrative Agent, such Lender or the L/C Issuer in the event the Administrative Agent, such Lender or the L/C Issuer is required to repay such refund to such Governmental Authority. This subsection shall not be construed to require the Administrative Agent, any Lender or the L/C Issuer to make available its tax returns (or any other information relating to its taxes that it deems confidential) to any Borrower or any other Person.

3.02 ILLEGALITY.

If any Lender determines that any Law has made it unlawful, or that any Governmental Authority has asserted that it is unlawful, for any Lender or its applicable Lending Office to make, maintain or fund Eurocurrency Rate Loans (whether denominated in Dollars or an Alternative Currency), or to determine or charge interest rates based upon the Eurocurrency Rate, or any Governmental Authority has imposed material restrictions on the authority of such Lender to purchase or sell, or to take deposits of, Dollars or any Alternative Currency in the applicable interbank market, then, on notice thereof by such Lender to the Company through the Administrative Agent, any obligation of such Lender to make or continue Eurocurrency Rate Loans in the affected currency or currencies or, in the case of Eurocurrency Rate Loans in Dollars, to convert Base Rate Committed Loans to Eurocurrency Rate Loans, shall be suspended until such Lender notifies the Administrative Agent and the Company that the circumstances giving rise to such determination no longer exist. Upon receipt of such notice, the Borrowers shall, upon demand from such Lender (with a copy to the Administrative Agent), prepay or, if applicable and such Loans are denominated in Dollars, convert all such Eurocurrency Rate Loans of such Lender to Base Rate Loans, either on the last day of the Interest Period therefor, if such Lender may lawfully continue to maintain such Eurocurrency Rate Loans to such day, or immediately, if such Lender may not lawfully continue to maintain such Eurocurrency Rate Loans. Upon any such prepayment or conversion, the Borrowers shall also pay accrued interest on the amount so prepaid or converted.

3.03 INABILITY TO DETERMINE RATES.

If the Required Lenders determine that for any reason in connection with any request for a Eurocurrency Rate Loan or a conversion to or continuation thereof that (a) deposits (whether in Dollars or an Alternative Currency) are not being offered to banks in the applicable offshore interbank market for such currency for the applicable amount and Interest Period of such Eurocurrency Rate Loan, (b) adequate and reasonable means do not exist for determining the Eurocurrency Rate for any requested Interest Period with respect to a proposed Eurocurrency Rate Loan (whether denominated in Dollars or an Alternative Currency), or (c) the Eurocurrency Rate for any requested Interest Period with respect to a proposed Eurocurrency Rate Loan does not adequately and fairly reflect the cost to such Lenders of funding such Eurocurrency Rate Loan, the Administrative Agent will promptly so notify the Company and each Lender. Thereafter, the obligation of the Lenders to make or maintain Eurocurrency Rate Loans in the affected currency or currencies shall be suspended until the Administrative Agent (upon the instruction of the Required Lenders) revokes such notice. Upon receipt of such notice, the Company may revoke any pending request for a Borrowing of, conversion to or continuation of Eurocurrency Rate Loans in the affected currency or currencies or, failing that, will be deemed to have converted such request into a request for a Committed Borrowing of Base Rate Loans in the amount specified therein.

3.04 INCREASED COSTS; RESERVES ON EUROCURRENCY RATE LOANS.

(a) Increased Costs Generally. If any Change in Law shall:

(i) impose, modify or deem applicable any reserve, special deposit, compulsory loan, insurance charge or similar requirement against assets of, deposits with or for the account of, or credit extended or participated in by, any Lender (except (A) any reserve requirement contemplated by Section 3.04(e) and (B) the requirements of the Bank of England and the Financial Services Authority or the European Central Bank reflected in the Mandatory Cost, other than as set forth below) or the L/C Issuer;

(ii) subject any Lender or the L/C Issuer to any tax of any kind whatsoever with respect to this Agreement, any Letter of Credit, any participation in a Letter of Credit or any Eurocurrency Rate Loan made by it, or change the basis of taxation of payments to such Lender or the L/C Issuer in respect thereof (except for Indemnified Taxes or Other Taxes covered by Section 3.01 and the imposition of, or any change in the rate of, any Excluded Tax payable by such Lender or the L/C Issuer);

(iii) the Mandatory Cost, as calculated hereunder, does not represent the cost to any Lender of complying with the requirements of the Bank of England and/or the Financial Services Authority or the European Central Bank in relation to its making, funding or maintaining Eurocurrency Rate Loans; or

(iv) impose on any Lender or the L/C Issuer or the London interbank market any other condition, cost or expense affecting this Agreement or Eurocurrency Rate Loans made by such Lender or any Letter of Credit or participation therein;

and the result of any of the foregoing shall be to increase the cost to such Lender of making or maintaining any Eurocurrency Rate Loan (or of maintaining its obligation to make any such Loan), or to increase the cost to such Lender or the L/C Issuer of participating in, issuing or maintaining any Letter of Credit (or of maintaining its obligation to participate in or to issue any Letter of Credit), or to reduce the amount of any sum received or receivable by such Lender or the L/C Issuer hereunder (whether of principal, interest or any other amount) then, upon request of such Lender or the L/C Issuer, the Company will pay (or cause the applicable Designated Borrower to pay) to such Lender or the L/C Issuer, as the case may be, such additional amount or amounts as will compensate such Lender or the L/C Issuer, as the case may be, for such additional costs incurred or reduction suffered.

(b) Capital Requirements. If any Lender or the L/C Issuer reasonably determines that any Change in Law affecting such Lender or the L/C Issuer or any Lending Office of such Lender or such Lender's or the L/C Issuer's holding company, if any, regarding capital requirements has or would have the effect of reducing the rate of return on such Lender's or the L/C Issuer's capital or on the capital of such Lender's or the L/C Issuer's holding company, if any, as a consequence of this Agreement, the Commitments of such Lender or the Loans made by, or participations in Letters of Credit held by, such Lender, or the Letters of Credit issued by the L/C Issuer, to a level below that which such Lender or the L/C Issuer or such Lender's or the L/C Issuer's holding company could have achieved but for such Change in Law (taking into consideration such Lender's or the L/C Issuer's policies and the policies of such Lender's or the L/C Issuer's holding company with respect to capital adequacy), then from time to time the Company will pay (or cause the applicable Designated Borrower to pay) to such Lender or the L/C Issuer, as the case may be, such additional amount or amounts as will compensate such Lender or the L/C Issuer or such Lender's or the L/C Issuer's holding company for any such reduction suffered.

(c) Certificates for Reimbursement. A certificate of a Lender or the L/C Issuer setting forth detailed calculations of the amount or amounts necessary to compensate such Lender or the L/C Issuer or its holding company, as the case may be, as specified in subsection (a) or (b) of this Section and delivered to the Company shall be conclusive absent manifest error. The Company shall pay (or cause the applicable Designated Borrower to pay) such Lender or the L/C Issuer, as the case may be, the amount shown as due on any such certificate within 10 days after receipt thereof.

(d) Delay in Requests. Failure or delay on the part of any Lender or the L/C Issuer to demand compensation pursuant to the foregoing provisions of this Section shall not constitute a waiver of such Lender's or the L/C Issuer's right to demand such compensation, provided that no Borrower shall be required to compensate a Lender or the L/C Issuer pursuant to the foregoing provisions of this Section for any increased costs incurred or reductions suffered more than six months prior to the date that such Lender or the L/C Issuer, as the case may be, notifies the Company of the Change in Law giving rise to such increased costs or reductions and of such Lender's or the L/C Issuer's intention to claim compensation therefor (except that, if the Change in Law giving rise to such increased costs or reductions is retroactive, then the six-month period referred to above shall be extended to include the period of retroactive effect thereof).

(e) Additional Reserve Requirements. The Company shall pay (or cause the applicable Designated Borrower to pay) to each Lender, (i) as long as such Lender shall be required to maintain reserves with respect to liabilities or assets consisting of or including Eurocurrency funds or deposits (currently known as "Eurocurrency liabilities"), additional interest on the unpaid principal amount of each Eurocurrency Rate Loan equal to the actual costs of such reserves allocated to such Loan by such Lender (as determined by such Lender in good faith, which determination shall be conclusive), and (ii) as long as such Lender shall be required to comply with any reserve ratio requirement or analogous requirement of any other central banking or financial regulatory authority imposed in respect of the maintenance of the Commitments or the funding of the Eurocurrency Rate Loans, such additional costs (expressed as a percentage per annum and rounded upwards, if necessary, to the nearest five decimal places) equal to the actual costs allocated to such Commitment or Loan by such Lender (as determined by such Lender in good faith, which determination shall be conclusive), which in each case shall be due and payable on each date on which interest is payable on such Loan, provided the Company shall have received at least 10 days' prior notice (with a copy to the Administrative Agent) of such additional interest or costs from such Lender. If a Lender fails to give notice 10 days prior to the relevant Interest Payment Date, such additional interest or costs shall be due and payable 10 days from receipt of such notice.

3.05 COMPENSATION FOR LOSSES.

Upon demand of any Lender (with a copy to the Administrative Agent) from time to time, the Company shall promptly compensate (or cause the applicable Designated Borrower to compensate) such Lender for and hold such Lender harmless from any loss, cost or expense incurred by it as a result of:

- (a) any continuation, conversion, payment or prepayment of any Loan other than a Base Rate Loan on a day other than the last day of the Interest Period for such Loan (whether voluntary, mandatory, automatic, by reason of acceleration, or otherwise);
- (b) any failure by any Borrower (for a reason other than the failure of such Lender to make a Loan) to prepay, borrow, continue or convert any Loan other than a Base Rate Loan on the date or in the amount notified by the Company or the applicable Designated Borrower;
- (c) any failure by any Borrower to make payment of any Loan (or interest due thereon) denominated in an Alternative Currency on its scheduled due date or any payment thereof in a different currency; or
- (d) any assignment of a Eurocurrency Rate Loan on a day other than the last day of the Interest Period therefor as a result of a request by the Company pursuant to Section 11.13;

excluding any loss of anticipated profits, but including any foreign exchange losses and any loss or expense arising from the liquidation or reemployment of funds obtained by it to maintain such Loan, from fees payable to terminate the deposits from which such funds were obtained or from the performance of any foreign exchange contract. The Company shall also pay (or cause the applicable Designated Borrower to pay) any customary administrative fees charged by such Lender in connection with the foregoing.

For purposes of calculating amounts payable by the Company (or the applicable Designated Borrower) to the Lenders under this Section 3.05, each Lender shall be deemed to have funded each Eurocurrency Rate Loan made by it at the Eurocurrency Rate for such Loan by a matching deposit or other borrowing in the offshore interbank market for such currency for a comparable amount and for a comparable period, whether or not such Eurocurrency Rate Loan was in fact so funded.

3.06 MITIGATION OBLIGATIONS; REPLACEMENT OF LENDERS.

(a) Designation of a Different Lending Office. If any Lender requests compensation under Section 3.04, or any Borrower is required to pay any additional amount to any Lender or any Governmental Authority for the account of any Lender pursuant to Section 3.01, or if any Lender gives a notice pursuant to Section 3.02, or if the Company notifies any Lender that it reasonably believes that any of the foregoing events are imminent, then such Lender shall use reasonable efforts to designate a different Lending Office for funding or booking its Loans hereunder or to assign its rights and obligations hereunder to another of its offices, branches or affiliates, if, in the reasonable judgment of such Lender, such designation or assignment (i) would eliminate or reduce amounts payable pursuant to Section 3.01 or 3.04(a)(ii), as the case may be, in the future, or eliminate the need for the notice pursuant to Section 3.02, as applicable, and (ii) in each case, would not subject such Lender to any unreimbursed cost or expense and would not otherwise be disadvantageous to such Lender. The Company hereby agrees to pay (or to cause the applicable Designated Borrower to pay) all reasonable costs and expenses incurred by any Lender in connection with any such designation or assignment. Upon the request of the Company, the Administrative Agent and the Lenders shall consider a request to amend this Agreement to create a separate tranche of Lenders to provide credit to a Designated Borrower if, in the good faith judgment of the Administrative Agent and the Lenders, such amendment would eliminate or reduce amounts payable pursuant to Section 3.01 or 3.04(a)(ii), as the case may be, in the future, or eliminate the need for the notice pursuant to Section 3.02. The Company hereby agrees to pay (or to cause the applicable Designated Borrower to pay) all reasonable costs and expenses incurred by the Administrative Agent or any Lender in connection with any such amendment.

(b) Replacement of Lenders. If any Lender requests compensation under Section 3.04, or if any Lender gives notice pursuant to Section 3.02 or if any Borrower is required to pay any additional amount to any Lender or any Governmental Authority for the account of any Lender pursuant to Section 3.01, the Company may replace such Lender in accordance with Section 11.13. In addition, the Company may remove a particular Lender from the tranche of credit extended to a particular Designated Borrower and replace such Lender if the inclusion of such Lender in such tranche would result in the Loan Parties incurring obligations to such Lender under Section 3.01 or 3.04 or such Lender giving notice pursuant to Section 3.02.

3.07 SURVIVAL.

All of the Borrowers' obligations under this Article III shall survive termination of the Aggregate Commitments and repayment of all other Obligations hereunder.

ARTICLE IV GUARANTY

4.01 THE GUARANTY.

(a) The Company hereby guarantees to each Lender and the Administrative Agent as hereinafter provided, as primary obligor and not as surety, the prompt payment of the Designated Borrower Obligations in full when due (whether at stated maturity, as a mandatory prepayment, by acceleration, as a mandatory cash collateralization or otherwise) strictly in accordance with the terms thereof. The Company hereby further agrees that if any of the Designated Borrower Obligations are not paid in full when due (whether at stated maturity, as a mandatory prepayment, by acceleration, as a mandatory cash collateralization or otherwise), the Company will promptly pay the same, without any demand or notice whatsoever, and that in the case of any extension of time of payment or renewal of any of the Designated Borrower Obligations, the same will be promptly paid in full when due (whether at extended maturity, as a mandatory prepayment, by acceleration, as a mandatory cash collateralization or otherwise) in accordance with the terms of such extension or renewal.

(b) Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary contained herein or in any other of the Loan Documents, the obligations of the Company under this Guaranty shall be limited to an aggregate amount equal to the largest amount that would not render such obligations subject to avoidance under the Debtor Relief Laws or any comparable provisions of any applicable state law.

4.02 OBLIGATIONS UNCONDITIONAL.

(a) The obligations of the Company under Section 4.01(a) are absolute and unconditional, irrespective of the value, genuineness, validity, regularity or enforceability of any of the Loan Documents or any other agreement or instrument referred to therein, or any substitution, release, impairment or exchange of any other guarantee or security for any of the Designated Borrower Obligations, and, to the fullest extent permitted by applicable law, irrespective of any other circumstance whatsoever which might otherwise constitute a legal or equitable discharge or defense of a surety or guarantor, it being the intent of this Section 4.02(a) that the obligations of the Company hereunder shall be absolute and unconditional under any and all circumstances. The Company agrees that it shall have no right of subrogation, indemnity, reimbursement or contribution against any Designated Borrower for amounts paid under this Article IV until such time as the Designated Borrower Obligations have been Fully Satisfied.

(b) Without limiting the generality of the foregoing subsection (a), it is agreed that, to the fullest extent permitted by law, the occurrence of any one or more of the following shall not alter or impair the liability of the Company hereunder which shall remain absolute and unconditional as described above:

(i) at any time or from time to time, without notice to the Company, the time for any performance of or compliance with any of the Obligations shall be extended, or such performance or compliance shall be waived;

(ii) any of the acts mentioned in any of the provisions of any of the Loan Documents or any other agreement or instrument referred to in the Loan Documents shall be done or omitted;

(iii) the maturity of any of the Obligations shall be accelerated, or any of the Obligations shall be modified, supplemented or amended in any respect, or any right under any of the Loan Documents or any other agreement or instrument referred to in the Loan Documents shall be waived or any other guarantee of any of the Obligations or any security therefor shall be released, impaired or exchanged in whole or in part or otherwise dealt with; or

(iv) any of the Obligations shall be determined to be void or voidable (including, without limitation, for the benefit of any creditor of the Company) or shall be subordinated to the claims of any Person (including, without limitation, any creditor of the Company).

With respect to its obligations hereunder, the Company hereby expressly waives diligence, presentment, demand of payment, protest and all notices whatsoever, and any requirement that the Administrative Agent or any Lender exhaust any right, power or remedy or proceed against any Person under any of the Loan Documents or any other agreement or instrument referred to in the Loan Documents or against any other Person under any other guarantee of, or security for, any of the Obligations.

4.03 REINSTATEMENT.

The obligations of the Company under this Article IV shall be automatically reinstated if and to the extent that for any reason any payment by or on behalf of any Person in respect of the Designated Borrower Obligations is rescinded or must be otherwise restored by any holder of any of the Designated Borrower Obligations, whether as a result of any proceedings in bankruptcy or reorganization or otherwise, and the Company agrees that it will indemnify the Administrative Agent and each Lender on demand for all reasonable costs and expenses (including, without limitation, fees and expenses of counsel) incurred by the Administrative Agent or such Lender in connection with such rescission or restoration, including any such costs and expenses incurred in defending against any claim alleging that such payment constituted a preference, fraudulent transfer or similar payment under any bankruptcy, insolvency or similar law.

4.04 CERTAIN ADDITIONAL WAIVERS.

The Company agrees that it shall have no right of recourse to security for the Obligations, except through the exercise of rights of subrogation pursuant to Section 4.02.

4.05 REMEDIES.

The Company agrees that, to the fullest extent permitted by law, as between the Company, on the one hand, and the Administrative Agent and the Lenders, on the other hand, the Designated Borrower Obligations may be declared to be forthwith due and payable as provided in Section 9.02 (and shall be deemed to have become automatically due and payable in the circumstances provided in said Section 9.02) for purposes of Section 4.01(a) notwithstanding any stay, injunction or other prohibition preventing such declaration (or preventing the Designated Borrower Obligations from becoming automatically due and payable) as against any other Person and that, in the event of such declaration (or the Designated Borrower Obligations being deemed to have become automatically due and payable), the Designated Borrower Obligations (whether or not due and payable by any other Person) shall forthwith become due and payable by the Company for purposes of Section 4.01(a).

4.06 GUARANTEE OF PAYMENT; CONTINUING GUARANTEE.

The guarantee given by the Company in this Article IV is a guaranty of payment and not of collection, is a continuing guarantee, and shall apply to all Designated Borrower Obligations whenever arising.

ARTICLE V CONDITIONS PRECEDENT TO CREDIT EXTENSIONS

5.01 CONDITIONS OF INITIAL CREDIT EXTENSION.

The obligation of the L/C Issuer and each Lender to enter into this Agreement is subject to satisfaction of the following conditions precedent:

(a) Receipt by the Administrative Agent of the following:

(i) executed counterparts of this Agreement and the other Loan Documents, each properly executed by a Responsible Officer of the signing Loan Party and, in the case of this Agreement, by each Lender;

(ii) copies of the Organization Documents of each Loan Party certified to be true and complete as of a recent date by the appropriate Governmental Authority of the state or other jurisdiction of its incorporation or organization, where applicable, and certified by a secretary or assistant secretary of such Loan Party to be true and correct as of the Closing Date;

(iii) such certificates of resolutions or other action, incumbency certificates and/or other certificates of Responsible Officers of each Loan Party as the Administrative Agent may reasonably require evidencing the identity, authority and capacity of each Responsible Officer thereof authorized to act as a Responsible Officer in connection with this Agreement and the other Loan Documents to which such Loan Party is a party;

(iv) such documents and certifications as the Administrative Agent may reasonably require to evidence that each Loan Party is duly organized or formed, and is validly existing, in good standing and qualified to engage in business in its jurisdiction of formation;

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- (v) a favorable opinion of in-house counsel to the Loan Parties, addressed to the Administrative Agent and each Lender;
 - (vi) a certificate signed by a Responsible Officer of the Company certifying (A) that, except as described in any subsequent Form 10-Q or Form 8-K filing, there has been no event or circumstance since the date of the Audited Financial Statements that has had or could be reasonably expected to have, either individually or in the aggregate, a Material Adverse Effect; and (B) the current Debt Ratings; and
 - (vii) evidence that the Existing Credit Agreement has been or concurrently with the Closing Date is being terminated.
- (b) Any fees required to be paid on or before the Closing Date shall have been paid.
- (c) Unless waived by the Administrative Agent, the Company shall have paid all fees, charges and disbursements of counsel to the Administrative Agent to the extent invoiced prior to or on the Closing Date, plus such additional amounts of such fees, charges and disbursements as shall constitute its reasonable estimate of such fees, charges and disbursements incurred or to be incurred by it through the closing proceedings (provided that such estimate shall not thereafter preclude a final settling of accounts between the Company and the Administrative Agent).

Without limiting the generality of the provisions of Section 10.04, for purposes of determining compliance with the conditions specified in this Section 5.01, each Lender that has signed this Agreement shall be deemed to have consented to, approved or accepted or to be satisfied with, each document or other matter required thereunder to be consented to or approved by or acceptable or satisfactory to a Lender unless the Administrative Agent shall have received notice from such Lender prior to the proposed Closing Date specifying its objection thereto.

5.02 CONDITIONS TO ALL CREDIT EXTENSIONS.

The obligation of each Lender to honor any Request for Credit Extension (other than a Committed Loan Notice requesting only a conversion of Committed Loans to the other Type, or a continuation of Eurocurrency Rate Loans) is subject to the following conditions precedent:

- (a) The representations and warranties of (i) the Borrowers contained in Article VI (other than the representations and warranties contained in Sections 6.05(c), 6.06, 6.08 and 6.10) and (ii) each Loan Party contained in each other Loan Document or in any document furnished at any time under or in connection herewith or therewith, shall be true and correct in all material respects on and as of the date of such Credit Extension, except to the extent that such representations and warranties specifically refer to an earlier date, in which case they shall be true and correct in all material respects as of such earlier date, and except that for purposes of this Section 5.02, the representations and warranties contained in subsections (a) and (b) of Section 6.05 shall be deemed to refer to the most recent statements furnished pursuant to clauses (a) and (b), respectively, of Section 7.01.
- (b) No Default or Event of Default shall exist, or would result from such proposed Credit Extension or the application of the proceeds thereof.

(c) The Administrative Agent and, if applicable, the L/C Issuer or the Swing Line Lender shall have received a Request for Credit Extension in accordance with the requirements hereof.

(d) If the applicable Borrower is a Designated Borrower, then the conditions of Section 2.14 to the designation of such Borrower as a Designated Borrower shall have been met to the satisfaction of the Administrative Agent.

(e) In the case of a Credit Extension to be denominated in an Alternative Currency, there shall not have occurred any change in national or international financial, political or economic conditions or currency exchange rates or exchange controls which in the reasonable opinion of the Administrative Agent or the Required Lenders would make it impracticable for such Credit Extension to be denominated in the relevant Alternative Currency.

Each Request for Credit Extension submitted by the Company shall be deemed to be a representation and warranty that the conditions specified in Sections 5.02(a) and (b) have been satisfied on and as of the date of the applicable Credit Extension.

ARTICLE VI REPRESENTATIONS AND WARRANTIES

Except as otherwise provided in Section 6.15, each Borrower represents and warrants to the Administrative Agent and the Lenders that:

6.01 EXISTENCE, QUALIFICATION AND POWER; COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS.

Each Loan Party (a) is duly organized or formed, validly existing and in good standing under the Laws of the jurisdiction of its incorporation or organization, (b) has all requisite power and authority and all requisite governmental licenses, authorizations, consents and approvals to (i) own or lease its assets and carry on its business and (ii) execute, deliver and perform its obligations under the Loan Documents to which it is a party, (c) is duly qualified and is licensed and in good standing under the Laws of each jurisdiction where its ownership, lease or operation of properties or the conduct of its business requires such qualification or license, and (d) is in compliance with all Laws; except in each case referred to in clause (b)(i), (c) or (d), to the extent that failure to do so could not reasonably be expected to have a Material Adverse Effect.

6.02 AUTHORIZATION; NO CONTRAVENTION.

The execution, delivery and performance by each Loan Party of each Loan Document to which such Person is party, have been duly authorized by all necessary corporate or other organizational action, and do not and will not (a) contravene the terms of any of such Person's Organization Documents; (b) conflict with or result in any breach or contravention of, or the creation of any Lien under, or require any payment to be made under (i) any material Contractual Obligation to which such Person is a party or affecting such Person or the properties of such Person or any of its Subsidiaries or (ii) any order, injunction, writ or decree of any Governmental Authority or any arbitral award to which such Person or its property is subject; or (c) violate any Law. Each Loan Party is in compliance with all Contractual Obligations referred to in clause (b)(i), except to the extent that failure to do so could not reasonably be expected to have a Material Adverse Effect.

6.03 GOVERNMENTAL AUTHORIZATION; OTHER CONSENTS.

No approval, consent, exemption, authorization, or other action by, or notice to, or filing with, any Governmental Authority or any other Person is necessary or required in connection with the execution, delivery or performance by, or enforcement against, any Loan Party of this Agreement or any other Loan Document.

6.04 BINDING EFFECT.

This Agreement has been, and each other Loan Document, when delivered hereunder, will have been, duly executed and delivered by each Loan Party that is party thereto. This Agreement constitutes, and each other Loan Document when so delivered will constitute, a legal, valid and binding obligation of such Loan Party, enforceable against each Loan Party that is party thereto in accordance with its terms, except as enforceability may be limited by applicable Debtor Relief Laws and by general equitable principles (whether enforcement is sought by proceedings in equity or at law).

6.05 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS.

(a) The Audited Financial Statements (i) were prepared in accordance with GAAP consistently applied throughout the period covered thereby, except as otherwise expressly noted therein and (ii) fairly present in all material respects the financial condition of the Company and its Subsidiaries as of the date thereof and their results of operations for the period covered thereby in accordance with GAAP consistently applied throughout the period covered thereby, except as otherwise expressly noted therein.

(b) The unaudited consolidated balance sheet of the Company and its Subsidiaries dated March 31, 2005, and the related consolidated statements of income or operations, shareholders' equity and cash flows for the fiscal quarter ended on that date (i) were prepared in accordance with GAAP consistently applied throughout the period covered thereby, except as otherwise expressly noted therein, and (ii) fairly present in all material respects the financial condition of the Company and its Subsidiaries as of the date thereof and their results of operations for the period covered thereby, subject, in the case of clauses (i) and (ii), to the absence of footnotes and to normal year-end audit adjustments.

(c) Since the date of the Audited Financial Statements, there has been no development, event or circumstance, either individually or in the aggregate, that has had or could reasonably be expected to have a Material Adverse Effect.

6.06 LITIGATION.

There are no actions, suits, proceedings, claims or disputes pending or, to the knowledge of the Loan Parties after due and diligent investigation, threatened or contemplated, at law, in equity, in arbitration or before any Governmental Authority, by or against the Company or any of its Subsidiaries or against any of their properties or revenues that (a) purport to affect or pertain to this Agreement or any other Loan Document, or any of the transactions contemplated hereby or (b) except as described in the Company's 2004 Form 10-K or any subsequent Form 10-Q or Form 8-K filing (the "Disclosed Litigation"), either individually or in the aggregate could reasonably be expected to have a Material Adverse Effect. For the avoidance of doubt, if any Disclosed Litigation shall result in a Material Adverse Effect, the Loan Parties hereby agree that the Lenders shall be under no obligation to make any Loan and the L/C Issuer shall be under no obligation to issue or extend any Letter of Credit hereunder.

6.07 NO DEFAULT.

No Default has occurred and is continuing or would result from the consummation of the transactions contemplated by this Agreement or any other Loan Document.

6.08 ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE.

The Company and its Subsidiaries conduct in the ordinary course of business a review of the effect of existing Environmental Laws and claims alleging potential liability or responsibility for violation of any Environmental Law on their respective businesses, operations and properties, and as a result thereof the Company has reasonably concluded that violation of such Environmental Laws and claims could not, individually or in the aggregate, reasonably be expected to have a Material Adverse Effect.

6.09 TAXES.

The Company and its Significant Subsidiaries have filed all Federal, state and other material tax returns and reports required to be filed, and have paid all Federal, state and other material taxes, assessments, fees and other governmental charges levied or imposed upon them or their properties, income or assets otherwise due and payable, except those which are being contested in good faith by appropriate proceedings diligently conducted and for which adequate reserves have been provided in accordance with GAAP. There is no proposed tax assessment against the Company or any Subsidiary that would, if made, have a Material Adverse Effect. Neither any Loan Party nor any Subsidiary thereof is party to any tax sharing agreement.

6.10 ERISA COMPLIANCE.

(a) Each Plan is in compliance in all material respects with the applicable provisions of ERISA, the Code and other Federal or state Laws. Each Plan that is intended to qualify under Section 401(a) of the Code has received a favorable determination letter from the IRS or an application for such a letter is currently being processed by the IRS with respect thereto and, to the best knowledge of the Company, nothing has occurred which would prevent, or cause the loss of, such qualification. The Company and each ERISA Affiliate have made all required contributions to each Plan subject to Section 412 of the Code, and no application for a funding waiver or an extension of any amortization period pursuant to Section 412 of the Code has been made with respect to any Plan.

(b) There are no pending or, to the best knowledge of the Loan Parties, threatened claims, actions or lawsuits, or action by any Governmental Authority, with respect to any Plan that could reasonably be expected to have a Material Adverse Effect. There has been no prohibited transaction or violation of the fiduciary responsibility rules with respect to any Plan that has resulted or could reasonably be expected to result in a Material Adverse Effect.

(c) (i) No ERISA Event has occurred or is reasonably expected to occur; (ii) no Pension Plan has any Unfunded Pension Liability in excess of \$10,000,000; (iii) no Loan Party nor any ERISA Affiliate has incurred, or reasonably expects to incur, any liability under Title IV of ERISA with respect to any Pension Plan (other than premiums due and not delinquent under Section 4007 of ERISA) in excess of \$20,000,000; (iv) no Loan Party nor any ERISA Affiliate has incurred, or reasonably expects to incur, any liability (and no event has occurred which, with the giving of notice under Section 4219 of ERISA, would result in such liability) under Sections 4201 or 4243 of ERISA with respect to a Multiemployer Plan in excess of \$20,000,000; and (v) no Loan Party nor any ERISA Affiliate has engaged in a transaction that could be subject to Sections 4069 or 4212(c) of ERISA.

6.11 SUBSIDIARIES.

Each of the Company's Significant Subsidiaries is duly organized, validly existing and in good standing under the laws of its jurisdiction of organization, and has all powers and all material governmental licenses, authorizations, consents and approvals required to carry on its business as now conducted.

6.12 MARGIN REGULATIONS; INVESTMENT COMPANY ACT; PUBLIC UTILITY HOLDING COMPANY ACT.

(a) No Borrower is engaged or will engage, principally or as one of its important activities, in the business of purchasing or carrying margin stock (within the meaning of Regulation U issued by the FRB), or extending credit for the purpose of purchasing or carrying margin stock.

(b) None of the Company, any Person Controlling the Company, or any Subsidiary (i) is a "holding company," or a "subsidiary company" of a "holding company," or an "affiliate" of a "holding company" or of a "subsidiary company" of a "holding company," within the meaning of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935, or (ii) is or is required to be registered as an "investment company" under the Investment Company Act of 1940.

6.13 DISCLOSURE.

All information heretofore furnished by the Borrowers to the Administrative Agent or any Lender for purposes of or in connection with this Agreement or any transaction contemplated hereby is, and all such information hereafter furnished by the Borrowers to the Administrative Agent or any Lender will be, true and accurate in all material respects on the date as of which such information is stated or certified. The Borrowers have disclosed to the Lenders in writing any and all facts known to the Borrowers' management which could reasonably be expected to result in a Material Adverse Effect.

6.14 COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS.

Each of the Company and each Significant Subsidiary is in compliance in all material respects with the requirements of all Laws and all orders, writs, injunctions and decrees applicable to it or to its properties, except in such instances in which (a) such requirement of Law or order, writ, injunction or decree is being contested in good faith by appropriate proceedings diligently conducted or (b) the failure to comply therewith, either individually or in the aggregate, could not reasonably be expected to have a Material Adverse Effect.

6.15 REPRESENTATIONS AS TO FOREIGN OBLIGORS.

Each of the Company and each Foreign Obligor represents and warrants to the Administrative Agent and the Lenders that:

(a) Such Foreign Obligor is subject to civil and commercial Laws with respect to its obligations under this Agreement and the other Loan Documents to which it is a party (collectively as to such Foreign Obligor, the "Applicable Foreign Obligor Documents"), and the execution, delivery and performance by such Foreign Obligor of the Applicable Foreign Obligor Documents constitute and will constitute private and commercial acts and not public or governmental acts. Neither such Foreign Obligor nor any of its property has any immunity from jurisdiction of any court or from any legal process (whether through service or notice, attachment prior to judgment, attachment in aid of execution, execution or otherwise) under the laws of the jurisdiction in which such Foreign Obligor is organized and existing in respect of its obligations under the Applicable Foreign Obligor Documents.

(b) The Applicable Foreign Obligor Documents are in proper legal form under the Laws of the jurisdiction in which such Foreign Obligor is organized and existing for the enforcement thereof against such Foreign Obligor under the Laws of such jurisdiction, and to ensure the legality, validity, enforceability, priority or admissibility in evidence of the Applicable Foreign Obligor Documents. It is not necessary to ensure the legality, validity, enforceability, priority or admissibility in evidence of the Applicable Foreign Obligor Documents that the Applicable Foreign Obligor Documents be filed, registered or recorded with, or executed or notarized before, any court or other authority in the jurisdiction in which such Foreign Obligor is organized and existing or that any registration charge or stamp or similar tax be paid on or in respect of the Applicable Foreign Obligor Documents or any other document, except for (i) any such filing, registration, recording, execution or notarization as has been made or is not required to be made until the Applicable Foreign Obligor Document or any other document is sought to be enforced and (ii) any charge or tax as has been timely paid.

(c) There is no tax, levy, impost, duty, fee, assessment or other governmental charge, or any deduction or withholding, imposed by any Governmental Authority in or of the jurisdiction in which such Foreign Obligor is organized and existing either (i) on or by virtue of the execution or delivery of the Applicable Foreign Obligor Documents or (ii) on any payment to be made by such Foreign Obligor pursuant to the Applicable Foreign Obligor Documents, except as has been disclosed to the Administrative Agent.

(d) The execution, delivery and performance of the Applicable Foreign Obligor Documents executed by such Foreign Obligor are, under applicable foreign exchange control regulations of the jurisdiction in which such Foreign Obligor is organized and existing, not subject to any notification or authorization except (i) such as have been made or obtained or (ii) such as cannot be made or obtained until a later date (provided that any notification or authorization described in clause (ii) shall be made or obtained as soon as is reasonably practicable).

6.16 USE OF PROCEEDS.

The proceeds of Credit Extensions hereunder will be used solely for the purposes specified in Section 7.11 hereof.

ARTICLE VII AFFIRMATIVE COVENANTS

So long as any Lender shall have any Commitment hereunder, any Loan or other Obligation hereunder shall remain unpaid or unsatisfied, or any Letter of Credit shall remain outstanding, each Loan Party shall and shall (except in the case of the covenants set forth in Sections 7.01, 7.02, and 7.03) cause each Subsidiary to:

7.01 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS.

Deliver to the Administrative Agent and each Lender, in form and detail reasonably satisfactory to the Administrative Agent and the Required Lenders:

(a) within five (5) Business Days following the date such information is filed with the SEC, and in any event not later than 95 days after the end of each fiscal year of the Company (commencing with the fiscal year ended September 30, 2005), a consolidated balance sheet of the Company and its Subsidiaries as at the end of such fiscal year, and the related consolidated statements of income or operations, shareholders' equity and cash flows for such fiscal year, setting forth in each case in comparative form the figures for the previous fiscal year, all in reasonable detail and prepared in accordance with GAAP, audited and accompanied by (i) a report and opinion of a Registered Public Accounting Firm of nationally recognized standing, which report and opinion shall be prepared in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and applicable Securities Laws and shall not be subject to any "going concern" or like qualification or exception or any qualification or exception as to the scope of such audit and (ii) an attestation report of such Registered Public Accounting Firm as to the Borrower's internal controls pursuant to Section 404 of Sarbanes-Oxley expressing a conclusion to which the Required Lenders do not reasonably object; and

(b) within five (5) Business Days following the date such information is filed with the SEC, and in any event not later than 50 days after the end of each of the first three fiscal quarters of each fiscal year of the Company (commencing with the fiscal quarter ended June 30, 2005), a consolidated balance sheet of the Company and its Subsidiaries as at the end of such fiscal quarter, and the related consolidated statements of income or operations, shareholders' equity and cash flows for such fiscal quarter and for the portion of the Company's fiscal year then ended, setting forth in each case in comparative form the figures for the corresponding fiscal quarter of the previous fiscal year and the corresponding portion of the previous fiscal year, all in reasonable detail, certified by a Responsible Officer of the Company as fairly presenting in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations, shareholders' equity and cash flows of the Company and its Subsidiaries in accordance with GAAP, subject only to normal year-end audit adjustments and the absence of footnotes.

7.02 CERTIFICATES; OTHER INFORMATION.

Deliver to the Administrative Agent and each Lender, in form and detail reasonably satisfactory to the Administrative Agent and the Required Lenders:

(a) concurrently with the delivery of the financial statements referred to in Sections 7.01(a) and (b) (commencing with the delivery of the financial statements for the fiscal quarter ended June 30, 2005), a duly completed Compliance Certificate signed by a Responsible Officer of the Company;

(b) promptly after the same are available, copies of each annual report, proxy or financial statement or other report or communication sent to the stockholders of the Company, and copies of all annual, regular, periodic and special reports and registration statements which the Company may file or be required to file with the SEC under Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, and not otherwise required to be delivered to the Administrative Agent pursuant hereto;

(c) promptly, and in any event within five Business Days after receipt thereof by any Loan Party or any Subsidiary thereof, copies of each notice or other correspondence received from the SEC (or comparable agency in any applicable non-U.S. jurisdiction) concerning any investigation or possible investigation or other inquiry by such agency regarding financial or other operational results of any Loan Party or any Subsidiary thereof; and

(d) promptly, such additional information regarding the business, financial or corporate affairs of the Company or any Subsidiary, or compliance with the terms of the Loan Documents, as the Administrative Agent or any Lender may from time to time reasonably request.

Documents required to be delivered pursuant to Section 7.01(a) or (b) or Section 7.02(b) (to the extent any such documents are included in materials otherwise filed with the SEC) may be delivered electronically and if so delivered, shall be deemed to have been delivered on the date (i) on which the Company posts such documents, or provides a link thereto on the Company's website on the Internet at the website address listed on Schedule 11.02; or (ii) on which such documents are posted on the Company's behalf on an Internet or intranet website, if any, to which each Lender and the Administrative Agent have access (whether a commercial, third-party website or whether sponsored by the Administrative Agent); provided that: (i) the Company shall deliver paper copies of such documents to the Administrative Agent or any Lender that requests the Company to deliver such paper copies until a written request to cease delivering paper copies is given by the Administrative Agent or such Lender and (ii) the Company shall notify the Administrative Agent and each Lender (by telecopier or electronic mail) of the posting of any such documents and provide to the Administrative Agent by electronic mail electronic versions (i.e., soft copies) of such documents. Notwithstanding anything contained herein, in every instance the Company shall be required to provide paper copies of the Compliance Certificates required by Section 7.02(a) to the Administrative Agent. Except for such Compliance Certificates, the Administrative Agent shall have no obligation to request the delivery or to maintain copies of the documents referred to above, and in any event shall have no responsibility to monitor compliance by the Company with any such request for delivery, and each Lender shall be solely responsible for requesting delivery to it or maintaining its copies of such documents.

Each Borrower hereby acknowledges that (a) the Administrative Agent and/or the Arrangers will make available to the Lenders and the L/C Issuer materials and/or information provided by or on behalf of such Borrower hereunder (collectively, "Borrower Materials") by posting the Borrower Materials on IntraLinks or another similar electronic system (the "Platform") and (b) certain of the Lenders may be "public-side" Lenders (i.e., Lenders that do not wish to receive material non-public information with respect to any Borrower or its securities) (each, a "Public Lender"). Each Borrower hereby agrees that (w) all Borrower Materials that are to be made available to Public Lenders shall be clearly and conspicuously marked "PUBLIC" which, at a minimum, shall mean that the word "PUBLIC" shall appear prominently on the first page thereof; (x) by marking Borrower Materials "PUBLIC," the Borrowers shall be deemed to have authorized the Administrative Agent, the Arrangers, the L/C Issuer and the Lenders to treat such Borrower Materials as not containing any material non-public information with respect to the Borrowers or their respective securities for purposes of United States Federal and state securities laws (provided, however, that to the extent such Borrower Materials constitute Information, they shall be treated as set forth in Section 11.07); (y) all Borrower Materials marked "PUBLIC" are permitted to be made available through a portion of the Platform designated "Public Investor;" and (z) the Administrative Agent and the Arrangers shall be entitled to treat any Borrower Materials that are not marked "PUBLIC" as being suitable only for posting on a portion of the Platform not designated "Public Investor."

7.03 NOTICES.

Promptly notify the Administrative Agent and each Lender:

(a) of the occurrence of any Default or Event of Default;

(b) of any matter that has resulted or could reasonably be expected to result in a Material Adverse Effect, including (i) breach or non-performance of, or any default under, a Contractual Obligation of the Company or any Subsidiary; (ii) any dispute, litigation, investigation, proceeding or suspension between the Company or any Subsidiary and any Governmental Authority; or (iii) the commencement of, or any material development in, any litigation or proceeding affecting the Company or any Subsidiary, including pursuant to any applicable Environmental Laws;

(c) of the occurrence of any ERISA Event;

(d) of any material change in accounting policies or financial reporting practices by the Company or any Subsidiary not otherwise reported in the Company's SEC filings; and

(e) of any published announcement by Moody's or S&P of any change or possible change in a Debt Rating.

Each notice pursuant to this Section shall be accompanied by a statement of a Responsible Officer of the Company setting forth details of the occurrence referred to therein and stating what action the Company has taken and proposes to take with respect thereto. Each notice pursuant to this Section 7.03 shall describe with particularity any and all provisions of this Agreement and any other Loan Document that have been breached.

7.04 PAYMENT OF OBLIGATIONS.

Pay and discharge as the same shall become due and payable, all its material obligations and liabilities, including (a) all tax liabilities, assessments and governmental charges or levies upon it or its properties or assets, unless the same are being contested in good faith by appropriate proceedings diligently conducted and adequate reserves in accordance with GAAP are being maintained by the Company or such Subsidiary; (b) all lawful material claims which, if unpaid, would by law become a Lien upon its property (other than Permitted Liens); and (c) all Indebtedness, as and when due and payable, but subject to any subordination provisions contained in any instrument or agreement evidencing such Indebtedness.

7.05 PRESERVATION OF EXISTENCE, ETC.

(a) Preserve, renew and maintain in full force and effect its legal existence, (b) preserve, renew and maintain in full force and effect its good standing under the Laws of the jurisdiction of its organization except in a transaction permitted by Section 8.03; (c) take all reasonable action to maintain all rights, privileges, permits, licenses and franchises necessary or desirable in the normal conduct of its business, except to the extent that failure to do so could not reasonably be expected to have a Material Adverse Effect; and (d) preserve or renew all of its registered patents, trademarks, trade names and service marks, the non-preservation of which could reasonably be expected to have a Material Adverse Effect; provided that nothing in this Section 7.05 shall prohibit mergers or consolidations or sales of assets not prohibited by Section 8.03 hereof or prevent the Company from liquidating or selling any of its Subsidiaries.

7.06 MAINTENANCE OF PROPERTIES.

(a) Maintain, preserve and protect all of its material properties and equipment necessary in the operation of its business in good working order and condition, ordinary wear and tear excepted; and (b) make all necessary repairs thereto and renewals and replacements thereof except where the failure to do so could not reasonably be expected to have a Material Adverse Effect; provided, that nothing in Section 7.06 shall prevent the Company or any of its Subsidiaries from discontinuing the operations and maintenance of any of its properties or those of its Subsidiaries if such discontinuance is, in the judgment of the Company or such Subsidiary, desirable in the conduct of its or their business and which do not in the aggregate cause a Material Adverse Effect. Except as provided above, the Borrowers shall maintain direct ownership of substantially all of the tangible and intangible assets employed in connection with (x) the Borrowers' United States domestic carbon black business and (y) the Borrowers' United States domestic fumed silica business.

7.07 MAINTENANCE OF INSURANCE.

The Company will, and will cause each of its Significant Subsidiaries to, maintain with financially sound and reputable insurance companies not Affiliates of the Company, insurance with respect to its properties and business against loss or damage of the kinds customarily insured against by Persons engaged in the same or similar business, of such types and in such amounts as are customarily carried under similar circumstances by such other Persons and providing prior notice to the Administrative Agent of termination, lapse or cancellation of such insurance.

7.08 COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS.

Comply with the requirements of all Laws and all orders, writs, injunctions and decrees applicable to it or to its business or property, except in such instances in which (a) such requirement of Law or order, writ, injunction or decree is being contested in good faith by appropriate proceedings diligently conducted; or (b) the failure to comply therewith could not reasonably be expected to have a Material Adverse Effect.

7.09 BOOKS AND RECORDS.

Maintain proper books of record and account, in which full, true and correct entries in conformity with GAAP consistently applied shall be made of all financial transactions and matters involving the assets and business of the Company or such Subsidiary, as the case may be.

7.10 INSPECTION RIGHTS.

Permit representatives and independent contractors of the Administrative Agent and each Lender to visit and inspect any of its properties, to examine its corporate, financial and operating records, and make copies thereof or abstracts therefrom, and to discuss its affairs, finances and accounts with its directors, officers, and independent public accountants, all at the expense of the Company and at such reasonable times during normal business hours and not more than once each fiscal year, upon reasonable advance notice to the Company; provided, however, that when an Event of Default exists the Administrative Agent or any Lender (or any of their respective representatives or independent contractors) may do any of the foregoing at the expense of the Company at any time during normal business hours and without advance notice.

7.11 USE OF PROCEEDS.

Use the proceeds of the Credit Extensions for general corporate purposes not in contravention of any Law or of any Loan Document.

ARTICLE VIII
NEGATIVE COVENANTS

So long as any Lender shall have any Commitment hereunder, any Loan or other Obligation hereunder shall remain unpaid or unsatisfied, or any Letter of Credit shall remain outstanding, no Borrower shall, nor shall it permit any Subsidiary to, directly or indirectly:

8.01 LIENS.

Create, incur, assume or suffer to exist any Lien upon any of its property, assets or revenues, whether now owned or hereafter acquired, other than the following:

- (a) Liens existing on the date hereof and listed on Schedule 8.01 and any renewals or extensions thereof;
- (b) Liens (other than Liens imposed under ERISA) for taxes, assessments, government charges or levies not yet due or which are being contested in good faith and by appropriate proceedings diligently conducted, if adequate reserves with respect thereto are maintained on the books of the applicable Person in accordance with GAAP;
- (c) carriers', warehousemen's, mechanics', materialmen's, repairmen's or other like Liens arising in the ordinary course of business which are not overdue for a period of more than 30 days or which are being contested in good faith and by appropriate proceedings diligently conducted, if adequate reserves with respect thereto are maintained on the books of the applicable Person;
- (d) pledges or deposits in the ordinary course of business in connection with workers' compensation, unemployment insurance and other social security legislation, other than any Lien imposed by ERISA;
- (e) deposits to secure the performance of bids, trade contracts and leases (other than Indebtedness), statutory obligations, surety and appeal bonds, performance bonds and other obligations of a like nature incurred in the ordinary course of business;
- (f) easements, rights-of-way, restrictions and other similar encumbrances affecting real property which, in the aggregate, are not substantial in amount, and which do not in any case materially detract from the value of the property subject thereto or materially interfere with the ordinary conduct of the business of the applicable Person;
- (g) Liens securing judgments for the payment of money not constituting an Event of Default under Section 9.01(i);
- (h) leases or subleases granted to others not interfering in any material respect with the business of the Company or any of its Subsidiaries;
- (i) Liens securing Indebtedness permitted under Section 8.06; provided that (i) such Liens do not at any time encumber any property other than the property financed by such Indebtedness and (ii) the Indebtedness secured thereby does not exceed the cost or fair market value, whichever is lower, of the property being acquired on the date of acquisition;

(j) any interest of title of a lessor under, and Liens arising from UCC financing statements (or equivalent filings, registrations or agreements in foreign jurisdictions) relating to, leases permitted by this Agreement;

(k) Liens created or deemed to exist in connection with a Securitization Transaction (including any related filings of any UCC financing statements) securing Indebtedness in an aggregate amount not to exceed \$200,000,000 during the term of this Agreement, but only to the extent that any such Lien relates to the applicable property actually sold, contributed, financed or otherwise conveyed or pledged pursuant to such transaction;

(l) normal and customary rights of setoff upon deposits of cash in favor of banks or other depository institutions;

(m) Liens on commodities subject to any arrangement permitted under Section 8.03(e);

(n) any Lien existing on any asset (i) of any Person at the time such Person becomes a Subsidiary, (ii) of any Person existing at the time such Person is merged or consolidated with or into any Borrower or a Subsidiary or (iii) prior to the acquisition thereof by a Borrower or a Subsidiary and not created in contemplation of such acquisition;

(o) any Lien arising out of the refinancing, extension, renewal or refunding of any Indebtedness secured by any Lien permitted by any of the foregoing clauses of this Section, provided that such Indebtedness is not increased and is not secured by any additional assets;

(p) Liens arising in the ordinary course of business which (i) do not secure Indebtedness, (ii) do not secure any single obligation exceeding the Threshold Amount and (iii) do not in the aggregate materially detract from the value of its assets or materially impair the use thereof in the operation of its business; and

(q) Liens not otherwise permitted by the foregoing clauses of this Section securing Indebtedness in an aggregate principal amount at any time outstanding not to exceed 10% of Consolidated Tangible Net Worth.

8.02 INVESTMENTS.

Make any Investments where the aggregate consideration for such Investment exceeds \$100,000,000, other than Permitted Investments and Permitted Acquisitions.

8.03 FUNDAMENTAL CHANGES.

Merge, dissolve, liquidate, consolidate with or into another Person, or Dispose of (whether in one transaction or in a series of transactions) all or substantially all of its assets (whether now owned or hereafter acquired) to or in favor of any Person, except that, so long as no Default or Event of Default exists or would result therefrom:

(a) any Subsidiary (i) may merge with the Company, provided that the Company shall be the continuing or surviving Person, (ii) may merge with any Loan Party other than the Company provided that the Loan Party shall be the continuing or surviving Person or (iii) which is not a Loan Party may be merged with or into any other Subsidiary which is not a Loan Party; and

(b) any Subsidiary may Dispose of all or substantially all of its assets (upon voluntary liquidation or otherwise) to the Company or to another Subsidiary; provided that if the transferor in such a transaction is a Borrower, then the transferee must either be the Company or another Borrower.

8.04 TRANSACTIONS WITH AFFILIATES.

Enter into any transaction of any kind with any Affiliate of the Company, whether or not in the ordinary course of business, other than (a) reasonable and customary fees paid to members of the board of directors of the Company and its Subsidiaries, (b) transactions otherwise expressly permitted hereunder between the Company or any of its Subsidiaries and any such Affiliate or (c) on fair and reasonable terms substantially as favorable to the Company or such Subsidiary as would be obtainable by the Company or such Subsidiary at the time in a comparable arm's length transaction with a Person other than an Affiliate.

8.05 BURDENSOME AGREEMENTS.

Enter into any Contractual Obligation (other than this Agreement or any other Loan Document) that (a) limits the ability of the Company or any Subsidiary to create, incur, assume or suffer to exist Liens on property of such Person or (b) requires the grant of a Lien to secure an obligation of such Person if a Lien is granted to secure another obligation of such Person.

8.06 FINANCIAL COVENANTS

(a) At any time during which the Company's Debt Rating is lower than either BBB+ or Baa1, permit the Consolidated Interest Coverage Ratio as of the end of any fiscal quarter of the Company to be less than 3.0 to 1.0.

(b) Consolidated Indebtedness will not exceed 60% of Total Capitalization at any time.

(c) The aggregate Indebtedness of all Subsidiaries (excluding Indebtedness of a Subsidiary owing to any Borrower or to another Subsidiary) will at no time exceed 25% of Total Capitalization.

8.07 ORGANIZATION DOCUMENTS.

Amend, modify or change, or permit any Loan Party to amend, modify or change, its Organization Documents in any manner which could adversely affect the rights of the Administrative Agent or the Lenders.

8.08 USE OF PROCEEDS.

Use the proceeds of any Credit Extension, whether directly or indirectly, and whether immediately, incidentally or ultimately, to purchase or carry margin stock (within the meaning of Regulation U of the FRB) (other than stock of the Company) or to extend credit to others for the purpose of purchasing or carrying margin stock or to refund indebtedness originally incurred for such purpose.

8.09 SYNTHETIC LEASE OBLIGATIONS.

Permit the aggregate Attributable Indebtedness of all Synthetic Lease Obligations of the Company and its Subsidiaries to exceed \$30,000,000 at any one time outstanding.

ARTICLE IX
EVENTS OF DEFAULT AND REMEDIES

9.01 EVENTS OF DEFAULT.

Any of the following shall constitute an Event of Default:

(a) Non-Payment. Any Borrower or any other Loan Party fails to pay (i) when and as required to be paid herein, and in the currency required hereunder, any amount of principal of any Loan or any L/C Obligation, or (ii) within five days after the same becomes due, any interest on any Loan or on any L/C Obligation, or any fee due hereunder, or (iii) within five days after the same becomes due, any other amount payable hereunder or under any other Loan Document; or

(b) Specific Covenants. The Company fails to perform or observe any term, covenant or agreement contained in any of Section 7.05(a), 7.10, or 7.11 or Article VIII; or

(c) Other Covenants. The Company fails to perform or observe any term, covenant or agreement contained in any of Section 7.01, 7.02 or 7.03 and such failure continues for 5 Business Days after the earlier of a Responsible Officer of a Loan Party becoming aware of such failure or notice thereof by the Administrative Agent; or

(d) Other Defaults. Any Loan Party fails to perform or observe any other covenant or agreement (not specified in subsection (a), (b) or (c) above) contained in any Loan Document on its part to be performed or observed and such failure continues for 30 days after written notice from the Administrative Agent; or

(e) Representations and Warranties. Any representation, warranty, certification or statement of fact made or deemed made by or on behalf of the Company or any other Loan Party herein, in any other Loan Document, or in any document delivered in connection herewith or therewith shall be incorrect or misleading in any material respect when made or deemed made; or

(f) Cross-Default. The Company or any Significant Subsidiary (i) fails to make any payment when due (whether by scheduled maturity, required prepayment, acceleration, demand, or otherwise) in respect of any Indebtedness or Guarantee having an aggregate principal amount (including undrawn committed or available amounts and including amounts owing to all creditors under any combined or syndicated credit arrangement) of more than \$50,000,000, or (ii) fails to observe or perform any other agreement or condition relating to any such Indebtedness or Guarantee having an aggregate principal amount (including undrawn committed or available amounts and including amounts owing to all creditors under any combined or syndicated credit arrangement) of more than \$50,000,000 or contained in any instrument or agreement evidencing, securing or relating thereto, or any other event occurs, the effect of which default or other event is to cause, or to permit the holder or holders of such Indebtedness or the beneficiary or beneficiaries of such Guarantee (or a trustee or agent on behalf of such holder or holders or beneficiary or beneficiaries) to cause, with the giving of notice if required, such Indebtedness to be demanded or to become due or to be repurchased, prepaid, defeased or redeemed (automatically or otherwise), or an offer to repurchase, prepay, defease or redeem such Indebtedness to be made, prior to its stated maturity, or such Guarantee to become payable or cash collateral in respect thereof to be demanded; or

(g) Insolvency Proceedings, Etc. Any Loan Party or any of its Significant Subsidiaries institutes or consents to the institution of any proceeding under any Debtor Relief Law, or makes an assignment for the benefit of creditors; or applies for or consents to the appointment of any receiver, trustee, custodian, conservator, liquidator, rehabilitator or similar officer for it or for all or any material part of its property; or any receiver, trustee, custodian, conservator, liquidator, rehabilitator or similar officer is appointed without the application or consent of such Person and the appointment continues undischarged or unstayed for 60 calendar days; or any proceeding under any Debtor Relief Law relating to any such Person or to all or any material part of its property is instituted without the consent of such Person and continues undismissed or unstayed for 60 calendar days, or an order for relief is entered in any such proceeding; or

(h) Inability to Pay Debts; Attachment. (i) The Company or any Significant Subsidiary becomes unable or admits in writing its inability or fails generally to pay its debts as they become due, or (ii) any writ or warrant of attachment or execution or similar process is issued or levied against all or any material part of the property of any such Person and is not released, vacated or fully bonded within 30 days after its issue or levy; or

(i) Judgments. There is entered against the Company or any Subsidiary a final judgment or order for the payment of money in an aggregate amount exceeding the Threshold Amount (to the extent not covered by independent third-party insurance as to which the insurer does not dispute coverage) and (i) enforcement proceedings are commenced by any creditor upon such judgment or order, or (ii) there is a period of 10 consecutive days during which a stay of enforcement of such judgment, by reason of a pending appeal or otherwise, is not in effect; or

(j) ERISA. (i) An ERISA Event occurs with respect to a Pension Plan or Multiemployer Plan which has resulted or could reasonably be expected to result in liability of the Company under Title IV of ERISA to the Pension Plan, Multiemployer Plan or the PBGC in an aggregate amount in excess of the Threshold Amount, or (ii) the Company or any ERISA Affiliate fails to pay when due, after the expiration of any applicable grace period, any installment payment with respect to its withdrawal liability under Section 4201 of ERISA under a Multiemployer Plan in an aggregate amount in excess of the Threshold Amount; or

(k) Invalidity of Loan Documents. Any material provision of any Loan Document, at any time after its execution and delivery and for any reason other than as expressly permitted hereunder or satisfaction in full of all the Obligations, ceases to be in full force and effect; or any Loan Party or any other Person contests in any manner the validity or enforceability of any material provision of any Loan Document; or any Loan Party denies that it has any or further liability or obligation under any material provision of any Loan Document, or purports to revoke, terminate or rescind any material provision of any Loan Document; or

(l) Change of Control. There occurs any Change of Control.

9.02 REMEDIES UPON EVENT OF DEFAULT.

If any Event of Default occurs and is continuing, the Administrative Agent shall, at the request of, or may, with the consent of, the Required Lenders, take any or all of the following actions:

(a) declare the commitment of each Lender to make Loans and any obligation of the L/C Issuer to make L/C Credit Extensions to be terminated, whereupon such commitments and obligation shall be terminated;

(b) declare the unpaid principal amount of all outstanding Loans, all interest accrued and unpaid thereon, and all other amounts owing or payable hereunder or under any other Loan Document to be immediately due and payable, without presentment, demand, protest or other notice of any kind, all of which are hereby expressly waived by the Borrowers;

(c) require that the Company Cash Collateralize the L/C Obligations (in an amount equal to the then Outstanding Amount thereof); and

(d) exercise on behalf of itself and the Lenders all rights and remedies available to it and the Lenders under the Loan Documents;

provided, however, that upon the occurrence of an actual or deemed entry of an order for relief with respect to any Borrower under the Debtor Relief Laws, the obligation of each Lender to make Loans and any obligation of the L/C Issuer to make L/C Credit Extensions shall automatically terminate, the unpaid principal amount of all outstanding Loans and all interest and other amounts as aforesaid shall automatically become due and payable, and the obligation of the Company to Cash Collateralize the L/C Obligations as aforesaid shall automatically become effective, in each case without further act of the Administrative Agent or any Lender.

9.03 APPLICATION OF FUNDS.

After the exercise of remedies provided for in Section 9.02 (or after the Loans have automatically become immediately due and payable and the L/C Obligations have automatically been required to be Cash Collateralized as set forth in the proviso to Section 9.02), any amounts received on account of the Obligations shall be applied by the Administrative Agent in the following order:

First, to payment of that portion of the Obligations constituting fees, indemnities, expenses and other amounts (including fees, charges and disbursements of counsel to the Administrative Agent and amounts payable under Article III) payable to the Administrative Agent in its capacity as such;

Second, to payment of that portion of the Obligations constituting fees, indemnities and other amounts (other than principal, interest and Letter of Credit Fees) payable to the Lenders and the L/C Issuer (including fees, charges and disbursements of counsel to the respective Lenders and the L/C Issuer and amounts payable under Article III), ratably among them in proportion to the respective amounts described in this clause Second payable to them;

Third, to payment of that portion of the Obligations constituting accrued and unpaid Letter of Credit Fees and interest on the Loans, L/C Borrowings and other Obligations, ratably among the Lenders and the L/C Issuer in proportion to the respective amounts described in this clause Third payable to them;

Fourth, to payment of that portion of the Obligations constituting unpaid principal of the Loans and L/C Borrowings, ratably among the Lenders and the L/C Issuer in proportion to the respective amounts described in this clause Fourth held by them;

Fifth, to the Administrative Agent for the account of the L/C Issuer, to Cash Collateralize that portion of L/C Obligations comprised of the aggregate undrawn amount of Letters of Credit; and

Last, the balance, if any, after all of the Obligations have been indefeasibly paid in full, to the Company or as otherwise required by Law.

Subject to Section 2.03(c), amounts used to Cash Collateralize the aggregate undrawn amount of Letters of Credit pursuant to clause Fifth above shall be applied to satisfy drawings under such Letters of Credit as they occur. If any amount remains on deposit as Cash Collateral after all Letters of Credit have either been fully drawn or expired, such remaining amount shall be applied to the other Obligations, if any, in the order set forth above.

ARTICLE X
ADMINISTRATIVE AGENT

10.01 APPOINTMENT AND AUTHORITY.

Each of the Lenders and the L/C Issuer hereby irrevocably appoints Bank of America to act on its behalf as the Administrative Agent hereunder and under the other Loan Documents and authorizes the Administrative Agent to take such actions on its behalf and to exercise such powers as are delegated to the Administrative Agent by the terms hereof or thereof, together with such actions and powers as are reasonably incidental thereto. The provisions of this Article are solely for the benefit of the Administrative Agent, the Lenders and the L/C Issuer, and no Borrower shall have rights as a third party beneficiary of any of such provisions.

10.02 RIGHTS AS A LENDER.

The Person serving as the Administrative Agent hereunder shall have the same rights and powers in its capacity as a Lender as any other Lender and may exercise the same as though it were not the Administrative Agent and the term "Lender" or "Lenders" shall, unless otherwise expressly indicated or unless the context otherwise requires, include the Person serving as the Administrative Agent hereunder in its individual capacity. Such Person and its Affiliates may accept deposits from, lend money to, act as the financial advisor or in any other advisory capacity for and generally engage in any kind of business with the Borrowers or any Subsidiary or other Affiliate thereof as if such Person were not the Administrative Agent hereunder and without any duty to account therefor to the Lenders.

10.03 EXCULPATORY PROVISIONS.

The Administrative Agent shall not have any duties or obligations except those expressly set forth herein and in the other Loan Documents. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the Administrative Agent:

(a) shall not be subject to any fiduciary or other implied duties, regardless of whether a Default has occurred and is continuing;

(b) shall not have any duty to take any discretionary action or exercise any discretionary powers, except discretionary rights and powers expressly contemplated hereby or by the other Loan Documents that the Administrative Agent is required to exercise as directed in writing by the Required Lenders (or such other number or percentage of the Lenders as shall be expressly provided for herein or in the other Loan Documents), provided that the Administrative Agent shall not be required to take any action that, in its opinion or the opinion of its counsel, may expose the Administrative Agent to liability or that is contrary to any Loan Document or applicable law; and

(c) shall not, except as expressly set forth herein and in the other Loan Documents, have any duty to disclose, and shall not be liable for the failure to disclose, any information relating to any of the Borrowers or any of their respective Affiliates that is communicated to or obtained by the Person serving as the Administrative Agent or any of its Affiliates in any capacity.

The Administrative Agent shall not be liable for any action taken or not taken by it (i) with the consent or at the request of the Required Lenders (or such other number or percentage of the Lenders as shall be necessary, or as the Administrative Agent shall believe in good faith shall be necessary, under the circumstances as provided in Sections 11.01 and 9.02) or (ii) in the absence of its own gross negligence or willful misconduct. The Administrative Agent shall be deemed not to have knowledge of any Default unless and until notice describing such Default is given to the Administrative Agent by the Company, a Lender or the L/C Issuer.

The Administrative Agent shall not be responsible for or have any duty to ascertain or inquire into (i) any statement, warranty or representation made in or in connection with this Agreement or any other Loan Document, (ii) the contents of any certificate, report or other document delivered hereunder or thereunder or in connection herewith or therewith, (iii) the performance or observance of any of the covenants, agreements or other terms or conditions set forth herein or therein or the occurrence of any Default, (iv) the validity, enforceability, effectiveness or genuineness of this Agreement, any other Loan Document or any other agreement, instrument or document or (v) the satisfaction of any condition set forth in Article V or elsewhere herein, other than to confirm receipt of items expressly required to be delivered to the Administrative Agent.

10.04 RELIANCE BY ADMINISTRATIVE AGENT.

The Administrative Agent shall be entitled to rely upon, and shall not incur any liability for relying upon, any notice, request, certificate, consent, statement, instrument, document or other writing (including any electronic message, Internet or intranet website posting or other distribution) believed by it to be genuine and to have been signed, sent or otherwise authenticated by the proper Person. The Administrative Agent also may rely upon any statement made to it orally or by telephone and believed by it to have been made by the proper Person, and shall not incur any liability for relying thereon. In determining compliance with any condition hereunder to the making of a Loan, or the issuance of a Letter of Credit, that by its terms must be fulfilled to the satisfaction of a Lender or the L/C Issuer, the Administrative Agent may presume that such condition is satisfactory to such Lender or the L/C Issuer unless the Administrative Agent shall have received notice to the contrary from such Lender or the L/C Issuer prior to the making of such Loan or the issuance of such Letter of Credit. The Administrative Agent may consult with legal counsel (who may be counsel for the Company), independent accountants and other experts selected by it, and shall not be liable for any action taken or not taken by it in accordance with the advice of any such counsel, accountants or experts.

10.05 DELEGATION OF DUTIES.

The Administrative Agent may perform any and all of its duties and exercise its rights and powers hereunder or under any other Loan Document by or through any one or more sub-agents appointed by the Administrative Agent. The Administrative Agent and any such sub-agent may perform any and all of its duties and exercise its rights and powers by or through their respective Related Parties. The exculpatory provisions of this Article shall apply to any such sub-agent and to the Related Parties of the Administrative Agent and any such sub-agent, and shall apply to their respective activities in connection with the syndication of the credit facilities provided for herein as well as activities as Administrative Agent.

10.06 RESIGNATION OF ADMINISTRATIVE AGENT.

The Administrative Agent may at any time give notice of its resignation to the Lenders, the L/C Issuer and the Company. Upon receipt of any such notice of resignation, the Required Lenders shall have the right, with the consent of the Company, which consent may not be unreasonably withheld, to appoint a successor, which shall be a bank with an office in the United States, or an Affiliate of any such bank with an office in the United States. If no such successor shall have been so appointed by the Required Lenders and shall have accepted such appointment within 30 days after the retiring Administrative Agent gives notice of its resignation, then the retiring Administrative Agent may on behalf of the Lenders and the L/C Issuer, appoint a successor Administrative Agent meeting the qualifications set forth above; provided that if the Administrative Agent shall notify the Company and the Lenders that no qualifying Person has accepted such appointment, then such resignation shall nonetheless become effective in accordance with such notice and (1) the retiring Administrative Agent shall be discharged from its duties and obligations hereunder and under the other Loan Documents (except that in the case of any collateral security held by the Administrative Agent on behalf of the Lenders or the L/C Issuer under any of the Loan Documents, the retiring Administrative Agent shall continue to hold such collateral security until such time as a successor Administrative Agent is appointed) and (2) all payments, communications and determinations provided to be made by, to or through the Administrative Agent shall instead be made by or to each Lender and the L/C Issuer directly, until such time as the Required Lenders appoint a successor Administrative Agent as provided for above in this Section. Upon the acceptance of a successor's appointment as Administrative Agent hereunder, such successor shall succeed to and become vested with all of the rights, powers, privileges and duties of the retiring (or retired) Administrative Agent, and the retiring Administrative Agent shall be discharged from all of its duties and obligations hereunder or under the other Loan Documents (if not already discharged therefrom as provided above in this Section). The fees payable by the Company to a successor Administrative Agent shall be the same as those payable to its predecessor unless otherwise agreed between the Company and such successor. After the retiring Administrative Agent's resignation hereunder and under the other Loan Documents, the provisions of this Article and Section 11.04 shall continue in effect for the benefit of such retiring Administrative Agent, its sub-agents and their respective Related Parties in respect of any actions taken or omitted to be taken by any of them while the retiring Administrative Agent was acting as Administrative Agent.

Any resignation by Bank of America as Administrative Agent pursuant to this Section shall also constitute its resignation as L/C Issuer and Swing Line Lender. Upon the acceptance of a successor's appointment as Administrative Agent hereunder, (a) such successor shall succeed to and become vested with all of the rights, powers, privileges and duties of the retiring L/C Issuer and Swing Line Lender, (b) the retiring L/C Issuer and Swing Line Lender shall be discharged from all of their respective duties and obligations hereunder or under the other Loan Documents, and (c) the successor L/C Issuer shall issue letters of credit in substitution for the Letters of Credit, if any, outstanding at the time of such succession or make other arrangements satisfactory to the retiring L/C Issuer to effectively assume the obligations of the retiring L/C Issuer with respect to such Letters of Credit.

10.07 NON-RELIANCE ON ADMINISTRATIVE AGENT AND OTHER LENDERS.

Each Lender and the L/C Issuer acknowledges that it has, independently and without reliance upon the Administrative Agent or any other Lender or any of their Related Parties and based on such documents and information as it has deemed appropriate, made its own credit analysis and decision to enter into this Agreement. Each Lender and the L/C Issuer also acknowledges that it will, independently and without reliance upon the Administrative Agent or any other Lender or any of their Related Parties and based on such documents and information as it shall from time to time deem appropriate, continue to make its own decisions in taking or not taking action under or based upon this Agreement, any other Loan Document or any related agreement or any document furnished hereunder or thereunder.

10.08 NO OTHER DUTIES, ETC.

Anything herein to the contrary notwithstanding, none of the Syndication Agent, Arrangers or Sole Book Manager listed on the cover page hereof shall have any powers, duties or responsibilities under this Agreement or any of the other Loan Documents, except in its capacity, as applicable, as the Administrative Agent, a Lender or the L/C Issuer hereunder.

10.09 ADMINISTRATIVE AGENT MAY FILE PROOFS OF CLAIM.

In case of the pendency of any receivership, insolvency, liquidation, bankruptcy, reorganization, arrangement, adjustment, composition or other judicial proceeding relative to any Loan Party, the Administrative Agent (irrespective of whether the principal of any Loan or L/C Obligation shall then be due and payable as herein expressed or by declaration or otherwise and irrespective of whether the Administrative Agent shall have made any demand on any Borrower) shall be entitled and empowered, by intervention in such proceeding or otherwise

(a) to file and prove a claim for the whole amount of the principal and interest owing and unpaid in respect of the Loans, L/C Obligations and all other Obligations that are owing and unpaid and to file such other documents as may be necessary or advisable in order to have the claims of the Lenders, the L/C Issuer and the Administrative Agent (including any claim for the reasonable compensation, expenses, disbursements and advances of the Lenders, the L/C Issuer and the Administrative Agent and their respective agents and counsel and all other amounts due the Lenders, the L/C Issuer and the Administrative Agent under Sections 2.03(i) and (j), 2.09 and 11.04) allowed in such judicial proceeding; and

(b) to collect and receive any monies or other property payable or deliverable on any such claims and to distribute the same;

and any custodian, receiver, assignee, trustee, liquidator, sequestrator or other similar official in any such judicial proceeding is hereby authorized by each Lender and the L/C Issuer to make such payments to the Administrative Agent and, in the event that the Administrative Agent shall consent to the making of such payments directly to the Lenders and the L/C Issuer, to pay to the Administrative Agent any amount due for the reasonable compensation, expenses, disbursements and advances of the Administrative Agent and its agents and counsel, and any other amounts due the Administrative Agent under Sections 2.09 and 11.04.

Nothing contained herein shall be deemed to authorize the Administrative Agent to authorize or consent to or accept or adopt on behalf of any Lender or the L/C Issuer any plan of reorganization, arrangement, adjustment or composition affecting the Obligations or the rights of any Lender or to authorize the Administrative Agent to vote in respect of the claim of any Lender in any such proceeding.

ARTICLE XI MISCELLANEOUS

11.01 AMENDMENTS, ETC.

No amendment or waiver of any provision of this Agreement or any other Loan Document, and no consent to any departure by the Company or any other Loan Party therefrom, shall be effective unless in writing signed by the Required Lenders and the Company or the applicable Loan Party, as the case may be, and acknowledged by the Administrative Agent, and each such waiver or consent shall be effective only in the specific instance and for the specific purpose for which given; provided, however, that no such amendment, waiver or consent shall:

(a) other than pursuant to Section 2.15 hereof, extend or increase the Commitment of any Lender (or reinstate any Commitment terminated pursuant to Section 9.02) without the written consent of such Lender;

(b) postpone any date fixed by this Agreement or any other Loan Document for any payment of principal, interest, fees or other amounts due to the Lenders (or any of them) hereunder or under any other Loan Document without the written consent of each Lender directly affected thereby;

(c) reduce the principal of, or the rate of interest specified herein on, any Loan or L/C Borrowing, or (subject to clause (iv) of the second proviso to this Section 11.01) any fees or other amounts payable hereunder or under any other Loan Document without the written consent of each Lender directly affected thereby; provided, however, that only the consent of the Required Lenders shall be necessary to amend the definition of "Default Rate" or to waive any obligation of any Borrower to pay interest or Letter of Credit Fees at the Default Rate;

(d) change Section 2.13 or Section 9.03 in a manner that would alter the pro rata sharing of payments required thereby without the written consent of each Lender;

(e) amend Section 1.06 or the definition of "Alternative Currency" without the written consent of each Lender;

(f) change any provision of this Section or the definition of "Required Lenders" or any other provision hereof specifying the number or percentage of Lenders required to amend, waive or otherwise modify any rights hereunder or make any determination or grant any consent hereunder without the written consent of each Lender; or

(g) release the Company from its obligations under the Loan Documents without the written consent of each Lender;

and, provided further, that (i) no amendment, waiver or consent shall, unless in writing and signed by the L/C Issuer in addition to the Lenders required above, affect the rights or duties of the L/C Issuer under this Agreement or any Issuer Document relating to any Letter of Credit issued or to be issued by it; (ii) no amendment, waiver or consent shall, unless in writing and signed by the Swing Line Lender in addition to the Lenders required above, affect the rights or duties of the Swing Line Lender under this Agreement; (iii) no amendment, waiver or consent shall, unless in writing and signed by the Administrative Agent in addition to the Lenders required above, affect the rights or duties of the Administrative Agent under this Agreement or any other Loan Document; (iv) the Fee Letter may be amended, or rights or privileges thereunder waived, in a writing executed only by the parties thereto. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, no Defaulting Lender shall have any right to approve or disapprove any amendment, waiver or consent hereunder, except that the Commitment of such Lender may not be increased or extended without the consent of such Lender.

11.02 NOTICES; EFFECTIVENESS; ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION.

(a) Notices Generally. Except in the case of notices and other communications expressly permitted to be given by telephone (and except as provided in subsection (b) below), all notices and other communications provided for herein shall be in writing and shall be delivered by hand or overnight courier service, mailed by certified or registered mail or sent by telecopier as follows, and all notices and other communications expressly permitted hereunder to be given by telephone shall be made to the applicable telephone number, as follows:

(i) if to the Borrowers, the Administrative Agent, the L/C Issuer or the Swing Line Lender, to the address, telecopier number, electronic mail address or telephone number specified for such Person on Schedule 11.02; and

(ii) if to any other Lender, to the address, telecopier number, electronic mail address or telephone number specified in its Administrative Questionnaire.

Notices sent by hand or overnight courier service, or mailed by certified or registered mail, shall be deemed to have been given when received; notices sent by telecopier shall be deemed to have been given when sent (except that, if not given during normal business hours for the recipient, shall be deemed to have been given at the opening of business on the next business day for the recipient). Notices delivered through electronic communications to the extent provided in subsection (b) below, shall be effective as provided in such subsection (b).

(b) Electronic Communications. Notices and other communications to the Lenders and the L/C Issuer hereunder may be delivered or furnished by electronic communication (including e-mail and Internet or intranet websites) pursuant to procedures approved by the Administrative Agent, provided that the foregoing shall not apply to notices to any Lender or the L/C Issuer pursuant to Article II if such Lender or the L/C Issuer, as applicable, has notified the Administrative Agent that it is incapable of receiving notices under such Article by electronic communication. The Administrative Agent or the Company may, in its discretion, agree to accept notices and other communications to it hereunder by electronic communications pursuant to procedures approved by it, provided that approval of such procedures may be limited to particular notices or communications.

Unless the Administrative Agent otherwise prescribes, (i) notices and other communications sent to an e-mail address shall be deemed received upon the sender's receipt of an acknowledgement from the intended recipient (such as by the "return receipt requested" function, as available, return e-mail or other written acknowledgement), provided that if such notice or other communication is not sent during the normal business hours of the recipient, such notice or communication shall be deemed to have been sent at the opening of business on the next business day for the recipient, and (ii) notices or communications posted to an Internet or intranet website shall be deemed received upon the deemed receipt by the intended recipient at its e-mail address as described in the foregoing clause (i) of notification that such notice or communication is available and identifying the website address therefor.

(c) The Platform. THE PLATFORM IS PROVIDED "AS IS" AND "AS AVAILABLE." THE AGENT PARTIES (AS DEFINED BELOW) DO NOT WARRANT THE ACCURACY OR COMPLETENESS OF THE BORROWER MATERIALS OR THE ADEQUACY OF THE PLATFORM, AND EXPRESSLY DISCLAIM LIABILITY FOR ERRORS IN OR OMISSIONS FROM THE BORROWER MATERIALS. NO WARRANTY OF ANY KIND, EXPRESS, IMPLIED OR STATUTORY, INCLUDING ANY WARRANTY OF MERCHANTABILITY, FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE, NON-INFRINGEMENT OF THIRD PARTY RIGHTS OR FREEDOM FROM VIRUSES OR OTHER CODE DEFECTS, IS MADE BY ANY AGENT PARTY IN CONNECTION WITH THE BORROWER MATERIALS OR THE PLATFORM. In no event shall the Administrative Agent or any of its Related Parties (collectively, the "Agent Parties") have any liability to any Borrower, any Lender, the L/C Issuer or any other Person for losses, claims, damages, liabilities or expenses of any kind (whether in tort, contract or otherwise) arising out of any Borrower's or the Administrative Agent's transmission of Borrower Materials through the Internet, except to the extent that such losses, claims, damages, liabilities or expenses are determined by a court of competent jurisdiction by a final and nonappealable judgment to have resulted from the gross negligence or willful misconduct of such Agent Party; provided, however, that in no event shall any Agent Party have any liability to any Borrower, any Lender, the L/C Issuer or any other Person for indirect, special, incidental, consequential or punitive damages (as opposed to direct or actual damages).

(d) Change of Address, Etc. Each of the Borrowers, the Administrative Agent, the L/C Issuer and the Swing Line Lender may change its address, telecopier or telephone number for notices and other communications hereunder by notice to the other parties hereto. Each other Lender may change its address, telecopier or telephone number for notices and other communications hereunder by notice to the Company, the Administrative Agent, the L/C Issuer and the Swing Line Lender. In addition, each Lender agrees to notify the Administrative Agent from time to time to ensure that the Administrative Agent has on record (i) an effective address, contact name, telephone number, telecopier number and electronic mail address to which notices and other communications may be sent and (ii) accurate wire instructions for such Lender.

(e) Reliance by Administrative Agent, L/C Issuer and Lenders. The Administrative Agent, the L/C Issuer and the Lenders shall be entitled to rely and act upon any notices (including telephonic Committed Loan Notices and Swing Line Loan Notices) purportedly given by or on behalf of any Borrower even if (i) such notices were not made in a manner specified herein, were incomplete or were not preceded or followed by any other form of notice specified herein, or (ii) the terms thereof, as understood by the recipient, varied from any confirmation thereof. The Company shall indemnify the Administrative Agent, the L/C Issuer, each Lender and the Related Parties of each of them from all losses, costs, expenses and liabilities resulting from the reliance by such Person on each notice purportedly given by or on behalf of any Borrower. All telephonic notices to and other telephonic communications with the Administrative Agent may be recorded by the Administrative Agent, and each of the parties hereto hereby consents to such recording.

11.03 NO WAIVER; CUMULATIVE REMEDIES.

No failure by any Lender or the Administrative Agent to exercise, and no delay by any such Person in exercising, any right, remedy, power or privilege hereunder shall operate as a waiver thereof; nor shall any single or partial exercise of any right, remedy, power or privilege hereunder preclude any other or further exercise thereof or the exercise of any other right, remedy, power or privilege. The rights, remedies, powers and privileges herein provided are cumulative and not exclusive of any rights, remedies, powers and privileges provided by law.

11.04 EXPENSES; INDEMNITY; DAMAGE WAIVER.

(a) Costs and Expenses. The Company shall pay (i) all reasonable out-of-pocket expenses incurred by the Administrative Agent and its Affiliates (including the reasonable fees, charges and disbursements of counsel for the Administrative Agent), in connection with the syndication of the credit facilities provided for herein, the preparation, negotiation, execution, delivery and administration of this Agreement and the other Loan Documents or any amendments, modifications or waivers of the provisions hereof or thereof (whether or not the transactions contemplated hereby or thereby shall be consummated), (ii) all reasonable out-of-pocket expenses incurred by the L/C Issuer in connection with the issuance, amendment, renewal or extension of any Letter of Credit or any demand for payment thereunder and (iii) all reasonable out-of-pocket expenses incurred by the Administrative Agent, any Lender or the L/C Issuer (including the reasonable fees, charges and disbursements of any counsel for the Administrative Agent, any Lender or the L/C Issuer), in connection with the enforcement or protection of its rights in connection with this Agreement and the other Loan Documents, including all out-of-pocket expenses incurred during any workout, restructuring or negotiations in respect of such Loans or Letters of Credit.

(b) Indemnification by the Company. The Company shall indemnify the Administrative Agent (and any sub-agent thereof), each Lender and the L/C Issuer, and each Related Party of any of the foregoing Persons (each such Person being called an "Indemnatee") against, and hold each Indemnatee harmless from, any and all losses, claims, damages, penalties, liabilities and reasonable related expenses (including the reasonable fees, charges and disbursements of any counsel for any Indemnatee), and shall indemnify and hold harmless each Indemnatee from all fees and time charges and disbursements for attorneys who may be employees of any Indemnatee, incurred by any Indemnatee or asserted against any Indemnatee by any third party or by any Borrower or any other Loan Party arising out of, in connection with, or as a result of (i) the execution or delivery of this Agreement, any other Loan Document or any agreement or instrument contemplated hereby or thereby, the performance by the parties hereto of their respective obligations hereunder or thereunder, the consummation of the transactions contemplated hereby or thereby, or, in the case of the Administrative Agent (and any sub-agent thereof) and its Related Parties only, the administration of this Agreement and the other Loan Documents, (ii) any Loan or Letter of Credit or the use or proposed use of the proceeds therefrom (including any refusal by the L/C Issuer to honor a demand for payment under a Letter of Credit if the documents presented in connection with such demand do not strictly comply with the terms of such Letter of Credit), (iii) any actual or alleged presence or release of Hazardous Materials on or from any property owned or operated by any Borrower or any of its Subsidiaries, or any Environmental Liability related in any way to any Borrower or any of its Subsidiaries, (iv) any civil penalty or fine assessed by OFAC against, and all reasonable costs and expenses (including counsel fees and disbursements) incurred in connection with defense thereof, by the Administrative Agent or any Lender as a result conduct of the Borrower that violates a sanction enforced by OFAC, or (v) any actual or prospective claim, litigation, investigation or proceeding relating to any of the foregoing, whether based on contract, tort or any other theory, whether brought by a third party or by the Company or any other Loan Party, and regardless of whether any Indemnatee is a party thereto, in all cases, whether or not caused by or arising, in whole or in part, out of the comparative, contributory or sole negligence of the Indemnatee; provided that such indemnity shall not, as to any Indemnatee, be available to the extent that such losses, claims, damages, penalties, liabilities or related expenses (x) are determined by a court of competent jurisdiction to have resulted from the gross negligence or willful misconduct of such Indemnatee or (y) result from a claim brought by the Company or any other Loan Party against an Indemnatee for breach in bad faith of such Indemnatee's obligations hereunder or under any other Loan Document, if the Company or such other Loan Party has obtained a judgment in its favor on such claim as determined by a court of competent jurisdiction.

(c) Reimbursement by Lenders. To the extent that the Company for any reason fails to indefeasibly pay any amount required under subsection (a) or (b) of this Section to be paid by it to the Administrative Agent (or any sub-agent thereof), the L/C Issuer or any Related Party of any of the foregoing, each Lender severally agrees to pay to the Administrative Agent (or any such sub-agent), the L/C Issuer or such Related Party, as the case may be, such Lender's Applicable Percentage (determined as of the time that the applicable unreimbursed expense or indemnity payment is sought) of such unpaid amount, provided that the unreimbursed expense or indemnified loss, claim, damage, liability or related expense, as the case may be, was incurred by or asserted against the Administrative Agent (or any such sub-agent) or the L/C Issuer in its capacity as such, or against any Related Party of any of the foregoing acting for the Administrative Agent (or any such sub-agent) or L/C Issuer in connection with such capacity. The obligations of the Lenders under this subsection (c) are subject to the provisions of Section 2.12(d).

(d) Waiver of Consequential Damages, Etc. To the fullest extent permitted by applicable law, no Borrower shall assert, and hereby waives, any claim against any Indemnatee, on any theory of liability, for special, indirect, consequential or punitive damages (as opposed to direct or actual damages) arising out of, in connection with, or as a result of, this Agreement, any other Loan Document or any agreement or instrument contemplated hereby, the transactions contemplated hereby or thereby, any Loan or Letter of Credit or the use of the proceeds thereof. No Indemnatee referred to in subsection (b) above shall be liable for any damages arising from the use by unintended recipients of any information or other materials distributed by it through telecommunications, electronic or other information transmission systems in connection with this Agreement or the other Loan Documents or the transactions contemplated hereby or thereby.

(e) Payments. All amounts due under this Section shall be payable not later than ten Business Days after demand therefor.

(f) Survival. The agreements in this Section shall survive the resignation of the Administrative Agent and the L/C Issuer, the replacement of any Lender, the termination of the Aggregate Commitments and the repayment, satisfaction or discharge of all the other Obligations.

11.05 PAYMENTS SET ASIDE.

To the extent that any payment by or on behalf of any Borrower is made to the Administrative Agent, the L/C Issuer or any Lender, or the Administrative Agent, the L/C Issuer or any Lender exercises its right of setoff, and such payment or the proceeds of such setoff or any part thereof is subsequently invalidated, declared to be fraudulent or preferential, set aside or required (including pursuant to any settlement entered into by the Administrative Agent, the L/C Issuer or such Lender in its discretion) to be repaid to a trustee, receiver or any other party, in connection with any proceeding under any Debtor Relief Law or otherwise, then (a) to the extent of such recovery, the obligation or part thereof originally intended to be satisfied shall be revived and continued in full force and effect as if such payment had not been made or such setoff had not occurred, and (b) each Lender and the L/C Issuer severally agrees to pay to the Administrative Agent upon demand its applicable share (without duplication) of any amount so recovered from or repaid by the Administrative Agent, plus interest thereon from the date of such demand to the date such payment is made at a rate per annum equal to the applicable Overnight Rate from time to time in effect, in the applicable currency of such recovery or payment. The obligations of the Lenders and the L/C Issuer under clause (b) of the preceding sentence shall survive the payment in full of the Obligations and the termination of this Agreement.

11.06 SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS.

(a) Successors and Assigns Generally. The provisions of this Agreement shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the parties hereto and their respective successors and assigns permitted hereby, except that no Borrower may assign or otherwise transfer any of its rights or obligations hereunder without the prior written consent of the Administrative Agent and each Lender and no Lender may assign or otherwise transfer any of its rights or obligations hereunder except (i) to an Eligible Assignee in accordance with the provisions of subsection (b) of this Section, (ii) by way of participation in accordance with the provisions of subsection (d) of this Section, (iii) by way of pledge or assignment of a security interest subject to the restrictions of subsection (f) of this Section (and any other attempted assignment or transfer by any party hereto shall be null and void). Nothing in this Agreement, expressed or implied, shall be construed to confer upon any Person (other than the parties hereto, their respective successors and assigns permitted hereby, Participants to the extent provided in subsection (d) of this Section and, to the extent expressly contemplated hereby, the Related Parties of each of the Administrative Agent, the L/C Issuer and the Lenders) any legal or equitable right, remedy or claim under or by reason of this Agreement.

(b) Assignments by Lenders. Any Lender may at any time assign to one or more Eligible Assignees all or a portion of its rights and obligations under this Agreement (including all or a portion of its Commitment and the Loans (including for purposes of this subsection (b), participations in L/C Obligations and in Swing Line Loans) at the time owing to it); provided that

(i) except in the case of an assignment of the entire remaining amount of the assigning Lender's Commitment and the Loans at the time owing to it or in the case of an assignment to a Lender or an Affiliate of a Lender or an Approved Fund with respect to a Lender, the aggregate amount of the Commitment (which for this purpose includes Loans outstanding thereunder) or, if the Commitment is not then in effect, the principal outstanding balance of the Loans of the assigning Lender subject to each such assignment, determined as of the date the Assignment and Assumption with respect to such assignment is delivered to the Administrative Agent or, if "Trade Date" is specified in the Assignment and Assumption, as of the Trade Date, shall not be less than \$5,000,000 unless each of the Administrative Agent and, so long as no Event of Default has occurred and is continuing, the Company otherwise consents (each such consent not to be unreasonably withheld or delayed); provided, however, that concurrent assignments to members of an Assignee Group and concurrent assignments from members of an Assignee Group to a single Eligible Assignee (or to an Eligible Assignee and members of its Assignee Group) will be treated as a single assignment for purposes of determining whether such minimum amount has been met;

(ii) each partial assignment shall be made as an assignment of a proportionate part of all the assigning Lender's rights and obligations under this Agreement with respect to the Loans or the Commitment assigned, except that this clause (ii) shall not apply to rights in respect of Swing Line Loans;

(iii) any assignment of a Commitment must be approved by the Administrative Agent, the L/C Issuer and the Swing Line Lender unless the Person that is the proposed assignee is itself a Lender (whether or not the proposed assignee would otherwise qualify as an Eligible Assignee); and

(iv) the parties to each assignment shall execute and deliver to the Administrative Agent an Assignment and Assumption, together with a processing and recordation fee in the amount, if any, required as set forth in Schedule 11.06, and the Eligible Assignee, if it shall not be a Lender, shall deliver to the Administrative Agent an Administrative Questionnaire.

Subject to acceptance and recording thereof by the Administrative Agent pursuant to subsection (c) of this Section, from and after the effective date specified in each Assignment and Assumption, the Eligible Assignee thereunder shall be a party to this Agreement and, to the extent of the interest assigned by such Assignment and Assumption, have the rights and obligations of a Lender under this Agreement, and the assigning Lender thereunder shall, to the extent of the interest assigned by such Assignment and Assumption, be released from its obligations under this Agreement (and, in the case of an Assignment and Assumption covering all of the assigning Lender's rights and obligations under this Agreement, such Lender shall cease to be a party hereto) but shall continue to be entitled to the benefits of Sections 3.01, 3.04, 3.05, and 11.04 with respect to facts and circumstances occurring prior to the effective date of such assignment. Upon request, each Borrower (at its expense) shall execute and deliver a Note to the assignee Lender. Any assignment or transfer by a Lender of rights or obligations under this Agreement that does not comply with this subsection shall be treated for purposes of this Agreement as a sale by such Lender of a participation in such rights and obligations in accordance with subsection (d) of this Section.

(c) Register. The Administrative Agent, acting solely for this purpose as an agent of the Borrowers, shall maintain at the Administrative Agent's Office a copy of each Assignment and Assumption delivered to it and a register for the recordation of the names and addresses of the Lenders, and the Commitments of, and principal amounts of the Loans and L/C Obligations owing to, each Lender pursuant to the terms hereof from time to time (the "Register"). The entries in the Register shall be conclusive, and the Borrowers, the Administrative Agent and the Lenders may treat each Person whose name is recorded in the Register pursuant to the terms hereof as a Lender hereunder for all purposes of this Agreement, notwithstanding notice to the contrary. The Register shall be available for inspection by each of the Borrowers and the L/C Issuer at any reasonable time and from time to time upon reasonable prior notice. In addition, at any time that a request for a consent for a material or substantive change to the Loan Documents is pending, any Lender may request and receive from the Administrative Agent a copy of the Register.

(d) Participations. Any Lender may at any time, without the consent of, or notice to, any Borrower or the Administrative Agent, sell participations to any Person (other than a natural person or the Company or any of the Company's Affiliates or Subsidiaries) (each, a "Participant") in all or a portion of such Lender's rights and/or obligations under this Agreement (including all or a portion of its Commitment and/or the Loans (including such Lender's participations in L/C Obligations and/or Swing Line Loans) owing to it); provided that (i) such Lender's obligations under this Agreement shall remain unchanged, (ii) such Lender shall remain solely responsible to the other parties hereto for the performance of such obligations and (iii) the Borrowers, the Administrative Agent, the Lenders and the L/C Issuer shall continue to deal solely and directly with such Lender in connection with such Lender's rights and obligations under this Agreement.

Any agreement or instrument pursuant to which a Lender sells such a participation shall provide that such Lender shall retain the sole right to enforce this Agreement and to approve any amendment, modification or waiver of any provision of this Agreement; provided that such agreement or instrument may provide that such Lender will not, without the consent of the Participant, agree to any amendment, waiver or other modification described in the first proviso to Section 11.01 that affects such Participant. Subject to subsection (e) of this Section, each Borrower agrees that each Participant shall be entitled to the benefits of Sections 3.01, 3.04 and 3.05 to the same extent as if it were a Lender and had acquired its interest by assignment pursuant to subsection (b) of this Section. To the extent permitted by law, each Participant also shall be entitled to the benefits of Section 11.08 as though it were a Lender, provided such Participant agrees to be subject to Section 2.13 as though it were a Lender.

(e) Limitation upon Participant Rights. A Participant shall not be entitled to receive any greater payment under Section 3.01 or 3.04 than the applicable Lender would have been entitled to receive with respect to the participation sold to such Participant, unless the sale of the participation to such Participant is made with the Company's prior written consent. A Participant that would be a Foreign Lender if it were a Lender shall not be entitled to the benefits of Section 3.01 unless the Company is notified of the participation sold to such Participant and such Participant agrees, for the benefit of the Borrowers, to comply with Section 3.01(e) as though it were a Lender.

(f) Certain Pledges. Any Lender may at any time pledge or assign a security interest in all or any portion of its rights under this Agreement (including under its Note(s), if any) to secure obligations of such Lender, including any pledge or assignment to secure obligations to a Federal Reserve Bank; provided that no such pledge or assignment shall release such Lender from any of its obligations hereunder or substitute any such pledgee or assignee for such Lender as a party hereto.

(g) Electronic Execution of Assignments. The words "execution," "signed," "signature," and words of like import in any Assignment and Assumption shall be deemed to include electronic signatures or the keeping of records in electronic form, each of which shall be of the same legal effect, validity or enforceability as a manually executed signature or the use of a paper-based recordkeeping system, as the case may be, to the extent and as provided for in any applicable law, including the Federal Electronic Signatures in Global and National Commerce Act, the New York State Electronic Signatures and Records Act, or any other similar state laws based on the Uniform Electronic Transactions Act.

(h) Resignation as L/C Issuer or Swing Line Lender after Assignment. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained herein, if at any time Bank of America assigns all of its Commitment and Loans pursuant to subsection (b) above, Bank of America may, (i) upon 30 days' notice to the Company and the Lenders, resign as L/C Issuer and/or (ii) upon 30 days' notice to the Company, resign as Swing Line Lender. In the event of any such resignation as L/C Issuer or Swing Line Lender, the Company shall be entitled to appoint from among the Lenders a successor L/C Issuer or Swing Line Lender hereunder; provided, however, that no failure by the Company to appoint any such successor shall affect the resignation of Bank of America as L/C Issuer or Swing Line Lender, as the case may be. If Bank of America resigns as L/C Issuer, it shall retain all the rights, powers, privileges and duties of the L/C Issuer hereunder with respect to all Letters of Credit outstanding as of the effective date of its resignation as L/C Issuer and all L/C Obligations with respect thereto (including the right to require the Lenders to make Base Rate Committed Loans or fund risk participations in Unreimbursed Amounts pursuant to Section 2.03(c)). If Bank of America resigns as Swing Line Lender, it shall retain all the rights of the Swing Line Lender provided for hereunder with respect to Swing Line Loans made by it and outstanding as of the effective date of such resignation, including the right to require the Lenders to make Base Rate Committed Loans or fund risk participations in outstanding Swing Line Loans pursuant to Section 2.04(c). Upon the appointment of a successor L/C Issuer and/or Swing Line Lender, (a) such successor shall succeed to and become vested with all of the rights, powers, privileges and duties of the retiring L/C Issuer or Swing Line Lender, as the case may be, and (b) the successor L/C Issuer shall issue letters of credit in substitution for the Letters of Credit, if any, outstanding at the time of such succession or make other arrangements satisfactory to Bank of America to effectively assume the obligations of Bank of America with respect to such Letters of Credit.

11.07 TREATMENT OF CERTAIN INFORMATION; CONFIDENTIALITY.

Each of the Administrative Agent, the Lenders and the L/C Issuer agrees to maintain the confidentiality of the Information (as defined below), except that Information may be disclosed (a) to its Affiliates and to its and its Affiliates' respective partners, directors, officers, employees, agents, advisors and representatives (it being understood that the Persons to whom such disclosure is made will be informed of the confidential nature of such Information and instructed to keep such Information confidential), (b) to the extent requested by any regulatory authority purporting to have jurisdiction over it (including any self-regulatory authority, such as the National Association of Insurance Commissioners), (c) to the extent required by applicable laws or regulations or by any subpoena or similar legal process, (d) to any other party hereto, (e) in connection with the exercise of any remedies hereunder or under any other Loan Document or any action or proceeding relating to this Agreement or any other Loan Document or the enforcement of rights hereunder or thereunder, (f) subject to an agreement containing provisions substantially the same as those of this Section, to (i) any assignee of or Participant in, or any prospective assignee of or Participant in, any of its rights or obligations under this Agreement or (ii) any actual or prospective counterparty (or its advisors) to any swap or derivative transaction relating to a Borrower and its obligations, (g) with the consent of the Company or (h) to the extent such Information (x) becomes publicly available other than as a result of a breach of this Section or (y) becomes available to the Administrative Agent, any Lender, the L/C Issuer or any of their respective Affiliates on a nonconfidential basis from a source other than the Company.

For purposes of this Section, "Information" means all information received from the Company or any Subsidiary relating to the Company or any Subsidiary or any of their respective businesses, other than any such information that is available to the Administrative Agent, any Lender or the L/C Issuer on a nonconfidential basis prior to disclosure by the Company or any Subsidiary, provided that, in the case of information received from the Company or any Subsidiary after the date hereof, such information is clearly identified at the time of delivery as confidential. Any Person required to maintain the confidentiality of Information as provided in this Section shall be considered to have complied with its obligation to do so if such Person has exercised the same degree of care to maintain the confidentiality of such Information as such Person would accord to its own confidential information.

Each of the Administrative Agent, the Lenders and the L/C Issuer acknowledges that (a) the Information may include material non-public information concerning the Company or a Subsidiary, as the case may be, (b) it has developed compliance procedures regarding the use of material non-public information and (c) it will handle such material non-public information in accordance with applicable Law, including Federal and state securities Laws.

11.08 RIGHT OF SETOFF.

If an Event of Default shall have occurred and be continuing, each Lender, the L/C Issuer and each of their respective Affiliates is hereby authorized at any time and from time to time, to the fullest extent permitted by applicable law, to set off and apply any and all deposits (general or special, time or demand, provisional or final, in whatever currency) at any time held and other obligations (in whatever currency) at any time owing by such Lender, the L/C Issuer or any such Affiliate to or for the credit or the account of any Borrower against any and all of the obligations of such Borrower now or hereafter existing under this Agreement or any other Loan Document to such Lender or the L/C Issuer, irrespective of whether or not such Lender or the L/C Issuer shall have made any demand under this Agreement or any other Loan Document and although such obligations of such Borrower may be contingent or unmatured or are owed to a branch or office of such Lender or the L/C Issuer different from the branch or office holding such deposit or obligated on such indebtedness. The rights of each Lender, the L/C Issuer and their respective Affiliates under this Section are in addition to other rights and remedies (including other rights of setoff) that such Lender, the L/C Issuer or their respective Affiliates may have. Each Lender and the L/C Issuer agrees to notify the Company and the Administrative Agent promptly after any such setoff and application, provided that the failure to give such notice shall not affect the validity of such setoff and application.

11.09 INTEREST RATE LIMITATION.

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in any Loan Document, the interest paid or agreed to be paid under the Loan Documents shall not exceed the maximum rate of non-usurious interest permitted by applicable Law (the "Maximum Rate"). If the Administrative Agent or any Lender shall receive interest in an amount that exceeds the Maximum Rate, the excess interest shall be applied to the principal of the Loans or, if it exceeds such unpaid principal, refunded to the Company. In determining whether the interest contracted for, charged, or received by the Administrative Agent or a Lender exceeds the Maximum Rate, such Person may, to the extent permitted by applicable Law, (a) characterize any payment that is not principal as an expense, fee, or premium rather than interest, (b) exclude voluntary prepayments and the effects thereof, and (c) amortize, prorate, allocate, and spread in equal or unequal parts the total amount of interest throughout the contemplated term of the Obligations hereunder.

11.10 COUNTERPARTS; INTEGRATION; EFFECTIVENESS.

This Agreement may be executed in counterparts (and by different parties hereto in different counterparts), each of which shall constitute an original, but all of which when taken together shall constitute a single contract. This Agreement and the other Loan Documents constitute the entire contract among the parties relating to the subject matter hereof and supersede any and all previous agreements and understandings, oral or written, relating to the subject matter hereof. Except as provided in Section 5.01, this Agreement shall become effective when it shall have been executed by the Administrative Agent and when the Administrative Agent shall have received counterparts hereof that, when taken together, bear the signatures of each of the other parties hereto. Delivery of an executed counterpart of a signature page of this Agreement by telecopy shall be effective as delivery of a manually executed counterpart of this Agreement.

11.11 SURVIVAL OF REPRESENTATIONS AND WARRANTIES.

All representations and warranties made hereunder and in any other Loan Document or other document delivered pursuant hereto or thereto or in connection herewith or therewith shall survive the execution and delivery hereof and thereof. Such representations and warranties have been or will be relied upon by the Administrative Agent and each Lender, regardless of any investigation made by the Administrative Agent or any Lender or on their behalf and notwithstanding that the Administrative Agent or any Lender may have had notice or knowledge of any Default at the time of any Credit Extension, and shall continue in full force and effect as long as any Loan or any other Obligation hereunder shall remain unpaid or unsatisfied or any Letter of Credit shall remain outstanding.

11.12 SEVERABILITY.

If any provision of this Agreement or the other Loan Documents is held to be illegal, invalid or unenforceable, (a) the legality, validity and enforceability of the remaining provisions of this Agreement and the other Loan Documents shall not be affected or impaired thereby and (b) the parties shall endeavor in good faith negotiations to replace the illegal, invalid or unenforceable provisions with valid provisions the economic effect of which comes as close as possible to that of the illegal, invalid or unenforceable provisions. The invalidity of a provision in a particular jurisdiction shall not invalidate or render unenforceable such provision in any other jurisdiction.

11.13 REPLACEMENT OF LENDERS.

If (i) any Lender requests compensation under Section 3.04, (ii) any Borrower is required to pay any additional amount to any Lender or any Governmental Authority for the account of any Lender pursuant to Section 3.01, (iii) a Lender (a "Non-Consenting Lender") does not consent to a proposed change, waiver, discharge or termination with respect to any Loan Document that has been approved by the Required Lenders as provided in Section 11.01 but requires unanimous consent of all Lenders or all Lenders directly affected thereby (as applicable), (iv) any Lender is a Defaulting Lender or (v) any Lender is a Non-Extending Lender pursuant to Section 2.15(b), then the Company may, at its sole expense and effort, upon notice to such Lender and the Administrative Agent, require such Lender to assign and delegate, without recourse (in accordance with and subject to the restrictions contained in, and consents required by, Section 11.06), all of its interests, rights and obligations under this Agreement and the related Loan Documents to an assignee that shall assume such obligations (which assignee may be another Lender, if a Lender accepts such assignment), provided that:

(a) the Company shall have paid (or caused a Designated Subsidiary to pay) to the Administrative Agent the assignment fee specified in Section 11.06(b);

(b) such Lender shall have received payment of an amount equal to the outstanding principal of its Loans and L/C Advances, accrued interest thereon, accrued fees and all other amounts payable to it hereunder and under the other Loan Documents (including any amounts under Section 3.05) from the assignee (to the extent of such outstanding principal and accrued interest and fees) or the Company or applicable Designated Subsidiary (in the case of all other amounts);

(c) in the case of any such assignment resulting from a claim for compensation under Section 3.04 or payments required to be made pursuant to Section 3.01, such assignment will result in a reduction in such compensation or payments thereafter;

(d) such assignment does not conflict with applicable Laws; and

(e) in the case of any such assignment resulting from a Non-Consenting Lender's failure to consent to a proposed change, waiver, discharge or termination with respect to any Loan Document, the applicable replacement bank, financial institution or Fund consents to the proposed change, waiver, discharge or termination; provided that the failure by such Non-Consenting Lender to execute and deliver an Assignment and Assumption shall not impair the validity of the removal of such Non-Consenting Lender and the mandatory assignment of such Non-Consenting Lender's Commitments and outstanding Loans and participations in L/C Obligations and Swing Line Loans pursuant to this Section 11.13 shall nevertheless be effective without the execution by such Non-Consenting Lender of an Assignment and Assumption.

A Lender shall not be required to make any such assignment or delegation if, prior thereto, as a result of a waiver by such Lender or otherwise, the circumstances entitling the Company to require such assignment and delegation cease to apply.

11.14 GOVERNING LAW; JURISDICTION; ETC.

(a) GOVERNING LAW. THIS AGREEMENT SHALL BE GOVERNED BY, AND CONSTRUED IN ACCORDANCE WITH, THE LAW OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK.

(b) SUBMISSION TO JURISDICTION. EACH BORROWER IRREVOCABLY AND UNCONDITIONALLY SUBMITS, FOR ITSELF AND ITS PROPERTY, TO THE NONEXCLUSIVE JURISDICTION OF THE COURTS OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK SITTING IN NEW YORK CITY AND OF THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT OF THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK, AND ANY APPELLATE COURT FROM ANY THEREOF, IN ANY ACTION OR PROCEEDING ARISING OUT OF OR RELATING TO THIS AGREEMENT OR ANY OTHER LOAN DOCUMENT, OR FOR RECOGNITION OR ENFORCEMENT OF ANY JUDGMENT, AND EACH OF THE PARTIES HERETO IRREVOCABLY AND UNCONDITIONALLY AGREES THAT ALL CLAIMS IN RESPECT OF ANY SUCH ACTION OR PROCEEDING MAY BE HEARD AND DETERMINED IN SUCH NEW YORK STATE COURT OR, TO THE FULLEST EXTENT PERMITTED BY APPLICABLE LAW, IN SUCH FEDERAL COURT. EACH OF THE PARTIES HERETO AGREES THAT A FINAL JUDGMENT IN ANY SUCH ACTION OR PROCEEDING SHALL BE CONCLUSIVE AND MAY BE ENFORCED IN OTHER JURISDICTIONS BY SUIT ON THE JUDGMENT OR IN ANY OTHER MANNER PROVIDED BY LAW. NOTHING IN THIS AGREEMENT OR IN ANY OTHER LOAN DOCUMENT SHALL AFFECT ANY RIGHT THAT THE ADMINISTRATIVE AGENT, ANY LENDER OR THE L/C ISSUER MAY OTHERWISE HAVE TO BRING ANY ACTION OR PROCEEDING RELATING TO THIS AGREEMENT OR ANY OTHER LOAN DOCUMENT AGAINST ANY BORROWER OR ITS PROPERTIES IN THE COURTS OF ANY JURISDICTION.

(c) WAIVER OF VENUE. EACH BORROWER IRREVOCABLY AND UNCONDITIONALLY WAIVES, TO THE FULLEST EXTENT PERMITTED BY APPLICABLE LAW, ANY OBJECTION THAT IT MAY NOW OR HEREAFTER HAVE TO THE LAYING OF VENUE OF ANY ACTION OR PROCEEDING ARISING OUT OF OR RELATING TO THIS AGREEMENT OR ANY OTHER LOAN DOCUMENT IN ANY COURT REFERRED TO IN PARAGRAPH (B) OF THIS SECTION. EACH OF THE PARTIES HERETO HEREBY IRREVOCABLY WAIVES, TO THE FULLEST EXTENT PERMITTED BY APPLICABLE LAW, THE DEFENSE OF AN INCONVENIENT FORUM TO THE MAINTENANCE OF SUCH ACTION OR PROCEEDING IN ANY SUCH COURT.

(d) SERVICE OF PROCESS. EACH PARTY HERETO IRREVOCABLY CONSENTS TO SERVICE OF PROCESS IN THE MANNER PROVIDED FOR NOTICES IN SECTION 11.02. NOTHING IN THIS AGREEMENT WILL AFFECT THE RIGHT OF ANY PARTY HERETO TO SERVE PROCESS IN ANY OTHER MANNER PERMITTED BY APPLICABLE LAW.

11.15 WAIVER OF JURY TRIAL.

EACH PARTY HERETO HEREBY IRREVOCABLY WAIVES, TO THE FULLEST EXTENT PERMITTED BY APPLICABLE LAW, ANY RIGHT IT MAY HAVE TO A TRIAL BY JURY IN ANY LEGAL PROCEEDING DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY ARISING OUT OF OR RELATING TO THIS AGREEMENT OR ANY OTHER LOAN DOCUMENT OR THE TRANSACTIONS CONTEMPLATED HEREBY OR THEREBY (WHETHER BASED ON CONTRACT, TORT OR ANY OTHER THEORY). EACH PARTY HERETO (A) CERTIFIES THAT NO REPRESENTATIVE, AGENT OR ATTORNEY OF ANY OTHER PERSON HAS REPRESENTED, EXPRESSLY OR OTHERWISE, THAT SUCH OTHER PERSON WOULD NOT, IN THE EVENT OF LITIGATION, SEEK TO ENFORCE THE FOREGOING WAIVER AND (B) ACKNOWLEDGES THAT IT AND THE OTHER PARTIES HERETO HAVE BEEN INDUCED TO ENTER INTO THIS AGREEMENT AND THE OTHER LOAN DOCUMENTS BY, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THE MUTUAL WAIVERS AND CERTIFICATIONS IN THIS SECTION.

11.16 USA PATRIOT ACT NOTICE.

Each Lender that is subject to the Act (as hereinafter defined) and the Administrative Agent (for itself and not on behalf of any Lender) hereby notifies the Borrowers that pursuant to the requirements of the USA Patriot Act (Title III of Pub. L. 107-56 (signed into law October 26, 2001)) (the "Act"), it is required to obtain, verify and record information that identifies the Borrowers, which information includes the name and address of each Borrower and other information that will allow such Lender or the Administrative Agent, as applicable, to identify such Borrower in accordance with the Act.

11.17 JUDGMENT CURRENCY.

If, for the purposes of obtaining judgment in any court, it is necessary to convert a sum due hereunder or any other Loan Document in one currency into another currency, the rate of exchange used shall be that at which in accordance with normal banking procedures the Administrative Agent could purchase the first currency with such other currency on the Business Day preceding that on which final judgment is given. The obligation of each Borrower in respect of any such sum due from it to the Administrative Agent or the Lenders hereunder or under the other Loan Documents shall, notwithstanding any judgment in a currency (the "Judgment Currency") other than that in which such sum is denominated in accordance with the applicable provisions of this Agreement (the "Agreement Currency"), be discharged only to the extent that on the Business Day following receipt by the Administrative Agent of any sum adjudged to be so due in the Judgment Currency, the Administrative Agent may in accordance with normal banking procedures purchase the Agreement Currency with the Judgment Currency. If the amount of the Agreement Currency so purchased is less than the sum originally due to the Administrative Agent from any Borrower in the Agreement Currency, such Borrower agrees, as a separate obligation and notwithstanding any such judgment, to indemnify the Administrative Agent or the Person to whom such obligation was owing against such loss. If the amount of the Agreement Currency so purchased is greater than the sum originally due to the Administrative Agent in such currency, the Administrative Agent agrees to return the amount of any excess to such Borrower (or to any other Person who may be entitled thereto under applicable law).

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have caused this Agreement to be duly executed as of the date first above written.

CABOT CORPORATION

By: /s/ Irene S. Sudac

Name: Irene S. Sudac

Title: Treasurer

BANK OF AMERICA, N.A., as
Administrative Agent

By: /s/ Matthew C. Correia
Name: Matthew C. Correia
Title: Assistant Vice President

BANK OF AMERICA, N.A., as a Lender,
L/C Issuer and Swing Line Lender
By: /s/ Kenneth S. Struglia
Name: Kenneth S. Struglia
Title: Managing Director

OTHER LENDERS

CITICORP NORTH AMERICA, INC.	
By:	<u>/s/ Irina Lurye</u>
Name:	Irina Lurye
Title:	Director
JPMORGAN CHASE BANK N.A.	
By:	<u>/s/ D. Scott Farguhar</u>
Name:	D. Scott Farguhar
Title:	Vice President
MIZUHO CORPORATE BANK, LTD.	
By:	<u>/s/ Raymond Ventura</u>
Name:	Raymond Ventura
Title:	Senior Vice President
WACHOVIA BANK, N.A.	
By:	<u>/s/ Barbara Van Meerten</u>
Name:	Barbara Van Meerten
Title:	Director

COMMERZBANK AG, NEW YORK AND GRAND CAYMAN BRANCHES

By: /s/ Robert S. Taylor
Name: Robert S. Taylor
Title: Senior Vice President

COMMERZBANK AG, NEW YORK AND GRAND CAYMAN BRANCHES

By: /s/ Subash R. Viswanathan
Name: Subash R. Viswanathan
Title: Senior Vice President

BANK OF CHINA, NEW YORK BRANCH

By: /s/ Xiaojing Li
Name: Xiaojing Li
Title: First Deputy General Manager

HSBC BANK USA, N.A.

By: /s/ Manuel Burgueno
Name: Manuel Burgueno
Title: Vice President, RM

MANDATORY COST FORMULAE

1. The Mandatory Cost (to the extent applicable) is an addition to the interest rate to compensate Lenders for the cost of compliance with:
 - (a) the requirements of the Bank of England and/or the Financial Services Authority (or, in either case, any other authority which replaces all or any of its functions); or
 - (b) the requirements of the European Central Bank.
2. On the first day of each Interest Period (or as soon as practicable thereafter) the Administrative Agent shall calculate, as a percentage rate, a rate (the "Additional Cost Rate") for each Lender, in accordance with the paragraphs set out below. The Mandatory Cost will be calculated by the Administrative Agent as a weighted average of the Lenders' Additional Cost Rates (weighted in proportion to the percentage participation of each Lender in the relevant Loan) and will be expressed as a percentage rate per annum. The Administrative Agent will, at the request of the Company or any Lender, deliver to the Company or such Lender as the case may be, a statement setting forth the calculation of any Mandatory Cost.
3. The Additional Cost Rate for any Lender lending from a Lending Office in a Participating Member State will be the percentage notified by that Lender to the Administrative Agent. This percentage will be certified by such Lender in its notice to the Administrative Agent as the cost (expressed as a percentage of such Lender's participation in all Loans made from such Lending Office) of complying with the minimum reserve requirements of the European Central Bank in respect of Loans made from that Lending Office.
4. The Additional Cost Rate for any Lender lending from a Lending Office in the United Kingdom will be calculated by the Administrative Agent as follows:
 - (a) in relation to any Loan in Sterling:

$$\frac{AB+C(B-D)+E \times 0.01}{100 - (A+C)} \quad \text{per cent per annum}$$

- (b) in relation to any Loan in any currency other than Sterling:

$$\frac{E \times 0.01}{300} \quad \text{per cent per annum}$$

Where:

- "A" is the percentage of Eligible Liabilities (assuming these to be in excess of any stated minimum) which that Lender is from time to time required to maintain as an interest free cash ratio deposit with the Bank of England to comply with cash ratio requirements.
- "B" is the percentage rate of interest (excluding the Applicable Rate, the Mandatory Cost and any interest charged on overdue amounts pursuant to the first sentence of Section 2.08(b) and, in the case of interest (other than on overdue amounts) charged at the Default Rate, without counting any increase in interest rate effected by the charging of the Default Rate) payable for the relevant Interest Period of such Loan.

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- "C" is the percentage (if any) of Eligible Liabilities which that Lender is required from time to time to maintain as interest bearing Special Deposits with the Bank of England.
- "D" is the percentage rate per annum payable by the Bank of England to the Administrative Agent on interest bearing Special Deposits.
- "E" is designed to compensate Lenders for amounts payable under the Fees Regulations and is calculated by the Administrative Agent as being the average of the most recent rates of charge supplied by the Lenders to the Administrative Agent pursuant to paragraph 7 below and expressed in pounds per £1,000,000.
5. For the purposes of this Schedule:
- (a) "Eligible Liabilities" and "Special Deposits" have the meanings given to them from time to time under or pursuant to the Bank of England Act 1998 or (as may be appropriate) by the Bank of England;
 - (b) "Fees Regulations" means the FSA Supervision Manual or such other law or regulation as may be in force from time to time in respect of the payment of fees for the acceptance of deposits;
 - (c) "Fee Tariffs" means the fee tariffs specified in the Fees Regulations under the activity group A.1 Deposit acceptors (ignoring any minimum fee or zero rated fee required pursuant to the Fees Regulations but taking into account any applicable discount rate); and
 - (d) "Tariff Base" has the meaning given to it in, and will be calculated in accordance with, the Fees Regulations.
6. In application of the above formulae, A, B, C and D will be included in the formulae as percentages (*i.e.* 5% will be included in the formula as 5 and not as 0.05). A negative result obtained by subtracting D from B shall be taken as zero. The resulting figures shall be rounded to four decimal places.
7. If requested by the Administrative Agent or the Company, each Lender with a Lending Office in the United Kingdom or a Participating Member State shall, as soon as practicable after publication by the Financial Services Authority, supply to the Administrative Agent and the Company, the rate of charge payable by such Lender to the Financial Services Authority pursuant to the Fees Regulations in respect of the relevant financial year of the Financial Services Authority (calculated for this purpose by such Lender as being the average of the Fee Tariffs applicable to such Lender for that financial year) and expressed in pounds per £1,000,000 of the Tariff Base of such Lender.
8. Each Lender shall supply any information required by the Administrative Agent for the purpose of calculating its Additional Cost Rate. In particular, but without limitation, each Lender shall supply the following information in writing on or prior to the date on which it becomes a Lender:
- (a) its jurisdiction of incorporation and the jurisdiction of the Lending Office out of which it is making available its participation in the relevant Loan; and

(b) any other information that the Administrative Agent may reasonably require for such purpose.

Each Lender shall promptly notify the Administrative Agent in writing of any change to the information provided by it pursuant to this paragraph.

9. The percentages or rates of charge of each Lender for the purpose of A, C and E above shall be determined by the Administrative Agent based upon the information supplied to it pursuant to paragraphs 7 and 8 above and on the assumption that, unless a Lender notifies the Administrative Agent to the contrary, each Lender's obligations in relation to cash ratio deposits, Special Deposits and the Fees Regulations are the same as those of a typical bank from its jurisdiction of incorporation with a Lending Office in the same jurisdiction as such Lender's Lending Office.
10. The Administrative Agent shall have no liability to any Person if such determination results in an Additional Cost Rate which over- or under-compensates any Lender and shall be entitled to assume that the information provided by any Lender pursuant to paragraphs 3, 7 and 8 above is true and correct in all respects.
11. The Administrative Agent shall distribute the additional amounts received as a result of the Mandatory Cost to the Lenders on the basis of the Additional Cost Rate for each Lender based on the information provided by each Lender pursuant to paragraphs 3, 7 and 8 above.
12. Any determination by the Administrative Agent pursuant to this Schedule in relation to a formula, the Mandatory Cost, an Additional Cost Rate or any amount payable to a Lender shall, in the absence of manifest error, be conclusive and binding on all parties hereto.
13. The Administrative Agent may from time to time, after consultation with the Company and the Lenders, determine and notify to all parties any amendments which are required to be made to this Schedule in order to comply with any change in law, regulation or any requirements from time to time imposed by the Bank of England, the Financial Services Authority or the European Central Bank (or, in any case, any other authority which replaces all or any of its functions) and any such determination shall, in the absence of manifest error, be conclusive and binding on all parties hereto.

**COMMITMENTS
AND APPLICABLE PERCENTAGES**

Lender	Commitment	Applicable Percentage
Bank of America, N.A.	\$ 70,000,000.00	17.500000000%
Citicorp USA, Inc.	\$ 70,000,000.00	17.500000000%
JPMorgan Chase Bank N.A.	\$ 55,000,000.00	13.750000000%
Mizuho Corporate Bank, Ltd.	\$ 55,000,000.00	13.750000000%
Wachovia Bank, N.A.	\$ 55,000,000.00	13.750000000%
Commerzbank AG, New York and Grand Cayman Branches	\$ 45,000,000.00	11.250000000%
Bank of China, New York Branch	\$ 25,000,000.00	6.250000000%
HSBC Bank USA, N.A.	\$ 25,000,000.00	6.250000000%
Total	\$ 400,000,000.00	100.000000000%

DESIGNATED BORROWERS

None.

EXISTING LIENS

UCC financing statements

**ADMINISTRATIVE AGENT'S OFFICE;
CERTAIN ADDRESSES FOR NOTICES**

COMPANY and DESIGNATED BORROWERS:

Cabot Corporation
Two Seaport Lane
Boston, Massachusetts 02210-2019
Attention: Irene S. Sudac
Telephone: 617-342-6216
Telecopier: 617-342-6208
Electronic Mail: irene_sudac@cabot-corp.com
Website Address: www.cabot-corp.com

ADMINISTRATIVE AGENT:

Administrative Agent's Office

(for payments and Requests for Credit Extensions):

Primary

Catherine Cherry
Credit Services Representative
Bank of America, N.A.
Mail Code: NC1-001-15-04
One Independence Center
101 N. Tryon St.
Charlotte, NC 28255-0001
Phone: 704-386-7637
Fax: 704-409-0169
Email: catherine.y.cherry@bankofamerica.com

Secondary

Frances Morgan
Credit Services Representative
Bank of America, N.A.
Phone: 704-386-1108
Fax: 704-409-0984
Email: frances.j.morgan@bankofamerica.com

Account No. (for Dollars): 1366212250600
Ref: Cabot Corp., Attn: Credit Services
ABA# 026009593

Account No. (for Euro): 65280019
Ref: Cabot Corp., Attn: Credit Services
Swift Address: BOFAGB22

**[Account No. (for Sterling): 65280027
Ref: Cabot Corp., Attn: Credit Services
London Sort Code: 16-50-50
Swift Address: BOFAGB22]**

[SPECIFY OTHER ACCOUNTS, AS APPROPRIATE, FOR OTHER CURRENCIES]

Other Notices as Administrative Agent:

Primary

Matthew Correia
Agency Management Officer
Bank of America, N.A.
Mail Code: MA5-100-11-02
100 Federal Street
Boston, MA 02110
Telephone: 617-434-3663
Fax: 617-434-0474
Email: matthew.c.correia@bankofamerica.com

Secondary

Michael Langmeyer
Agency Management Officer
Bank of America, N.A.
Telephone: 617-434-5451
Fax: 617-434-0474
Email: michael.r.langmeyer@bankofamerica.com

L/C ISSUER:

Alfonso Malave
Trade Services
Bank of America, N.A.
PA6-580-02-30
1 Fleet Way
Scranton, PA
Telephone: 570-330-4212
Fax: 570-330-4186
Email: alfonso.malave@bankofamerica.com

SWING LINE LENDER:**Primary**

Catherine Cherry
Credit Services Representative
Bank of America, N.A.
Mail Code: NC1-001-15-04
One Independence Center
101 N. Tryon St.
Charlotte, NC 28255-0001
Phone: 704-386-7637
Fax: 704-409-0169
Email: catherine.y.cherry@bankofamerica.com

Secondary

Frances Morgan
Credit Services Representative
Bank of America, N.A.
Phone: 704-386-1108
Fax: 704-409-0984
Email: frances.j.morgan@bankofamerica.com

PROCESSING AND RECORDATION FEES

The Administrative Agent will charge a processing and recordation fee (an "Assignment Fee") in the amount of \$2,500 for each assignment; provided, however, that in the event of two or more concurrent assignments to members of the same Assignee Group (which may be effected by a suballocation of an assigned amount among members of such Assignee Group) or two or more concurrent assignments by members of the same Assignee Group to a single Eligible Assignee (or to an Eligible Assignee and members of its Assignee Group), the Assignment Fee will be \$2,500 plus the amount set forth below:

Transaction	Assignment Fee
First four concurrent assignments or suballocations to members of an Assignee Group (or from members of an Assignee Group, as applicable)	-0-
Each additional concurrent assignment or suballocation to a member of such Assignee Group (or from a member of such Assignee Group, as applicable)	\$ 500

EXHIBIT A
FORM OF COMMITTED LOAN NOTICE

Date: _____, _____

To: Bank of America, N.A., as Administrative Agent

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Reference is made to that certain Credit Agreement, dated as of August __, 2005 (as amended, restated, extended, supplemented or otherwise modified in writing from time to time, the "Agreement;" the terms defined therein being used herein as therein defined), among Cabot Corporation, a Delaware corporation (the "Company"), the Designated Borrowers from time to time party thereto, the Lenders from time to time party thereto, and Bank of America, N.A., as Administrative Agent, L/C Issuer and Swing Line Lender.

The Company hereby requests, on behalf of itself or, if applicable, the Designated Borrower referenced in item 6 below (the "Applicable Designated Borrower") (select one):

☐ A Borrowing of Committed Loans ☐ A conversion or continuation of Loans

1. On __ (a Business Day).

2. In the amount of _____.

3. Comprised of _____.
[Type of Committed Loan requested]

4. In the following currency: _____

5. For Eurocurrency Rate Loans: with an Interest Period of _____ months.

6. On behalf of _____ *[insert name of applicable Designated Borrower]*.

The Committed Borrowing, if any, requested herein complies with the provisos to the first sentence of Section 2.01 of the Agreement.

CABOT CORPORATION

By: _____
Name: _____
Title: _____

FORM OF SWING LINE LOAN NOTICE

Date: _____, _____

To: Bank of America, N.A., as Swing Line Lender
Bank of America, N.A., as Administrative Agent

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Reference is made to that certain Credit Agreement, dated as of August __, 2005 (as amended, restated, extended, supplemented or otherwise modified in writing from time to time, the "Agreement;" the terms defined therein being used herein as therein defined), among Cabot Corporation, a Delaware corporation (the "Company"), the Designated Borrowers from time to time party thereto, the Lenders from time to time party thereto, and Bank of America, N.A., as Administrative Agent, L/C Issuer and Swing Line Lender.

The undersigned hereby requests a Swing Line Loan:

1. On __ (a Business Day).
2. In the amount of \$_____.

The Swing Line Borrowing requested herein complies with the requirements of the provisos to the first sentence of Section 2.04(a) of the Agreement.

CABOT CORPORATION

By: _____
Name: _____
Title: _____

FORM OF REVOLVING NOTE

August , 2005

FOR VALUE RECEIVED, the undersigned (the "Borrower") hereby promises to pay to or registered assigns (the "Lender"), in accordance with the provisions of the Agreement (as hereinafter defined), the principal amount of each Loan from time to time made by the Lender to the Borrower under that certain Credit Agreement, dated as of August , 2005 (as amended, restated, extended, supplemented or otherwise modified in writing from time to time, the "Agreement"; the terms defined therein being used herein as therein defined), among Cabot Corporation, the Designated Borrowers from time to time party thereto, the Lenders from time to time party thereto, and Bank of America, N.A., as Administrative Agent, L/C Issuer and Swing Line Lender.

The Borrower promises to pay interest on the unpaid principal amount of each Loan from the date of such Loan until such principal amount is paid in full, at such interest rates and at such times as provided in the Agreement. All payments of principal and interest shall be made to the Administrative Agent for the account of the Lender in the currency in which such Committed Loan was denominated and in Same Day Funds at the Administrative Agent's Office for such currency. If any amount is not paid in full when due hereunder, such unpaid amount shall bear interest, to be paid upon demand, from the due date thereof until the date of actual payment (and before as well as after judgment) computed at the per annum rate set forth in the Agreement.

This Note is one of the Notes referred to in the Agreement, is entitled to the benefits thereof and may be prepaid in whole or in part subject to the terms and conditions provided therein. Upon the occurrence and continuation of one or more of the Events of Default specified in the Agreement, all amounts then remaining unpaid on this Note shall become, or may be declared to be, immediately due and payable all as provided in the Agreement. Loans made by the Lender shall be evidenced by one or more loan accounts or records maintained by the Lender in the ordinary course of business. The Lender may also attach schedules to this Note and endorse thereon the date, amount, currency and maturity of its Loans and payments with respect thereto.

The Borrower, for itself, its successors and assigns, hereby waives diligence, presentment, protest and demand and notice of protest, demand, dishonor and non-payment of this Note.

THIS NOTE SHALL BE GOVERNED BY AND CONSTRUED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK.

CABOT CORPORATION

By: _____
Name: _____
Title: _____

FORM OF SWING LINE NOTE

August , 2005

FOR VALUE RECEIVED, the undersigned (the "Borrower") hereby promises to pay to BANK OF AMERICA, N.A. or registered assigns (the "Swing Line Lender"), in accordance with the provisions of the Agreement (as hereinafter defined), the principal amount of each Swing Line Loan from time to time made by the Swing Line Lender to the Borrower under that certain Credit Agreement, dated as of August , 2005 (as amended, restated, extended, supplemented or otherwise modified in writing from time to time, the "Agreement"; the terms defined therein being used herein as therein defined), among Cabot Corporation, the Designated Borrowers from time to time party thereto, the Lenders from time to time party thereto, and Bank of America, N.A., as Administrative Agent, L/C Issuer and Swing Line Lender.

The Borrower promises to pay interest on the unpaid principal amount of each Swing Line Loan from the date of such Swing Line Loan until such principal amount is paid in full, at such interest rates and at such times as provided in the Credit Agreement. All payments of principal and interest shall be made to the Administrative Agent for the account of the Swing Line Lender in Dollars in immediately available funds at the Administrative Agent's Office. If any amount is not paid in full when due hereunder, such unpaid amount shall bear interest, to be paid upon demand, from the due date thereof until the date of actual payment (and before as well as after judgment) computed at the per annum rate set forth in the Agreement.

This Note is the Swing Line Note referred to in the Agreement, is entitled to the benefits thereof and may be prepaid in whole or in part subject to the terms and conditions provided therein. Upon the occurrence and continuation of one or more of the Events of Default specified in the Agreement, all amounts then remaining unpaid on this Note shall become, or may be declared to be, immediately due and payable all as provided in the Agreement. Swing Line Loans made by the Swing Line Lender shall be evidenced by one or more loan accounts or records maintained by the Swing Line Lender in the ordinary course of business. The Swing Line Lender may also attach schedules to this Note and endorse thereon the date, amount and maturity of its Swing Line Loans and payments with respect thereto.

The Borrower, for itself, its successors and assigns, hereby waives diligence, presentment, protest and demand and notice of protest, demand, dishonor and non-payment of this Note.

THIS NOTE SHALL BE GOVERNED BY AND CONSTRUED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK.

CABOT CORPORATION

By: _____
Name: _____
Title: _____

FORM OF COMPLIANCE CERTIFICATE

Financial Statement Date: ,

To: Bank of America, N.A., as Administrative Agent

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Reference is made to that certain Credit Agreement, dated as of August , 2005 (as amended, restated, extended, supplemented or otherwise modified in writing from time to time, the "Agreement;" the terms defined therein being used herein as therein defined), among Cabot Corporation, a Delaware corporation (the "Company"), the Designated Borrowers from time to time party thereto, the Lenders from time to time party thereto, and Bank of America, N.A., as Administrative Agent, L/C Issuer and Swing Line Lender.

The undersigned Responsible Officer hereby certifies as of the date hereof that he/she is the of the Company, and that, as such, he/she is authorized to execute and deliver this Certificate to the Administrative Agent on the behalf of the Company, and that:

[Use following paragraph 1 for fiscal year-end financial statements]

1. Attached hereto as Schedule 1 are the year-end audited financial statements required by Section 7.01(a) of the Agreement for the fiscal year of the Company ended as of the above date, together with the report and opinion of an independent certified public accountant required by such section.

[Use following paragraph 1 for fiscal quarter-end financial statements]

1. Attached hereto as Schedule 1 are the unaudited financial statements required by Section 7.01(b) of the Agreement for the fiscal quarter of the Company ended as of the above date. Such financial statements fairly present the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the Company and its Subsidiaries in accordance with GAAP as at such date and for such period, subject only to normal year-end audit adjustments and the absence of footnotes.

2.

[select one:]

[The Company performed and observed each covenant and condition of the Loan Documents applicable to it, and no Default or Event of Default has occurred and is continuing.]

–or–

[The following covenants or conditions have not been performed or observed and the following is a list of each such Default or Event of Default and its nature and status:]

3. The representations and warranties of (i) the Borrowers contained in Article VI of the Agreement (other than the representations and warranties contained in Sections 6.05(c), 6.06, 6.08 and 6.10) and (ii) each Loan Party contained in each other Loan Document or in any document furnished at any time under or in connection with the Loan Documents, are true and correct on and as of the date hereof, except to the extent that such representations and warranties specifically refer to an earlier date, in which case they are true and correct as of such earlier date, and except that for purposes of this Compliance Certificate, the representations and warranties contained in subsections (a) and (b) of Section 6.05 of the Agreement shall be deemed to refer to the most recent statements furnished pursuant to clauses (a) and (b), respectively, of Section 7.01 of the Agreement, including the statements in connection with which this Compliance Certificate is delivered.

4. The financial covenant analyses and information set forth on Schedule 2 attached hereto are true and accurate on and as of the date of this Certificate.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned has executed this Certificate as of _____, _____.

CABOT CORPORATION

By: _____
Name: _____
Title: _____

SCHEDULE 2
to the Compliance Certificate
(\$ in 000's)

I. Section 8.06(b) – Consolidated Indebtedness to Total Capitalization.

A.	Consolidated Indebtedness:	\$	_____
B.	Total Capitalization:	\$	_____
C.	Ratio of Consolidated Indebtedness to Total Capitalization (Line II.A ÷ Line II.B):	_____ %	

II. Section 8.06(c) – Total Indebtedness of Subsidiaries to Total Capitalization.

A.	Total Indebtedness of Subsidiaries:	\$	_____
B.	Total Capitalization:	\$	_____
D.	Ratio of Total Indebtedness of Subsidiaries to Total Capitalization (Line III.A ÷ Line III.B):	_____ %	

III. Section 8.06 (a) – Consolidated Interest Coverage Ratio. *(applicable only if the Company's Debt Rating is lower than BBB+ or Baa1)*

A.	Consolidated EBITDA for four consecutive fiscal quarters ending on above date ("Subject Period"):		
1.	Consolidated Net Income for Subject Period:	\$	_____
2.	Consolidated Interest Expense for Subject Period:	\$	_____
3.	Provision for income taxes for Subject Period:	\$	_____
4.	Depreciation and Amortization expenses for Subject Period:	\$	_____
5.	Non-cash charges for Subject Period:	\$	_____
6.	Noncash Income or Gains:	\$	_____
7.	Consolidated EBITDA (Lines I.A.1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 5 - 6):	\$	_____
B.	The cash portion of Consolidated Interest Expense for Subject Period:	\$	_____
C.	Consolidated Interest Coverage Ratio (Line I.A.7 ÷ Line I.B):	\$	_____ to 1

FORM OF ASSIGNMENT AND ASSUMPTION

This Assignment and Assumption (this "Assignment and Assumption") is dated as of the Effective Date set forth below and is entered into by and between [*Insert name of Assignor*] (the "Assignor") and [*Insert name of Assignee*] (the "Assignee"). Capitalized terms used but not defined herein shall have the meanings given to them in the Credit Agreement identified below (the "Credit Agreement"), receipt of a copy of which is hereby acknowledged by the Assignee. The Standard Terms and Conditions set forth in Annex 1 attached hereto are hereby agreed to and incorporated herein by reference and made a part of this Assignment and Assumption as if set forth herein in full.

For an agreed consideration, the Assignor hereby irrevocably sells and assigns to the Assignee, and the Assignee hereby irrevocably purchases and assumes from the Assignor, subject to and in accordance with the Standard Terms and Conditions and the Credit Agreement, as of the Effective Date inserted by the Administrative Agent as contemplated below (i) all of the Assignor's rights and obligations as a Lender under the Credit Agreement and any other documents or instruments delivered pursuant thereto to the extent related to the amount and percentage interest identified below of all of such outstanding rights and obligations of the Assignor under the respective facilities identified below (including, without limitation, the Letters of Credit and the Swing Line Loans included in such facilities) and (ii) to the extent permitted to be assigned under applicable law, all claims, suits, causes of action and any other right of the Assignor (in its capacity as a Lender) against any Person, whether known or unknown, arising under or in connection with the Credit Agreement, any other documents or instruments delivered pursuant thereto or the loan transactions governed thereby or in any way based on or related to any of the foregoing, including, but not limited to, contract claims, tort claims, malpractice claims, statutory claims and all other claims at law or in equity related to the rights and obligations sold and assigned pursuant to clause (i) above (the rights and obligations sold and assigned pursuant to clauses (i) and (ii) above being referred to herein collectively as, the "Assigned Interest"). Such sale and assignment is without recourse to the Assignor and, except as expressly provided in this Assignment and Assumption, without representation or warranty by the Assignor.

1. Assignor: _____
2. Assignee: _____ [and is an Affiliate/Approved Fund of
[*identify Lender*]]
3. Borrower(s): _____
4. Administrative Agent: Bank of America, N.A., as the administrative agent under the Credit Agreement
5. Credit Agreement: Credit Agreement, dated as of August , 2005 among Cabot Corporation, the Designated Borrowers from time to time party thereto, the Lenders from time to time party thereto, and Bank of America, N.A., as Administrative Agent, L/C Issuer and Swing Line Lender

6. Assigned Interest:

Aggregate Amount of Commitment/Loans for all Lenders*	Amount of Commitment/Loans Assigned*	Percentage Assigned of Commitment ¹	CUSIP Number
\$ _____	\$ _____	_____ %	_____
\$ _____	\$ _____	_____ %	_____
\$ _____	\$ _____	_____ %	_____

[7. Trade Date: _____]²

Effective Date: _____, 20 ____ [TO BE INSERTED BY ADMINISTRATIVE AGENT AND WHICH SHALL BE THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF RECORDATION OF TRANSFER IN THE REGISTER THEREFOR.]

The terms set forth in this Assignment and Assumption are hereby agreed to:

ASSIGNOR

[NAME OF ASSIGNOR]

By: _____

Title:

ASSIGNEE

[NAME OF ASSIGNEE]

By: _____

Title:

[Consented to and]³ Accepted:

BANK OF AMERICA, N.A., as
Administrative Agent

By: _____

Title:

¹ Set forth, to at least 9 decimals, as a percentage of the Commitment/Loans of all Lenders thereunder.

² To be completed if the Assignor and the Assignee intend that the minimum assignment amount is to be determined as of the Trade Date.

³ To be added only if the consent of the Administrative Agent is required by the terms of the Credit Agreement.

[Consented to:]⁴

CABOT CORPORATION

By: _____

Title: _____

⁴ To be added only if the consent of the Company and/or other parties (e.g. Swing Line Lender, L/C Issuer) is required by the terms of the Credit Agreement.

STANDARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR
ASSIGNMENT AND ASSUMPTION

1. Representations and Warranties.

1.1. Assignor. The Assignor (a) represents and warrants that (i) it is the legal and beneficial owner of the Assigned Interest, (ii) the Assigned Interest is free and clear of any lien, encumbrance or other adverse claim and (iii) it has full power and authority, and has taken all action necessary, to execute and deliver this Assignment and Assumption and to consummate the transactions contemplated hereby; and (b) assumes no responsibility with respect to (i) any statements, warranties or representations made in or in connection with the Credit Agreement or any other Loan Document, (ii) the execution, legality, validity, enforceability, genuineness, sufficiency or value of the Loan Documents or any collateral thereunder, (iii) the financial condition of the Company, any of its Subsidiaries or Affiliates or any other Person obligated in respect of any Loan Document or (iv) the performance or observance by the Company, any of its Subsidiaries or Affiliates or any other Person of any of their respective obligations under any Loan Document.

1.2. Assignee. The Assignee (a) represents and warrants that (i) it has full power and authority, and has taken all action necessary, to execute and deliver this Assignment and Assumption and to consummate the transactions contemplated hereby and to become a Lender under the Credit Agreement, (ii) it meets all requirements of an Eligible Assignee under the Credit Agreement (subject to receipt of such consents as may be required under the Credit Agreement), (iii) from and after the Effective Date, it shall be bound by the provisions of the Credit Agreement as a Lender thereunder and, to the extent of the Assigned Interest, shall have the obligations of a Lender thereunder, (iv) it has received a copy of the Credit Agreement, together with copies of the most recent financial statements delivered pursuant to Section 7.01 thereof, as applicable, and such other documents and information as it has deemed appropriate to make its own credit analysis and decision to enter into this Assignment and Assumption and to purchase the Assigned Interest on the basis of which it has made such analysis and decision independently and without reliance on the Administrative Agent or any other Lender, and (v) if it is a Foreign Lender, attached hereto is any documentation required to be delivered by it pursuant to the terms of the Credit Agreement, duly completed and executed by the Assignee; and (b) agrees that (i) it will, independently and without reliance on the Administrative Agent, the Assignor or any other Lender, and based on such documents and information as it shall deem appropriate at the time, continue to make its own credit decisions in taking or not taking action under the Loan Documents, and (ii) it will perform in accordance with their terms all of the obligations which by the terms of the Loan Documents are required to be performed by it as a Lender.

2. Payments. From and after the Effective Date, the Administrative Agent shall make all payments in respect of the Assigned Interest (including payments of principal, interest, fees and other amounts) to the Assignor for amounts which have accrued to but excluding the Effective Date and to the Assignee for amounts which have accrued from and after the Effective Date.

3. General Provisions. This Assignment and Assumption shall be binding upon, and inure to the benefit of, the parties hereto and their respective successors and assigns. This Assignment and Assumption may be executed in any number of counterparts, which together shall constitute one instrument. Delivery of an executed counterpart of a signature page of this Assignment and Assumption by telecopy shall be effective as delivery of a manually executed counterpart of this Assignment and Assumption. This Assignment and Assumption shall be governed by, and construed in accordance with, the law of the State of New York.

**FORM OF DESIGNATED BORROWER
REQUEST AND ASSUMPTION AGREEMENT**

Date: _____, _____

To: Bank of America, N.A., as Administrative Agent

Ladies and Gentlemen:

This Designated Borrower Request and Assumption Agreement is made and delivered pursuant to Section 2.14 of that certain Credit Agreement, dated as of August , 2005 (as amended, restated, extended, supplemented or otherwise modified in writing from time to time, the "Credit Agreement"), among Cabot Corporation, a Delaware corporation (the "Company"), the Designated Borrowers from time to time party thereto, the Lenders from time to time party thereto, and Bank of America, N.A., as Administrative Agent, L/C Issuer and Swing Line Lender, and reference is made thereto for full particulars of the matters described therein. All capitalized terms used in this Designated Borrower Request and Assumption Agreement and not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings assigned to them in the Credit Agreement.

Each of (the "Additional Designated Borrower") and the Company hereby confirms, represents and warrants to the Administrative Agent and the Lenders that the Additional Designated Borrower is a Subsidiary of the Company.

The documents required to be delivered to the Administrative Agent under Section 2.14 of the Credit Agreement will be furnished to the Administrative Agent in accordance with the requirements of the Credit Agreement.

The parties hereto hereby confirm that with effect from the date hereof, the Additional Designated Borrower shall have obligations, duties and liabilities toward each of the other parties to the Credit Agreement identical to those which the Additional Designated Borrower would have had if the Additional Designated Borrower had been an original party to the Credit Agreement as a Borrower. The Additional Designated Borrower confirms its acceptance of, and consents to, all representations and warranties, covenants, and other terms and provisions of the Credit Agreement.

The parties hereto hereby request that the Additional Designated Borrower be entitled to receive Loans under the Credit Agreement, and understand, acknowledge and agree that neither the Additional Designated Borrower nor the Company on its behalf shall have any right to request any Loans for its account unless and until the date five Business Days after the effective date designated by the Administrative Agent in a Designated Borrower Notice delivered to the Company and the Lenders pursuant to Section 2.14 of the Credit Agreement.

This Designated Borrower Request and Assumption Agreement shall constitute a Loan Document under the Credit Agreement.

THIS DESIGNATED BORROWER REQUEST AND ASSUMPTION AGREEMENT SHALL BE GOVERNED BY, AND CONSTRUED IN ACCORDANCE WITH, THE LAW OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have caused this Designated Borrower Request and Assumption Agreement to be duly executed and delivered by their proper and duly authorized officers as of the day and year first above written.

[ADDITIONAL DESIGNATED BORROWER]

By: _____
Title: _____
CABOT CORPORATION
By: _____
Title: _____

FORM OF DESIGNATED BORROWER NOTICE

Date: _____, _____

To: Cabot Corporation and
[applicable Designated Borrower]

The Lenders party to the Credit Agreement referred to below

Ladies and Gentlemen:

This Designated Borrower Notice is made and delivered pursuant to Section 2.14 of that certain Credit Agreement, dated as of August , 2005 (as amended, restated, extended, supplemented or otherwise modified in writing from time to time, the "Credit Agreement"), among Cabot Corporation, a Delaware corporation (the "Company"), the Designated Borrowers from time to time party thereto, the Lenders from time to time party thereto, and Bank of America, N.A., as Administrative Agent, L/C Issuer and Swing Line Lender, and reference is made thereto for full particulars of the matters described therein. All capitalized terms used in this Designated Borrower Notice and not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings assigned to them in the Credit Agreement.

The Administrative Agent hereby notifies the Company and the Lenders that effective as of the date hereof [] shall be a Designated Borrower and may receive Loans for its account on the terms and conditions set forth in the Credit Agreement.

This Designated Borrower Notice shall constitute a Loan Document under the Credit Agreement.

BANK OF AMERICA, N.A.,
as Administrative Agent

By: _____
Title: _____

FIRST AMENDMENT TO CREDIT AGREEMENT

THIS FIRST AMENDMENT TO CREDIT AGREEMENT dated as of September 5, 2008 (this "Agreement") is entered into among CABOT CORPORATION, a Delaware corporation (the "Company"), certain Subsidiaries of the Company (each a "Designated Borrower" and, together with the Company, the "Borrowers" and, each a "Borrower"), the Lenders party hereto and BANK OF AMERICA, N.A., as Administrative Agent (in such capacity, the "Administrative Agents"). All capitalized terms used herein and not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings given to such terms in the Credit Agreement (as defined below).

RECITALS

WHEREAS, the Borrowers, the Lenders and the Administrative Agent entered into that certain Credit Agreement dated as of August 3, 2005 (as amended and modified from time to time, the "Credit Agreement");

WHEREAS, the Borrowers have requested and the Lenders have agreed to amend certain terms of the Credit Agreement as set forth below;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the premises and the mutual covenants contained herein, and for other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, the parties hereto agree as follows:

1. Amendments. The Credit Agreement is hereby amended as follows:

(a) Section 1.01 of the Credit Agreement is hereby amended by adding the following new definition in the appropriate alphabetical order:

"Note Purchase Agreement" means that certain Note Purchase Agreement entered into in September or October 2008, by and among the Company and the purchasers party thereto, as amended or modified from time to time.

(b) Section 8.05 of the Credit Agreement is hereby amended to read as follows:

Enter into any Contractual Obligation (other than this Agreement or any other Loan Document) that (a) limits the ability of the Company or any Subsidiary to create, incur, assume or suffer to exist Liens on property of such Person (other than the Note Purchase Agreement) or

(b) requires the grant of a Lien to secure an obligation of such Person if a Lien is granted to secure another obligation of such Person.

2. Conditions Precedent. This Agreement shall be effective upon the receipt by the Administrative Agent of counterparts of this Agreement, duly executed by the Borrowers, the Administrative Agent and the Required Lenders.

3. Miscellaneous.

(a) The Credit Agreement (as amended by this Agreement), and the obligations of the Loan Parties thereunder and under the other Loan Documents, are hereby ratified and confirmed and shall remain in full force and effect according to their terms.

(b) The Borrowers hereby represent and warrant as follows:

(i) Each Loan Party has taken all necessary action to authorize the execution, delivery and performance of this Agreement.

(ii) This Agreement has been duly executed and delivered by the Loan Parties and constitutes each of the Loan Parties' legal, valid and binding obligations, enforceable against it in accordance with its terms, except as such enforceability may be subject to (A) bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization, fraudulent conveyance or transfer, moratorium or similar laws affecting creditors' rights generally and (B) general principles of equity (regardless of whether such enforceability is considered in a proceeding at law or in equity).

(iii) No consent, approval, authorization or order of, or filing, registration or qualification with, any court or governmental authority or third party is required in connection with the execution, delivery or performance by any Loan Party of this Agreement other than those which have been obtained and are in full force and effect.

(c) The Loan Parties represent and warrant to the Lenders that (i) the representations and warranties of the Loan Parties set forth in Article VI of the Credit Agreement and in each other Loan Document are true and correct as of the date hereof with the same effect as if made on and as of the date hereof, except to the extent such representations and warranties expressly relate solely to an earlier date and (ii) no event has occurred and is continuing which constitutes a Default or an Event of Default.

(d) This Agreement may be executed in any number of counterparts, each of which when so executed and delivered shall be an original, but all of which shall constitute one and the same instrument. Delivery of an executed counterpart of this Agreement by telecopy shall be effective as an original and shall constitute a representation that an executed original shall be delivered.

(e) **THIS AGREEMENT AND THE RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF THE PARTIES HEREUNDER SHALL BE GOVERNED BY AND CONSTRUED AND INTERPRETED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK.**

[remainder of page intentionally left blank]

Each of the parties hereto has caused a counterpart of this Agreement to be duly executed and delivered as of the date first above written.

BORROWER:

CABOT CORPORATION,
a Delaware corporation

By: /s/ Irene S. Sudac

Name: Irene S. Sudac

Title: Vice President and Treasurer

CABOT CORPORATION
FIRST AMENDMENT

ADMINISTRATIVE
AGENT:

BANK OF AMERICA, NA.,
as Administrative Agent

By: _____ /s/ Kenneth S. Struglia
Name: Kenneth S. Struglia
Title: Managing Director

LENDERS:

BANK OF AMERICA, N.A.,
as a Lender, L/C Issuer and Swing Line Lender

By: _____ /s/ Kenneth S. Struglia
Name: Kenneth S. Struglia
Title: Managing Director

CITICORP NORTH AMERICA, INC.,
as a Lender

By: _____ /s/ Adeel Xheraj
Name: Adeel Xheraj
Title: Vice President

JPMORGAN CHASE BANK, N.A.,
as a Lender

By: _____ /s/ D. Scott Farquhar
Name: D. Scott Farquhar
Title: Vice President

MIZUHO CORPORATE BANK, LTD.,
as a Lender

By: _____
Name:

Title:
WACHOVIA BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION,
as a Lender

By: _____ /s/ Barbara Van Meerten
Name: Barbara Van Meerten
Title: Director

COMMERZBANK AG, NEW YORK AND GRAND CAYMAN BRANCHES, as a Lender

By: _____
Name:
Title:

CABOT CORPORATION
FIRST AMENDMENT

LENDERS:

BANK OF CHINA, NEW YORK BRANCH
as a Lender

By:	<u>/s/ William W. Smith</u>
Name:	William W. Smith
Title:	Deputy General Manager

CABOT CORPORATION
FIRST AMENDMENT

SECOND AMENDMENT TO CREDIT AGREEMENT

THIS SECOND AMENDMENT TO CREDIT AGREEMENT dated as of September 18, 2009 (this "Agreement") is entered into among CABOT CORPORATION, a Delaware corporation (the "Company"), certain Subsidiaries of the Company (each a "Designated Borrower" and, together with the Company, the "Borrowers" and, each a "Borrower"), the Lenders party hereto and BANK OF AMERICA, N.A., as Administrative Agent (in such capacity, the "Administrative Agent"). All capitalized terms used herein and not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings given to such terms in the Credit Agreement (as defined below).

RECITALS

WHEREAS, the Borrowers, the Lenders and the Administrative Agent entered into that certain Credit Agreement dated as of August 3, 2005 (as amended and modified from time to time, the "Credit Agreement");

WHEREAS, the Borrowers have requested and the Lenders have agreed to amend certain terms of the Credit Agreement as set forth below;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the premises and the mutual covenants contained herein, and for other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, the parties hereto agree as follows:

1. Amendments. The Credit Agreement is hereby amended as follows:

- (a) The definition of "Note Purchase Agreement" in Section 1.01 of the Credit Agreement is hereby deleted in its entirety.
- (b) Section 1.01 of the Credit Agreement is hereby amended by adding the following new definition in the appropriate alphabetical order:

"2009 Indenture" means that certain Indenture entered into in September 2009 between the Company and U.S. Bank National Association, as trustee, and any notes issued thereunder.

- (c) Section 8.05 of the Credit Agreement is hereby amended to read as follows:

Enter into any Contractual Obligation (other than (i) this Agreement or any other Loan Document and (ii) the 2009 Indenture) that

- (a) limits the ability of the Company or any Subsidiary to create, incur, assume or suffer to exist Liens on property of such Person or
- (b) requires the grant of a Lien to secure an obligation of such Person if a Lien is granted to secure another obligation of such Person.

2. Conditions Precedent. This Agreement shall be effective upon the receipt by the Administrative Agent of counterparts of this Agreement, duly executed by the Borrowers, the Administrative Agent and the Required Lenders.

3. Miscellaneous.

(a) The Credit Agreement (as amended by this Agreement), and the obligations of the Loan Parties thereunder and under the other Loan Documents, are hereby ratified and confirmed and shall remain in full force and effect according to their terms.

- (b) The Borrowers hereby represent and warrant as follows:

(i) Each Loan Party has taken all necessary action to authorize the execution, delivery and performance of this Agreement.

(ii) This Agreement has been duly executed and delivered by the Loan Parties and constitutes each of the Loan Parties' legal, valid and binding obligations, enforceable against it in accordance

with its terms, except as such enforceability may be subject to (A) bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization, fraudulent conveyance or transfer, moratorium or similar laws affecting creditors' rights generally and (B) general principles of equity (regardless of whether such enforceability is considered in a proceeding at law or in equity).

(iii) No consent, approval, authorization or order of, or filing, registration or qualification with, any court or governmental authority or third party is required in connection with the execution, delivery or performance by any Loan Party of this Agreement other than those which have been obtained and are in full force and effect.

(c) The Loan Parties represent and warrant to the Lenders that (i) the representations and warranties of the Loan Parties set forth in Article VI of the Credit Agreement and in each other Loan Document are true and correct as of the date hereof with the same effect as if made on and as of the date hereof, except to the extent such representations and warranties expressly relate solely to an earlier date and (ii) no event has occurred and is continuing which constitutes a Default or an Event of Default.

(d) This Agreement may be executed in any number of counterparts, each of which when so executed and delivered shall be an original, but all of which shall constitute one and the same instrument. Delivery of an executed counterpart of this Agreement by telecopy shall be effective as an original and shall constitute a representation that an executed original shall be delivered.

(e) THIS AGREEMENT AND THE RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF THE PARTIES HEREUNDER SHALL BE GOVERNED BY AND CONSTRUED AND INTERPRETED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK.

[remainder of page intentionally left blank]

Each of the parties hereto has caused a counterpart of this Agreement to be duly executed and delivered as of the date first above written.

BORROWER:

CABOT CORPORATION,
a Delaware corporation

By: /s/Eduardo E. Cordeiro

Name:

Title: Executive Vice President, CFO

ADMINISTRATIVE AGENT:

BANK OF AMERICA, N.A.,
as Administrative Agent

By: /s/Jeffrey J. McLaughlin

Name:

Title: SVP

LENDERS:

BANK OF AMERICA, N.A.,
as a Lender, L/C Issuer and Swing Line Lender

By: /s/Jeffrey J. McLaughlin

Name:

Title: SVP

CITICORP NORTH AMERICA, INC.,
as a Lender

By: /s/Joronne Jeter

Name:

Title: Vice President

JPMORGAN CHASE BANK, N.A.,
as a Lender

By: /s/D. Scott Farquhar

Name:

Title: Vice President

MIZUHO CORPORATE BANK, LTD.,
as a Lender

By: /s/Leon Mo

Name:

Title: Authorized Signatory

WACHOVIA BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION,
as a Lender

By: _____
Name:
Title:

BANK OF CHINA, NEW YORK BRANCH,
as a Lender

By: _____
Name:
Title:

COMMERZBANK AG, NEW YORK AND GRAND CAYMAN BRANCHES, as a Lender

By: _____
Name:
Title:
By: _____
Name:
Title:

HSBC BANK USA, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION,
as a Lender

By: _____ /s/Kenneth V. McGraime
Name:
Title: SVP, Commercial Executive

Cabot Corporation
2009 Long-Term Incentive Plan

Restricted Stock Unit Award Certificate

[Date]

Name

Location Name

This certificate evidences the grant to you by Cabot Corporation (the "Company"), subject to the terms provided herein and in the 2009 Long-Term Incentive Plan (the "2009 Plan"), of the restricted stock units set forth in the table below (such units referred to collectively as your "Award"). The principal terms of your Award are described below. Except as otherwise expressly provided, all terms used herein shall have the same meaning as in the 2009 Plan.

Time-Based Restricted Stock Unit

RSUs

Performance-Based Restricted Stock Unit

PSUs

Date that Units Vest

[Date]

General Terms of your Award.

Time-Based Restricted Stock Unit. The time-based restricted stock unit portion of your Award (the "RSUs") gives you the conditional right to receive, without payment, subject to the vesting and other conditions set forth in this Certificate and in the 2009 Plan, (i) shares of common stock, par value \$1.00 per share, of the Company (the "Common Stock") equal in number to the number of RSUs set forth in the table above (the "Shares"), and (ii) dividend equivalents, payable in cash, when and if dividends are declared and paid on the Company's outstanding shares of Common Stock, and equal in value to the dividends that would have been paid in respect of the Shares had such Shares been issued to you on [date]. Any dividend equivalents payable to you will be paid through the payroll system as soon as administratively possible after the Common Stock dividend payment date. In recent years, the Company has paid dividends on Common Stock quarterly in March, June, September and December. Dividends may not be paid in accordance with this schedule or at all in the future.

Performance-Based Restricted Stock Unit. The performance-based restricted stock unit portion of your Award (the "PSUs") gives you the conditional right to receive, without payment, upon the Company's achievement of the performance metrics outlined in Appendix A attached to this Certificate and subject to the vesting and other conditions set forth in this Certificate and in the 2009 Plan, shares of Common Stock representing from __% to __% of the number of PSUs granted, with the actual number of shares to be delivered determined in accordance with the provisions of Appendix A, it being understood that the Compensation Committee of the Company's Board of Directors has discretion to adjust the performance metrics outlined in Appendix A to account for, or to take into account in determining whether any performance metric set forth in Appendix A has been achieved, the occurrence of unanticipated events and circumstances during the performance period of this Award as the Compensation Committee deems necessary or advisable.

Vesting of Your Award. Except as otherwise provided in the Plan, and subject in the case of PSUs to the achievement of the performance metrics outlined in Appendix A, your Award shall vest on [date], provided you are on such date, and will have been at all times since the date of this Certificate, an employee of the Company or a subsidiary or affiliate of the Company. Your Award may vest prior to its scheduled vesting date under certain circumstances pursuant to Section 7 of the 2009 Plan and as explained in the Prospectus for the 2009 Plan. The conditions under which your Award may be forfeited are explained below.

Circumstances that may lead to the forfeiture of your Award. If your employment with Cabot ends for any reason before your Award vests, you will forfeit your Award immediately, unless your employment terminates because of your death or Disability, as defined in the 2009 Plan. If your employment ceases because of your death or Disability, the following rules will apply:

- the RSU portion of your Award will vest;
- any portion of your PSU Award as to which at the time your employment ceases the performance criteria have been satisfied (other than the passage of time necessary for vesting) will vest; and
- any portion of your PSU Award which is conditioned upon satisfaction of performance criteria that have not been satisfied at the time your employment ceases will terminate.

Further, if your employment ceases because of actions which cast such discredit on you as to justify immediate termination of your Award, the Administrator of the 2009 Plan has authority to terminate your Award.

Delivery of Shares. The Company shall, as soon as practicable upon the vesting of your Award (but in no event later than March 15 of the year following such vesting) deliver the shares with respect to such vested Award to you (or, in the event of your death, to the person to whom the Award has passed by will or the laws of descent and distribution). No shares will be issued pursuant to this Award unless and until all legal requirements applicable to the issuance or transfer of such shares have been complied with to the satisfaction of the Administrator and you have made arrangements to pay to Cabot any applicable withholding taxes due upon the vesting of your Award.

Dividends; Other Rights. The Award shall not be interpreted to bestow upon you any equity interest or ownership in the Company or any Affiliate prior to the date on which the Company delivers shares to you, except for the right to receive dividend equivalents on the RSUs in accordance with this Certificate. You are not entitled to vote any shares by reason of the granting of this Award. You shall have the rights of a shareholder only as to those shares, if any, that are actually delivered under this Award.

Certain Tax Matters. The general tax consequences of the Award are described in the Supplementary Tax Summary attached to this Certificate. You are responsible, however, for seeking advice from your own tax and financial advisors with respect to the consequences of the Award to the extent you require or desire such advice.

You must pay to Cabot any applicable withholding taxes due upon the vesting of your Award. You may elect to satisfy federal, state or local withholding requirements arising in connection with the vesting of this Award by having shares of stock withheld from the shares deliverable to you, up to the greatest number of whole shares with an aggregate fair market value not exceeding the minimum required withholding applicable to the amount so vesting. Any such election shall be made in a form and manner acceptable to the Administrator.

Nontransferability. Neither this Award nor any rights with respect thereto may be sold, assigned, transferred (other than by will or the laws of descent and distribution), pledged or otherwise encumbered, except as the Administrator may otherwise determine.

Effect on Employment Rights. This Award shall not confer upon you any right to continue as an employee of the Company or any of its subsidiaries or affiliates and shall not affect in any way the right of the Company or any subsidiary or affiliate of the Company to terminate your employment at any time. Further, any benefits you receive from the grant or vesting of your Award shall not be considered a component of your salary for any purpose, including, without limitation, any salary-related calculations for holiday, sick pay, termination payments, overtime or similar payments.

Provisions of the 2009 Plan. The terms specified in this Certificate are governed by the terms of Cabot's 2009 Long-Term Incentive Plan (the "2009 Plan"), a copy of which has been provided to you. Information about the 2009 Plan is also included in the Prospectus for the 2009 Plan, a copy of which has also been provided to you. The Compensation Committee of Cabot's Board of Directors has the exclusive authority to interpret the 2009 Plan and this Award, including whether and to what extent the performance metrics outlined in Appendix A have been achieved. Any interpretation of the Award by the Committee and any decision made by it with respect to the Award are final and binding on all persons. To the extent there is a conflict between the terms of this Certificate, the 2009 Plan or any employment agreement between you and Cabot or any of its subsidiaries, the 2009 Plan shall govern.

Amendments. No amendment of any provision of this Certificate (other than an adjustment in the performance metrics set forth in Appendix A made in accordance with the terms herein, which shall not be deemed an amendment of this Certificate) shall be valid unless the same shall be in writing.

Governing Law. This Certificate shall be governed and construed by and determined in accordance with the laws of The Commonwealth of Massachusetts, without giving effect to any choice of law or conflict of law provision or rule (whether of The Commonwealth of Massachusetts or any other jurisdiction) that would cause the application of the laws of any jurisdiction other than The Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

By signing below, you hereby accept your Award subject to the terms set forth herein and in the 2009 Plan, and expressly consent to the transfer to and use of your personal data by the Company or service providers of the Company or other third parties for the specific purposes of the 2009

Plan, even if the recipients of the data are located in countries that do not have data protection laws equivalent to those in force in your country. In addition, you understand that this Award is discretionary, and that eligibility for an award under the 2009 Plan is established at the time awards are made. Therefore, your receiving this Award does not mean that you are guaranteed an award in the future.

Agreed and Accepted:

By

Print Name:

Kindly sign, date and return this certificate to Cabot Corporation, Attention: _____, Compensation Department by hand delivery or mail, to 157 Concord Road, Billerica, MA 01821; or by fax to the HR Confidential Fax: _____.

CABOT CORPORATION
2009 LONG-TERM INCENTIVE PLAN

Stock Option Award Agreement

[Date]

Name

Location Name

This agreement evidences the grant to you by Cabot Corporation under Cabot's 2009 Long-Term Incentive Plan (the "2009 Plan") of a stock option to purchase, on the terms provided herein, the number of shares of common stock of Cabot set forth in the table below. The principal terms of your stock option are set forth in the table, and described in greater detail below.

Non-Qualified Stock Option

Grant Date

Exercise Price (Per Share)

Dates that Stock Option Vests and Becomes Exercisable

Expiration Date

[OPTION AWARD]

[Date]

[Exercise price]

[Vesting schedule]

[Expiration date]

General Terms of your Stock Option. Your stock option gives you the right to purchase shares of common stock of Cabot at the per share exercise price, and subject to the vesting provisions, set forth above. This stock option is not intended to constitute an incentive stock option pursuant to Section 422 of the Internal Revenue Code.

Vesting and Duration of your Stock Option. As indicated in the table above, a portion of your award will vest, and becomes exercisable, on the [_____] anniversaries of the date of grant. Your stock option may become exercisable prior to the scheduled vesting dates under certain circumstances, such as a change in control, merger or other similar corporate transaction involving the Company, as explained in the Prospectus for the 2009 Plan. After your stock option vests, it is generally exercisable, in whole or in part, at any time prior to its expiration date. Your stock option generally has a _____-year term. The conditions under which your award may expire before its scheduled expiration date, such as if your employment with Cabot ends, are explained below. In addition, the exercise of your stock option may involve the sale of Cabot stock, and accordingly, **there may be limitations on when you can exercise your stock option under Cabot's Policy on Transactions in Securities, a copy of which is being provided to you with the Prospectus for the 2009 Plan.**

Circumstances that may lead to the termination of your stock option before the scheduled expiration date. If your employment with Cabot ends and you continue to hold unexercised stock options, the following rules will apply:

- Any unvested options will be forfeited (unless your employment terminates because of your death or disability).
- Any vested stock options outstanding immediately prior to the cessation of your employment, to the extent exercisable, will remain exercisable for three months after the date on which your employment ended or until the stated expiration date, if earlier.
- If your employment ceases because of your death or disability, any outstanding unvested stock options will become exercisable in full and all outstanding stock options will remain exercisable for three years or until the stated expiration date, if earlier.
- If your employment ceases because of actions which cast such discredit on you as to justify immediate termination of your stock option, the Administrator of the 2009 Plan has authority to terminate your stock option.

Exercising your Stock Option. You may exercise your stock option by delivering to the Company a signed, written notice of exercise, in the form provided by Cabot, accompanied by payment of the exercise price for the number of shares of Cabot's common stock for which you are exercising your stock option, and any other payment required (such as applicable withholding taxes). If the completed notice of exercise and required payments are not delivered simultaneously, the exercise date will be the date that the last item is received. We will deliver to you shares of Cabot common stock as soon as practicable following your proper exercise of your option. Any exercise must be for a minimum of 100 shares of Cabot stock (or the remaining total number of shares issuable upon exercise of a particular stock option, if fewer).

Payment of the Exercise Price. You may pay for the shares you are purchasing upon the exercise of your stock option in the following ways:

- your personal check, bank check or draft, a money order payable to the order of Cabot or by wire transfer of funds;
- a check, payable to the order of the Company from a brokerage firm handling the transaction on your behalf (a cashless exercise);
- by delivery to the Company of shares of Cabot common stock held by you for at least six months having a market value (at the close of business on the last business day preceding the date on which your completed and signed notice of exercise is sent or hand delivered to Cabot) equal in amount to the exercise price of the option being exercised, provided that (a) this method of payment is then permitted by applicable law and (b) the shares used to pay the exercise price are not subject to any repurchase, forfeiture, unfulfilled vesting or other similar requirement (a stock swap);
- by any combination of the above permitted forms of payment.

You may choose to exercise your stock option in a cashless exercise through a broker. A cashless exercise involves a sale of Cabot stock in the market, with the proceeds applied to the stock option exercise price and any withholding taxes due, eliminating the use of your own funds. ***Because a cashless exercise involves the sale of Cabot stock in the market, it must be completed in accordance with Cabot's Policy on Transactions in Securities. Please review the restrictions on trading contained in the Policy before making arrangements for a cashless exercise.*** Please note that the trading restrictions in Cabot's Policy on Transactions in Securities do not apply to transactions with the Company, such as the exercise of a stock option with your own funds or the surrender of shares in payment of the exercise price or in satisfaction of any tax withholding obligations, provided you do not sell the shares acquired while in possession of material nonpublic information or, if applicable to you, during a corporate blackout period.

Tax consequences of your Stock Option. The tax consequences of your stock option award are described in the Tax Information attached to this award agreement. Employees in the U.S. must pay to Cabot any applicable withholding taxes due upon the exercise of their stock option at the time of exercise. The shares issuable upon exercise of your stock option will be valued for withholding tax purposes at the closing price of Cabot's common stock as reported on the New York Stock Exchange Composite Transactions on the exercise date. U.S. participants may pay these withholding taxes using the same methods of payment of the exercise price.

No Employment Commitment; Rights as a Stockholder. The grant of this stock option does not confer any right to continued employment or service with Cabot. Further, you have no rights as a stockholder with respect to the shares subject to this option until the proper exercise of the option and the issuance of the shares with respect to which the option has been exercised.

Provisions of the 2009 Plan. The terms specified in this award agreement are governed by the terms of Cabot's 2009 Long-Term Incentive Plan (the "2009 Plan"), a copy of which has been provided to you. Information about the 2009 Plan is also included in the Prospectus for the 2009 Plan, a copy of which has also been provided to you. The Compensation Committee of Cabot's Board of Directors has the exclusive authority to interpret this award and the 2009 Plan. Any interpretation of the award by the Committee and any decision made by it with respect to the award are final and binding on all persons. To the extent that there is a conflict between the terms of this award agreement and the 2009 Plan, the 2009 Plan shall govern.

Additional Information. If you have any questions regarding your stock option or the exercise process, please contact HR Shared Services, 157 Concord Road, Billerica, MA 01821; Telephone (978-671-4139); HR Confidential Fax: _____.

Governing Law. This award agreement shall be governed by the laws of The Commonwealth of Massachusetts, without giving effect to any choice of law rule that would cause the application of the laws of any other jurisdiction.

By signing below, you hereby accept your award subject to the terms set forth in this award agreement and the related Tax Information, the 2009 Plan, the Prospectus for the 2009 Plan, and the other materials and documents provided to you in connection with your award, and expressly consent to the transfer to and use of your personal data by the Company or service providers of the Company or other third parties for the specific purposes of the 2009 Plan, even if the recipients of the data are located in countries that do not have data protection laws equivalent to those in force in your country. In addition, you understand that this Award is discretionary, and that eligibility for an award under the 2009 Plan is established at the time awards are made. Therefore, your receiving this Award does not mean that you are guaranteed an award in the future.

Kindly sign, date and return this agreement to Cabot Corporation, Attention: _____, Compensation Department by hand delivery or mail, to 157 Concord Road, Billerica, MA 01821; or by fax to the HR Confidential Fax: _____.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Company has caused this stock option to be executed by its duly authorized officer.

CABOT CORPORATION

By: _____

Name:

Date:

Principal Executive Officer Certification

I, Patrick M. Prevost, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this quarterly report on Form 10-Q of Cabot Corporation;
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
4. The registrant's other certifying officer(s) and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:
 - a) designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
 - b) designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
 - c) evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
 - d) disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
5. The registrant's other certifying officer(s) and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
 - a) all significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
 - b) any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Date: February 9, 2010

/s/ Patrick M. Prevost

Patrick M. Prevost

President and Chief Executive Officer

Principal Financial Officer Certification

I, Eduardo E. Cordeiro, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this quarterly report on Form 10-Q of Cabot Corporation;
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
4. The registrant's other certifying officer(s) and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:
 - a) designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
 - b) designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
 - c) evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
 - d) disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
5. The registrant's other certifying officer(s) and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
 - a) all significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
 - b) any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Date: February 9, 2010

/s/ Eduardo E. Cordeiro

Eduardo E. Cordeiro

Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

**Certifications Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350,
as Adopted Pursuant to Section 906 of the
Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002**

In connection with the filing of the Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended December 31, 2009 (the "Report") by Cabot Corporation (the "Company"), each of the undersigned hereby certifies pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, that, to his knowledge:

1. The Report fully complies with the requirements of section 13 (a) or 15 (d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended; and
2. The information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

/s/ PATRICK M. PREVOST

Patrick M. Prevost

President and Chief Executive Officer

February 9, 2010

/s/ EDUARDO E. CORDEIRO

Eduardo E. Cordeiro

Executive Vice President and

Chief Financial Officer

February 9, 2010