L 3 COMMUNICATIONS HOLDINGS INC

Form DEF 14A March 17, 2008

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SCHEDULE 14A

(Rule 14a-101)

INFORMATION REQUIRED IN PROXY STATEMENT

SCHEDULE 14A INFORMATION

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

Filed by the Registrant

Filed by a Party other than the Registrant

Check the appropriate box:

Preliminary Proxy Statement

For Use of the Commission Only (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2))

Confidential,
Definitive

Proxy Statement

Definitive

Additional Materials

Soliciting

Material Pursuant to Rule 14a-12

L-3 COMMUNICATIONS HOLDINGS, INC.

(Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

Payment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box):

No fee

required.

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

of securities to which transaction applies:

- 1. Title of each class
- 2. Aggregate number

of securities to which transaction applies:

3. Per unit price or

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

4. Proposed

maximum aggregate value of transaction:

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Fee paid

previously with preliminary materials:

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of the fee is offset as provided by Exchange Act Rule 0-11(a)(2) and identify the filing for which the offsetting fee was paid previously. Identify the previous filing by registration statement number, or the Form or Schedule and the date of its filing.

1. Amount previously paid:

2. Form,

Schedule or Registration Statement No.:

3. Filing Party:

4. Date Filed:

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L-3 COMMUNICATIONS HOLDINGS, INC.

To Our Stockholders:

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I cordially invite you to attend the Annual Meeting of Stockholders of L-3 Communications Holdings, Inc., to be held at 2:30 p.m., Eastern Daylight Time, on Tuesday, April 29, 2008, at the Ritz-Carlton New York, Battery Park, located at Two West Street, New York, New York. The notice and proxy statement for the Annual Meeting are attached to this letter and describe the business to be conducted at the Annual Meeting.

In accordance with new rules approved by the Securities and Exchange Commission, we sent a Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials on or about March 17, 2008 to our stockholders of record as of the close of business on March 3, 2008. We also provided access to our proxy materials over the Internet beginning on that date. If you received a Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials by mail and did not receive, but would like to receive, a printed copy of our proxy materials, you should follow the instructions for requesting such materials included in the notice or on page four of this proxy statement.

To have your vote recorded, you should vote over the Internet or by telephone. In addition, if you have requested or received a paper copy of the proxy materials, you can vote by signing, dating and returning the proxy card sent to you in the envelope accompanying the proxy materials sent to you. We encourage you to vote by any of these methods even if you currently plan to attend the Annual Meeting. By doing so, you will ensure that your shares are represented and voted at the Annual Meeting. If you decide to attend, you can still vote your shares in person if you wish. Please let us know whether you plan to attend the Annual Meeting by indicating your plans when prompted over the Internet voting system or the telephone or (if you have received a paper copy of the proxy materials) by marking the appropriate box on the proxy card sent to you.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I thank you for your cooperation and look forward to seeing you on April 29th.

Very truly yours, Michael T. Strianese

President and Chief Executive Officer

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L-3 COMMUNICATIONS HOLDINGS, INC.

Notice of 2008 Annual Meeting of Stockholders and Proxy Statement

Notice is hereby given that the 2008 Annual Meeting of Stockholders (the "Annual Meeting") of L-3 Communications Holdings, Inc. will be held at the Ritz-Carlton New York, Battery Park, located at Two West Street, New York, New York on Tuesday, April 29, 2008, at 2:30 p.m., Eastern Daylight Time, for the following purposes:

1. Election

of three Class I Directors whose terms expire in 2011;

- L-3 Communications Holdings, Inc. 2008 Long Term Performance Plan;
- L-3 Communications Holdings, Inc. 2008 Directors Stock Incentive Plan;
- appointment of our independent registered public accounting firm for 2008; and

- 2. Approval of the
- 3. Approval of the
- 4. Ratification of the

5. Transaction of

such other business as may properly come before the Annual Meeting and any adjournments or postponements thereof.

By Order of the Board of Directors Kathleen E. Karelis

Senior Vice President, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary March 17, 2008

IMPORTANT

Whether or not you currently plan to attend the Annual Meeting in person, please vote over the Internet or telephone, or (if you received a paper copy of the proxy materials) complete, date, sign and promptly mail the paper proxy card sent to you. You may revoke your proxy if you attend the Annual Meeting and wish to vote your shares in person.

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L-3 Communications Holdings, Inc. 600 Third Avenue New York, New York 10016

Proxy Statement

This proxy statement is being made available to the holders of the common stock, par value \$0.01 per share, of L-3 Communications Holdings, Inc. (the "Common Stock") in connection with the solicitation of proxies for use at the Annual Meeting to be held at the Ritz-Carlton New York, Battery Park, located at Two West Street, New York, New York at 2:30 p.m., Eastern Daylight Time, on Tuesday, April 29, 2008.

RECORD DATE

Our Board of Directors has fixed the close of business on March 3, 2008 as the Record Date for the Annual Meeting. Only stockholders of record at the Record Date are entitled to notice of and to vote at the Annual Meeting or at any adjournments or postponements thereof, in person or by proxy. At the Record Date, there were 122,483,203 shares of our Common Stock outstanding and entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting. On March 17, 2008, we either mailed you a notice (the "Notice") notifying each Stockholder entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting how to vote online and how to electronically access a copy of this proxy statement, our Summary Annual Report and our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2007 (together referred to as the "Proxy Materials") or mailed you a complete set of the Proxy Materials. If you have not received, but would like to receive, printed copies of these documents, including a proxy card in paper format, you should follow the instructions for requesting such materials contained in the Notice.

PROXIES

The proxies are solicited on behalf of our Board of Directors for use at the Annual Meeting and any adjournments or postponements of the Annual Meeting, and the expenses of solicitation of proxies will be borne by us. The solicitation will be made primarily via the Internet and by mail, but our officers and regular employees may also solicit proxies by telephone, telegraph, facsimile, or in person. We also have retained Georgeson Inc. to assist in soliciting proxies. L-3 expects to pay Georgeson approximately \$10,000 plus expenses in connection with its solicitation of proxies. Each holder of Common Stock is entitled to one vote for each share of our Common Stock held by such holder. The holders in person or by proxy of a majority of the Common Stock entitled to be voted at the Annual Meeting shall constitute a quorum.

Each Stockholder may appoint a person (who need not be a stockholder) other than the persons named in the proxy to represent him or her at the Annual Meeting by completing another proper proxy. In either case, such completed proxy should be returned in the envelope provided to you for that purpose (if you have requested or received a paper copy of the Proxy Materials) or should be delivered to our Corporate Secretary at 600 Third Avenue, New York, New York 10016, not later than 5:00 p.m., Eastern Daylight Time, on Monday, April 28, 2008.

Any proxy delivered pursuant to this solicitation is revocable at the option of the person(s) executing the proxy upon our receipt, prior to the time the proxy is voted, of a duly executed instrument revoking it, or of a duly executed proxy bearing a later date, or in the case of death or incapacity of the person(s) executing the proxy, of written notice of such death or incapacity, or by such person(s) voting in person at the Annual Meeting. Unless revoked, all proxies representing shares entitled to vote that are delivered pursuant to this solicitation will be voted at the Annual Meeting and, where a choice has been specified on the proxy card, will be voted in accordance with such specification. Where

a choice has not been specified on the proxy card, the proxy will be voted in accordance with the recommendations of our Board of Directors.

Assuming a quorum is present, a majority of the shares of Common Stock entitled to vote and present in person or represented by proxy at the Annual Meeting is required for the election of

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directors, the selection of the independent registered public accounting firm and the approval of both the L-3 Communications Holdings, Inc. 2008 Long Term Performance Plan ("2008 Plan") and the L-3 Communications Holdings, Inc. 2008 Directors Stock Incentive Plan ("2008 Directors Plan"). For each of the above proposals, abstentions and instances where brokers are prohibited from exercising discretionary authority for beneficial owners who have not returned a proxy (so-called "broker non-votes") will be counted for purposes of determining a quorum. However, in determining whether the 2008 Plan and 2008 Directors Plan have been approved by the stockholders, abstentions and "broker non-votes" will be counted as votes against the approval of the 2008 Plan and the 2008 Directors Plan. In addition, for the election of directors and the selection of the independent registered public accounting firm, abstentions will be counted as votes against the election of directors and the selection of the independent registered public accounting firm.

VOTING IN PERSON

If you are a stockholder of record and prefer to vote your shares at the Annual Meeting, you must bring proof of identification along with your Notice or the admission ticket attached to your proxy card if you received a paper copy. You may vote shares held in street name at the Annual Meeting only if you obtain a signed proxy from the record holder (broker or other nominee) giving you the right to vote the shares.

Even if you plan to attend the Annual Meeting, we encourage you to vote in advance by Internet, telephone or (if you received a paper copy of the Proxy Materials) by mail so that your vote will be counted even if you later were to decide not to attend the Annual Meeting. Voting your proxy by the Internet, telephone or mail will not limit your right to vote at the Annual Meeting if you later decide to attend in person. If you own your shares of our Common Stock through a bank, brokerage firm or other record holder and wish to vote in person at the Annual Meeting, you must request a "legal proxy" from your bank or broker or obtain a proxy from the record holder.

VOTING BY INTERNET, TELEPHONE OR MAIL

The following sets forth how a stockholder can vote over the Internet, by telephone or by mail:

Voting By Internet

If you hold your shares of our Common Stock through a bank or brokerage firm (i.e. you are not a registered holder), you can vote at: www.proxyvote.com, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. You will need the 12-digit Control Number included on your Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials or your paper voting instruction form (if you received a paper copy of the Proxy Materials).

If you own your shares of our Common Stock directly in your name in our stock records maintained by our transfer agent, Computershare Trust Company, N.A. or through your 401(k) or Employee Stock Purchase Plan ("ESPP"), you can vote at: www.investorvote.com/LLL, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. You will need the 6-digit Control Number included on your paper proxy card.

Voting By Telephone

If you hold your shares of our Common Stock through a bank or brokerage firm, you can vote using a touch-tone telephone by calling the toll-free number included on the voting instruction form, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. You will need the 12-digit Control Number included on your voting instruction form.

If you own your shares of our Common Stock directly in your name in our stock records maintained by our transfer agent, Computershare Trust Company, N.A. or through your 401(k) or ESPP, you can vote using a touch-tone telephone toll-free from the U.S., Canada or Puerto Rico to Computershare at 1-800-652-VOTE (1-800-652-8683), 24 hours a day, seven days a week. You will need the 6-digit Control Number included on your paper proxy card.

The Internet and telephone voting procedures, which comply with Delaware law, are designed to authenticate stockholders' identities, to allow stockholders to vote their shares and to confirm that their instructions have been properly recorded.

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Voting By Mail

If you have requested or received a paper copy of the Proxy Materials by mail, you may complete, sign and return by mail the proxy card or voting instruction form sent to you together with the printed copies of the Proxy Materials.

Deadline for Submitting Votes By Internet, Telephone or Mail

If you hold your shares through a bank or brokerage account, proxies submitted over the Internet or by telephone as described above must be received by 11:59 p.m., Eastern Daylight Time, on Monday, April 28, 2008.

If you own your shares of our Common Stock directly in your name in our stock records maintained by our transfer agent, Computershare Trust Company, N.A., proxies submitted over the Internet or by telephone as described above must be received by 1:00 a.m., Central Time, on Tuesday, April 29, 2008.

If you own your shares through your 401(k) or ESPP, proxies submitted over the Internet or by telephone as described above must be received by 5:00 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time on Friday, April 25, 2008.

Proxies submitted by mail should be returned in the envelope provided to you with your paper proxy card, not later than 5:00 p.m., Eastern Daylight Time, on Monday, April 28, 2008 or by 5:00 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time on Friday, April 25, 2008 if you own your shares through your 401(k) or ESPP.

Revocation of Proxies Submitted by Internet or Telephone

To revoke a proxy previously delivered by mail or submitted over the Internet or by telephone, you may simply vote again at a later date, using the same procedures, in which case your later submitted vote will be recorded and your earlier vote revoked. You may also attend the Annual Meeting and vote in person.

Important Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials for the Stockholder Meeting to be held on April 29, 2008.

The following Proxy Materials are available for you to view online at http://www.L-3com.com: (i) this proxy statement (including all attachments); (ii) our Summary Annual Report and Annual Report on Form 10-K, in each case for the year ended December 31, 2007 (which is not deemed to be part of the official proxy soliciting materials); and (iii) any amendments to the foregoing materials that are required to be furnished to stockholders. In addition, if you have not received a copy of our Proxy Materials and would like one, you may download an electronic copy of our Proxy Materials or request a paper copy at http://www.L-3com.com. You will also have the opportunity to request paper or email copies of our Proxy Materials for all future Annual Meetings.

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Proposal 1. Election of Directors

Our Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation provides for a classified Board of Directors divided into three classes: John M. Shalikashvili, Michael T. Strianese and John P. White constitute a class with a term that expires at the Annual Meeting in 2008 (the "Class I Directors"); Peter A. Cohen, Robert B. Millard and Arthur L. Simon constitute a class with a term that expires at the Annual Meeting of Stockholders in 2009 (the "Class III Directors"); and Claude R. Canizares, Thomas A. Corcoran and Alan H. Washkowitz constitute a class with a term that expires at the Annual Meeting of Stockholders in 2010 (the "Class II Directors").

The full Board of Directors has considered and nominated the following slate of Class I nominees for a three-year term expiring in 2011: John M. Shalikashvili, Michael T. Strianese and John P. White. Action will be taken at the Annual Meeting for the election of these Class I nominees.

It is intended that the proxies delivered pursuant to this solicitation will be voted in favor of the election of John M. Shalikashvili, Michael T. Strianese and John P. White, except in cases of proxies bearing contrary instructions. In the event that these nominees should become unavailable for election due to any presently unforeseen reason, the person named in the proxy will have the right to use his discretion to vote for a substitute.

The following information describes the offices held, other business directorships and the class and term of each nominee and of each director whose term of office will continue after the 2008 Annual Meeting. Beneficial ownership of equity securities of the nominees is shown under the caption Security Ownership of Management on page 29.

NOMINEES FOR ELECTION TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS IN 2008

Class I — Nominees for Term Expiring in 2011

Name

Age Principal Occupation And Other Information John M. Shalikashvili 71 Director since August 1998. Member of the Compensation and Nominating/Corporate Governance Committees. General Shalikashvili (U.S. Army—Ret.) is an independent consultant and a Visiting Professor at Stanford University. General Shalikashvili was the senior officer of the United States military and principal military advisor to the President of the United States, the Secretary of Defense and the National Security Council when he served as the thirteenth Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Department of Defense, for two terms from 1993 to 1997. Prior to his tenure as Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, he served as the Commander in Chief of all United States forces in Europe and as NATO's tenth Supreme Allied Commander, Europe (SACEUR). He has also served in a variety of command and staff positions in the continental United States, Alaska, Belgium, Germany, Italy, Korea, Turkey and Vietnam.

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Name

Age Principal Occupation And Other Information Michael T. Strianese 52 President and Chief Executive Officer, and a Director. Mr. Strianese became President and Chief Executive Officer and a Director in October of 2006 and until February 2007 was also our Corporate Ethics Officer. He was our interim Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer from June 2006. Mr. Strianese became Chief Financial Officer in March 2005. From March 2001 until March 2005 he was our Senior Vice President — Finance. He joined us in April 1997 as Vice President — Finance and Controller and was our Controller until July 2000. From April 1996, when Loral was acquired by Lockheed Martin, until April 1997, Mr. Strianese was Vice President and Controller of Lockheed Martin's C3I and Systems Integration Sector, In addition, he served as acting Chief Financial Officer of Lockheed Martin's Electronics Sector. Prior to Lockheed's acquisition of Loral, Mr. Strianese spent six years with Loral where he held a number of positions with increasing responsibility in areas of mergers and acquisitions and financial management. Mr. Strianese is a Certified Public Accountant and a graduate of St. John's University with a Bachelor's degree in Accounting. He is a member of the Aerospace Industries Association's Board of Governors and serves on its Finance Committee. John P. White 71 Director since October 2004. Member of the Nominating/Corporate Governance Committee. John P. White is the Robert and Renée Belfer Lecturer at the John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University and the Managing Partner of Global Technology Partners, LLC. Dr. White has a long history of government service, serving as U.S. Deputy Secretary of Defense from 1995-1997; as Deputy Director of the Office of Management and Budget from 1978 to 1981, and as Assistant Secretary of Defense, Manpower, Reserve Affairs and Logistics from 1977 to 1978. Dr. White also served as a lieutenant in the United States Marine Corps from 1959 to 1961. Prior to his most recent government position, Dr. White was the Director of the Center For Business and Government at Harvard University and the Chairman of the Commission on Roles and Missions of the Armed Forces. Dr. White has extensive private sector experience, including service as Chairman and CEO of the Interactive Systems Corporation, a position he held from 1981 to 1988. Following Interactive Systems Corporation's sale to the Eastman Kodak Company in 1988, he was General Manager of the Integration and Systems Product Division and a Vice President of Kodak until 1992. Dr. White also spent nine years at the RAND Corporation, where he served as the Senior Vice President of National Security Research Programs and as a member of the Board of Trustees. He continues to serve as a Senior Fellow to the RAND Corporation. Dr. White is a current member of the Council on Foreign Relations. He also serves as a Director of IRG International, Inc., the Institute for Defense Analyses and the Concord Coalition. He is a member of the Policy and Global Affairs Oversight Committee of the National Research Council. The nominees for election to the Board of Directors are hereby proposed for approval by the stockholders. The affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of the shares present or represented and entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting will be necessary to approve each nominee.

The Board of Directors Recommends a Vote FOR Each of the Proposed Nominees for Election to the Board of Directors.

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Directors whose term continues beyond the 2008 Annual Meeting and who are not subject to election this year.

Class III — Directors Whose Term Expires in 2009

Name

Age Principal Occupation And Other Information Peter A. Cohen 61 Director since October 2005. Chairman of the Compensation Committee and a member of the Executive Committee. Mr. Cohen is the founding and managing partner of Ramius Capital Group, LLC, a private investment management and merchant banking firm formed in 1994. Prior to that, he formed Republic New York Securities, an investment management firm, in 1991 and was employed by Shearson Lehman Brothers, an investment banking firm, from 1978 to 1991. At Shearson, Mr. Cohen held a number of executive positions, including President and Chief Operating Officer from 1981 through 1990, and Chairman and Chief Executive Officer from 1983 to 1990. Over the course of his career, he has served on numerous corporate and philanthropic boards including the New York Stock Exchange, The American Express Company, Titan Incorporated and Kroll Inc. He is currently a director of The Mount Sinai Medical Center, and the Scientific Games Corporation where he serves as lead director. Robert B. Millard 57 Director since April 1997. Non-Executive Chairman of the Board of Directors, member of the Compensation Committee and Chairman of the Executive Committee. Mr. Millard is a Managing Director of Lehman Brothers Inc., head of Lehman Brothers' Global Trading Strategies Group. Mr. Millard joined Lehman Brothers Inc. in 1978 when Kuhn Loeb & Co. was acquired by Lehman Brothers Inc. and became a Managing Director of Lehman Brothers Inc. in 1983. Mr. Millard joined Kuhn Loeb & Co. in 1976. Mr. Millard is a director of GulfMark Offshore, Inc., Weatherford International, Inc., Associated Universities, Inc., Massachusetts Institute of Technology, New School University, Parsons School of Design, Population Council and the Remarque Institute. He is also a current member of the Council on Foreign Relations. Arthur L. Simon 76 Director since April 2001. Member of the Audit and Nominating/Corporate Governance Committees, Mr. Simon is an independent consultant. Before his retirement, Mr. Simon was a partner at Coopers & Lybrand LLP, Certified Public Accountants, from 1968 to 1994. He is a director of Loral Space & Communications Corp.

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Class II — Directors Whose Term Expires in 2010

Name

Age Principal Occupation And Other Information Claude R. Canizares 62 Director since May 2003. Member of the Audit Committee. Since 1971, Professor Canizares has been at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). He currently serves as the Vice President for Research and Associate Provost and is the Bruno Rossi Professor of Physics. In addition, he is a principal investigator on NASA's Chandra X-ray observatory and Associate Director of its science center. Professor Canizares is a member of the National Academy of Sciences, the International Academy of Astronautics, and a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, the American Physical Society and the American Association for the Advancement of Science. He also serves on the governing council of the National Academy of Sciences. Thomas A. Corcoran 63 Director since July 1997. Chairman of the Audit Committee since April 27, 2004 and a member of the Executive Committee. Mr. Corcoran is also Chief Executive Officer of Corcoran Enterprises, LLC, a private management consulting firm, and in this capacity, he works closely with The Carlyle Group, a Washington D.C. — based private equity firm. Mr. Corcoran has been a senior advisor to The Carlyle Group since 2004. From March 2001 to April 2004, Mr. Corcoran was the President and Chief Executive Officer of Gemini Air Cargo, a Carlyle company. Since February 2006, he has been Chairman of Proxy Aviation, Inc., a private company in Germantown, MD. Mr. Corcoran was the President and Chief Executive Officer of Allegheny Teledyne Incorporated from October 1999 to December 2000. From April 1993 to September 1999 he was the President and Chief Operating Officer of the Electronic Systems Sector and Space & Strategic Missiles Sector of Lockheed Martin Corporation. Prior to that he worked for General Electric for 26 years and from 1983 to 1993 he held various management positions with GE Aerospace and was a company officer from 1990 to 1993. Mr. Corcoran is a member of the Board of Trustees of Stevens Institute of Technology and the Boards of Directors of the American Ireland Fund, Remec Inc., Proxy Aviation Systems Inc, Aircraft Management Technologies (Dublin, Ireland), LaBarge, Inc., Aer Lingus Ltd., Serco Ltd. and ARINC, a Carlyle company. Alan H. Washkowitz 67 Director since April 1997. Chairman of the Nominating/Corporate Governance Committee and member of the Compensation Committee. Mr. Washkowitz is a former Managing Director of Lehman Brothers, and was responsible for the oversight of Lehman Brothers Inc. Merchant Banking Portfolio Partnership L.P. Mr. Washkowitz joined Lehman Brothers Inc. in 1978 when Kuhn Loeb & Co. was acquired by Lehman Brothers. Mr. Washkowitz is a director of Peabody Energy Corporation, Mr. Washkowitz retired from Lehman Brothers Inc. in July 2005 and is currently a private investor. 8

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Proposal 2. Approval of the L-3 Communications Holdings, Inc. 2008 Long Term Performance Plan

On February 5, 2008, the Board of Directors authorized and approved the L-3 Communications Holdings, Inc. 2008 Long Term Performance Plan (the "2008 Plan"). The purpose of the 2008 Plan is to benefit the Company's stockholders by encouraging high levels of performance by individuals who contribute to the success of the Company and its subsidiaries and to enable the Company and its subsidiaries to attract, motivate, retain and reward talented and experienced individuals. This purpose is to be accomplished by providing eligible individuals with an opportunity to obtain or increase a proprietary interest in the Company and/or by providing eligible individuals with additional incentives to join or remain with the Company and its subsidiaries. The Company has reserved 5,000,000 shares of Common Stock for issuance under the 2008 Plan, subject to approval of the 2008 Plan by the stockholders. A copy of the 2008 Plan is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

If the 2008 Plan is approved by the stockholders, it will become effective as of April 29, 2008 and no additional shares will be issued under the 1999 Long Term Performance Plan. Unless terminated earlier by the Company's Board of Directors, the 2008 Plan will terminate on April 29, 2018.

The 2008 Plan is hereby proposed for approval by the stockholders. The affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of the shares present or represented and entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting will be necessary to approve the 2008 Plan.

DESCRIPTION OF THE 2008 PLAN

ELIGIBILITY

Awards under the 2008 Plan may be granted to any employee, including any officer, of the Company or any of its subsidiaries or to any other individual who provides services to or on behalf of the Company or any of its subsidiaries, subject to the discretion of the Committee (as defined below) to determine the particular employees and other individuals who, from time to time, will be selected to receive awards. As of December 31, 2007, we employed approximately 64,600 employees.

TYPES OF AWARDS

Awards under the 2008 Plan may be in the form of non-qualified stock options, incentive stock options, stock appreciation rights (SARs), restricted stock and other share-based awards, such as performance-based awards. Awards may be granted singly or in combination with other awards, consistent with the terms of the 2008 Plan. Each award will be evidenced by an award agreement entered into between the Company and the recipient setting forth the specific terms and conditions applicable to that award. Awards under the 2008 Plan generally will be nontransferable by a holder (other than by will or the laws of descent and distribution) and rights thereunder generally will be exercisable during the holder's lifetime only by the holder, except that awards, other than awards of incentive stock options, may be transferred to and exercised by a family member or family members of a participant or transferred to an irrevocable trust established for the benefit a participant's family members during the participant's lifetime. The maximum term of unvested or unexercised awards under the 2008 Plan is ten years from the initial grant date.

Stock options authorized under the 2008 Plan are rights to purchase a specified number of shares of the Common Stock at an exercise price of not less than the fair market value of the Common Stock on the grant date during the period set forth in the individual participant's award agreement. Dividends and dividend equivalents may not be paid on unissued shares underlying option awards. Stock options that are granted as incentive stock options will be granted

with such additional terms as are necessary to satisfy the applicable requirements of Section 422 of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended from time to time (the "Code"). The fair market value of the Common Stock for which incentive stock options are exercisable for the first time by an optionee during any calendar year can not exceed \$100,000 (measured as of the grant date) under current tax laws. Other awards are not limited in this manner.

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SARs may be granted on a freestanding basis, in relation to a stock option or in "tandem" with a stock option, such that the exercise of either the option or the SAR cancels the recipient's rights under the tandem award with respect to the number of shares so exercised. SARs entitle the recipient to receive, upon exercise of the SAR, an amount (payable in cash and/or Common Stock or other property) equal to the amount of the excess, if any, of the fair market value of a share of the Common Stock on the date the SAR is exercised (or some lesser ceiling amount) over the base price of the SAR (or the exercise price of an option, if the SAR is granted in tandem with an option), which cannot be less than the fair market value of a share of the Common Stock on the date the SAR was awarded (or the exercise price of a related stock option). Dividends and dividend equivalents may not be paid on unissued shares underlying SARs.

Restricted stock is Common Stock issued to the recipient, typically for minimal lawful consideration and subject to certain risks of forfeiture and restrictions and limitations on transfer, the vesting of which may depend on individual or corporate performance, continued service or other criteria.

Other incentive awards might include minimum ownership stock, phantom stock or units, performance stock or units, bonus stock or units, dividend equivalent units, similar securities or rights and other awards payable in or with a value derived from or a price related to the fair market value of the Common Stock, payable in Common Stock and/or cash, all on such terms as the Committee may approve. Such awards may be granted, become vested or be payable based upon the continued employment of a participant, or upon the attainment of specified corporate or individual performance goals (as in the case of performance stock or units).

Under Section 162(m) of the Code ("Section 162(m)"), the Company may not deduct certain compensation over \$1,000,000 in any year to the Chief Executive Officer or any of the four other most highly compensated executive officers of the Company unless, among other things, this compensation qualifies as "performance-based compensation" under Section 162(m), and the material terms of the plan for such compensation are approved by stockholders. With reference to awards intended to qualify as performance-based compensation under Section 162(m), the material terms of the 2008 Plan include the eligible class of participants, the performance goal or goals and the maximum annual amount payable thereunder to any individual participant.

The eligible class of persons for performance-based awards under the 2008 Plan is all employees of the Company and its subsidiaries. Awards that are intended to qualify as performance-based awards under the 2008 Plan (other than stock options and SARs) may be granted only in accordance with the performance-based requirements of Section 162(m), as set forth below.

The performance goals for performance-based awards under the 2008 Plan are any one or a combination of earnings per share, return on equity, return on invested capital, total stockholder return and cash flow or any other performance goal or goals that the Committee, in its discretion, establishes in accordance with the requirements of Section 162(m). Specific performance periods (which may overlap with performance periods under outstanding performance-based awards), weightings of more than one performance goal and target levels of performance upon which actual payments will be based, as well as the award levels payable upon achievement of specified levels of performance, will be determined by the Committee not later than the applicable deadline under Section 162(m) and in any event at a time when achievement of such targets is substantially uncertain. These variables may change from award to award. To the extent set forth in an individual participant's award agreement, appropriate adjustments to the performance goals and targets in respect of performance-based awards may be made by the Committee based upon objective criteria in the case of (i) a change in corporate capitalization, a corporate transaction or a complete or partial corporate liquidation, (ii) any extraordinary gain or loss under generally accepted accounting principles or (iii) any material change in accounting policies or practices affecting the Company and/or the performance goals or targets. The Company believes that specific performance targets (when established) may constitute confidential business information, the

disclosure of which may adversely affect the Company or mislead the public.

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The Committee must certify the achievement of the applicable performance goals and the actual amount payable to each participant under the performance-based awards prior to payment. The Committee may retain discretion to reduce, but not increase, the amount payable under a performance-based award to any participant, notwithstanding the achievement of targeted performance goals. Awards may be accelerated in the event of the employee's death, permanent disability or retirement or in the event of a Change in Control of the Company, as described below.

The Committee also has the authority to grant awards under the 2008 Plan in substitution for or as the result of the assumption of stock incentive awards held by employees of other entities who become employees of the Company or a subsidiary as a result of a merger or acquisition of the entity.

Awards may be granted in connection with the surrender or cancellation of previously granted awards, or may be amended, under such terms and conditions, including numbers of shares and exercise price, exercisability or termination, that are the same as or different from the existing awards, all as the Committee may approve, except that no such grant or amendment may effect a repricing of the original award.

ADMINISTRATION; CHANGE IN CONTROL

The 2008 Plan provides that it shall be administered by the Compensation Committee (or subcommittee thereof) or another committee of the Board of Directors ("Committee"), constituted so as to permit awards under the 2008 Plan to comply with the "non-employee director" provisions of Rule 16b-3 under the Exchange Act and the "outside director" requirements of Section 162(m). The Committee has the authority within the terms and limitations of the 2008 Plan to designate recipients of awards, determine or modify (so long as it does not effect a repricing of the original award) the form, amount, terms, conditions, restrictions, and limitations of awards, including vesting provisions (subject to applicable limitations described below with respect to restricted stock), terms of exercise of an award, expiration dates and the treatment of an award in the event of the retirement, disability, death or other termination of a participant's employment with the Corporation, and to construe and interpret the 2008 Plan. Such authority includes (subject to the limitations of the 2008 Plan) the discretion to accelerate vesting, extend the term or waive termination provisions or other restrictive conditions of outstanding awards.

The Committee is authorized to include specific provisions in award agreements relating to the treatment of awards in the event of a "Change in Control" of the Company and is authorized to take certain other actions in such an event. Change in Control under the 2008 Plan is defined generally to include: (i) a change in ownership involving a majority of the outstanding voting securities of the Company, (ii) a sale of all or substantially all of the assets of the Company or L-3 Communications Corporation or any successor thereto, (iii) certain changes, during any period of 24 months or less, of 50 percent or more of the members of its Board of Directors, or (iv) in the Committee's sole discretion on a case-by-case basis with respect to outstanding awards to affected employees, the sale of a subsidiary, division or business unit.

The Committee may delegate to the officers or employees of the Company the authority to execute and deliver such instruments and documents and to take actions necessary, advisable or convenient for the effective administration of the 2008 Plan. It is intended generally that the awards under the 2008 Plan and the 2008 Plan itself comply with and be interpreted in a manner that, in the case of participants who are subject to Section 16 of the Exchange Act and for whom (or whose awards) the benefits of Rule 16b-3 are intended, satisfies the applicable requirements of Rule 16b-3 so that such persons will be entitled to the benefits of Rule 16b-3 or other exemptive rules under that Section. Similarly and as described further below, it is intended generally that the awards under the 2008 Plan will not be granted, deferred, accelerated, extended, modified or paid in a manner that would result in the participant incurring any tax liability under Section 409A of the Code. The 2008 Plan provides that neither the Company nor any member

of the Board of Directors or of the Committee shall have any liability to any person for any action taken or not taken in good faith under the 2008 Plan.

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AMENDMENT AND TERMINATION

The Board of Directors has the authority to amend, suspend or discontinue the 2008 Plan at any time, subject to any stockholder approval that may be required under applicable law and provided that no such action will affect any outstanding award in any manner adverse to the participant without the consent of the participant. Notwithstanding the foregoing, any amendment that would (i) materially increase the benefits accruing to any participant, (ii) materially increase the aggregate number of shares of Common Stock or other equity interests that may be issued under the 2008 Plan, or (iii) materially modify the requirements as to eligibility for participation in this 2008 Plan, shall be subject to stockholder approval. In addition, stockholder approval may be required to satisfy tax rules applicable to performance-based compensation under Section 162(m) or to subsequent grants of incentive stock options, or to satisfy other applicable legal requirements. Because the Committee retains the discretion to set and change the specific targets for each performance period under a performance-based award intended to be exempt from Section 162(m), stockholder ratification of the performance goals will be required, in any event, at five-year intervals in the future to exempt awards granted under the 2008 Plan from the limitations on deductibility thereunder.

AUTHORIZED SHARES; OTHER PROVISIONS; NON-EXCLUSIVITY

The maximum number of shares of the Common Stock that may be issued in respect of awards under the 2008 Plan may not exceed 5,000,000 shares. In addition, (i) the maximum number of shares of Common Stock that may be issued pursuant to "full value" awards (i.e., all awards excluding stock options and SARs) is 2,500,000, (ii) the maximum number of shares of Common Stock that may be issued pursuant to incentive stock option awards (i.e., stock options granted in accordance with Section 422 of the Code) is 3,000,000, and (iii) the maximum number of shares of Common Stock that may be issuable (or payable in cash by reference to such shares) pursuant to all awards granted during a calendar year to any individual participant is 500,000. With respect to performance-based awards, (i) the maximum number of shares of Common Stock that may be issuable (or payable in cash by reference to such shares) to any participant over the life of the 2008 Plan may not exceed 5% of the Company's total outstanding shares of Common Stock and (ii) the maximum number of shares of Common Stock that may be issuable (or payable in cash by reference to such shares) pursuant to all awards (including stock options and SARs) granted during a calendar year to any individual participant is 500,000.

The number and kind of shares available for grant and the shares subject to outstanding awards (as well as individual share limits on awards and exercise prices of awards) shall be adjusted to reflect the effect of a stock dividend, stock split, recapitalization, merger, consolidation, reorganization, combination or exchange of shares, extraordinary dividend or other distribution or other similar transaction. Any unexercised or undistributed portion of any expired, cancelled, terminated or forfeited award, or any alternative form of consideration under an award that is not paid in connection with the settlement of any portion of an award, will again be available for award under the 2008 Plan, whether or not the participant has received benefits of ownership (such as dividends or dividend equivalents or voting rights) during the period in which the participant's ownership was restricted or otherwise not vested. However, the following shares of Common Stock shall not become available for reissuance under the 2008 Plan: (i) shares tendered by participants as full or partial payment to the Company upon exercise of stock options or other awards granted under the 2008 Plan; (ii) shares of Common Stock reserved for issuance upon the grant of SARs, to the extent the number of reserved shares exceeds the number of shares actually issued upon exercise of the SARs; and (iii) shares withheld by, or otherwise remitted to, the Company to satisfy a participant's tax withholding obligations upon the lapse of restrictions on restricted stock or the exercise of stock options or SARs or upon any other payment or issuance of shares under any other award granted under the 2008 Plan. With respect to the individual share limits on performance-based awards, awards that are cancelled will be counted against the applicable limits to the extent required by Section 162(m).

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UPON APPROVAL OF THE 2008 PLAN BY THE STOCKHOLDERS, THE COMPANY INTENDS TO REGISTER UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933 THE 5,000,000 SHARES OF COMMON STOCK AUTHORIZED FOR ISSUANCE UNDER THE 2008 PLAN.

Full payment for shares purchased on exercise of any option or received under any other award, along with payment of any required tax withholding, must be made at the time of such exercise in cash or, if permitted by the Committee, in shares of Common Stock delivered by the participant or withheld from an award, or any combination thereof, or pursuant to such "cashless exercise" procedures as may be permitted by the Committee.

Except as specifically provided under an individual participant's award agreement approved by the Committee, the minimum vesting period for awards of restricted stock is three years from the grant date (or one year in the case of restricted stock awards that are performance-based awards) and may not be accelerated to an earlier date except in the event of the participant's death, permanent disability or retirement or in the event of a Change in Control. The 2008 Plan does not impose any minimum vesting periods on other types of awards, and the Committee may establish the vesting requirements (if any) for such awards in its sole discretion. However, shares of Common Stock acquired after exercise of an option may not, in the ordinary course, be sold before the expiration of six months from the grant date.

The 2008 Plan is not exclusive and does not limit the authority of the Company, the Board of Directors or the Committee to grant awards or authorize any other compensation, with or without reference to the Common Stock, under any other plan or authority.

FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSEQUENCES

The following is a general description of federal income tax consequences to participants and the Company relating to nonqualified and incentive stock options and certain other awards that may be granted under the 2008 Plan. This discussion does not purport to cover all tax consequences relating to stock options and other awards.

An optionee will not recognize income upon the grant of a nonqualified stock option to purchase shares of Common Stock. Upon exercise of the option, the optionee will recognize ordinary compensation income equal to the excess of the fair market value of the Common Stock on the date the option is exercised over the option price for such Common Stock. The tax basis of the Common Stock acquired by exercising an option in the hands of the optionee will equal the option price for the Common Stock plus the amount of ordinary compensation income the optionee recognizes upon exercise of the option, and the holding period for the Common Stock will commence on the day the option is exercised. An optionee who sells Common Stock acquired by exercising an option will recognize capital gain or loss measured by the difference between the tax basis of the Common Stock and the amount realized on the sale. Such gain or loss will be long-term if the Common Stock is held for more than 12 months after exercise, and short-term if held for 12 months or less after exercise. The Company or a subsidiary will be entitled to a deduction equal to the amount of ordinary compensation income recognized by the optionee. The deduction will be allowed at the same time the optionee recognizes the income.

An optionee will not recognize income upon the grant of an incentive stock option to purchase shares of Common Stock, and will not recognize income upon exercise of the option, provided such optionee was an employee of the Company or a subsidiary at all times from the grant date until three months prior to exercise (or one year prior to exercise in the event of disability). Generally, the amount by which the fair market value of the Common Stock on the date of exercise exceeds the option price will be includable in alternative minimum taxable income for purposes of determining alternative minimum tax and such amount will be added to the tax basis of such Common Stock for purposes of determining alternative minimum taxable income in the year the Common Stock is sold. Where an

optionee who has exercised an incentive stock option sells the shares acquired upon exercise more than two years after the grant date and more than one year after exercise, long-term capital gain or loss will be recognized equal to the difference between the sales price and the option price. An optionee who sells such shares within two years after the grant date or within one year after

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exercise will recognize ordinary compensation income in an amount equal to the lesser of (i) the difference between the fair market value of the shares on the date of exercise and the amount paid for the shares, or (ii) the excess of the amount realized on the sale over the adjusted basis in the shares. Any remaining gain or loss will be treated as a capital gain or loss. The Company or a subsidiary will be entitled to a deduction equal to the amount of ordinary compensation income recognized by the optionee in this case. The deduction will be allowable at the same time the optionee recognizes the income.

The current federal income tax consequences of other awards authorized under the 2008 Plan generally follow certain basic patterns: SARs are taxed to the individuals and deductible by the Company in substantially the same manner as nonqualified stock options; and nontransferable restricted stock subject to a substantial risk of forfeiture results in income recognition equal to the excess of the fair market value of the Common Stock over the purchase price (if any) at the time the restrictions lapse (unless the recipient elects to accelerate recognition as of the grant date); in each of the foregoing cases, the Company will generally have (at the time the participant recognizes income) a corresponding deduction.

If, as a result of a Change in Control event, a participant's stock options or SARs or other rights become immediately exercisable, or restrictions immediately lapse on an award, or cash, shares or other benefits covered by another type of award are immediately vested or issued, the additional economic value, if any, attributable to the acceleration or issuance may be deemed a "parachute payment" under Section 280G of the Code. In such case, the participant may be subject to a 20% non-deductible excise tax as to all or a portion of such economic value, in addition to any income tax payable. The Company will not be entitled to a deduction for that portion of any parachute payment that is subject to the excise tax.

Notwithstanding any of the foregoing discussions with respect to the deductibility of compensation under the 2008 Plan, Section 162(m) would render non-deductible to the Company certain compensation in excess of \$1,000,000 in any year to the Named Executive Officers, unless such excess compensation is "performance-based" (as defined in Section 162(m)) or is otherwise exempt from Section 162(m). The applicable conditions of an exemption for a performance-based compensation plan include, among others, a requirement that the stockholders approve the material terms of the plan. Stock options, SARs and certain (but not all) other types of awards may be granted to qualify for the exemption for performance-based compensation under Section 162(m).

The American Jobs Creation Act of 2004 introduced a new section of the Code ("Section 409A") covering certain nonqualified deferred compensation arrangements. Section 409A generally establishes new rules that must be followed with respect to covered deferred compensation arrangements in order to avoid the imposition of an additional 20% tax (plus interest) on the service provider who is entitled to receive the deferred compensation. Certain awards that may be granted under the 2008 Plan may constitute "deferred compensation" within the meaning of and subject to Section 409A. The 2008 Plan is intended to be interpreted and operated in accordance with Section 409A, including any regulations or guidance issued by the Treasury Department, and contains a number of provisions intended to avoid the imposition of additional tax on the 2008 Plan participants under Section 409A. The Board of Directors may amend the 2008 Plan, and the Committee may amend outstanding awards thereunder, while preserving the intended benefits of awards granted under the 2008 Plan to avoid the imposition of an additional tax under Section 409A. In addition, no award under the 2008 Plan can be granted, deferred, accelerated, extended, paid out or modified under the 2008 Plan in a manner that would result in the imposition of an additional tax under Section 409A on a participant. If a payment with respect to an award would result in tax liability to the participant under 409A, the Company will not make the payment when otherwise required and instead will make the payment on the first day that payment would not result in the tax liability.

The Board of Directors Recommends a Vote FOR Approval of the L-3 Communications Holdings, Inc. 2008 Long Term Performance Plan.

Proposal 3. Approval of the L-3 Communications Holdings, Inc. 2008 Directors Stock Incentive Plan

On February 5, 2008, the Board of Directors authorized and approved the L-3 Communications Holdings, Inc. 2008 Directors Stock Incentive Plan (the "2008 Directors Plan"). The purpose of the 2008 Directors Plan is to promote the long-term financial interests and growth of the Company by attracting and retaining non-employee directors with the training, experience and ability to enable them to make a substantial contribution to the success of the Company's business, and to further the alignment of interests of non-employee directors with those of the stockholders of the Company through opportunities for increased Common Stock, or stock-based, ownership in the Company. The Company has reserved 300,000 shares of Common Stock for issuance under the 2008 Directors Plan, subject to approval of the 2008 Directors Plan by the stockholders. A copy of the 2008 Directors Plan is attached hereto as Exhibit B.

If the 2008 Directors Plan is approved by the stockholders, it will become effective as of April 29, 2008 and no additional shares will be issued under the 1998 Directors Stock Option Plan for Non-Employee Directors of L-3 Communications Holdings, Inc. Unless terminated earlier by the Company's Board of Directors, the 2008 Directors Plan will terminate on April 29, 2018.

The 2008 Directors Plan is hereby proposed for approval by the stockholders. The affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of the shares present or represented and entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting will be necessary to approve the 2008 Directors Plan.

DESCRIPTION OF THE 2008 DIRECTORS PLAN

ELIGIBILITY

Awards under the 2008 Directors Plan may be granted only to non-employee directors of the Company. As of December 31, 2007, we had eight non-employee directors.

TYPES OF AWARDS

Awards under the 2008 Directors Plan may be in the form of non-qualified stock options, restricted stock, restricted stock units and minimum ownership stock. Awards may be granted singly or in combination with other awards, consistent with the terms of the 2008 Directors Plan. Each award will be evidenced by an award agreement entered into between the Company and the recipient setting forth the specific terms and conditions applicable to that award. Awards under the 2008 Directors Plan generally will be nontransferable by a holder (other than by will or the laws of descent and distribution) and rights thereunder generally will be exercisable during the holder's lifetime only by the holder, except that awards may be transferred to and exercised by a family member or family members of a participant or transferred to an irrevocable trust established for the benefit a participant's family members during the participant's lifetime. The maximum term of unvested or unexercised awards under the 2008 Directors Plan is ten years from the initial grant date.

Stock options are rights to purchase a specified number of shares of the Common Stock at an exercise price of not less than the fair market value of the Common Stock on the grant date during the period set forth in the individual participant's award agreement. Stock options authorized under the 2008 Directors Plan are not intended to comply with the requirements of Section 422 of the Code. Dividends and dividend equivalents may not be paid on unissued shares underlying option awards.

Restricted stock is Common Stock issued to the recipient, typically for minimal lawful consideration and subject to certain risks of forfeiture and restrictions and limitations on transfer, the vesting of which may depend on continued service or other criteria.

A restricted stock unit is an award of bookkeeping credits that automatically convert into shares of Common Stock upon satisfaction of a stated vesting period or requirement. Restricted stock units are not outstanding shares of Common Stock and do not entitle a participant to voting or other rights with respect to Common Stock; provided, however, that the applicable award agreement may provide for the payment of dividend equivalents on unissued shares of Common Stock underlying an award of restricted stock units, on either a current or deferred or contingent basis, and either in cash or in additional shares of Common Stock.

Minimum ownership stock is an award of shares of Common Stock that are issued to the participant in lieu of cash compensation otherwise payable to the participant in order to satisfy the Company's applicable stock ownership guidelines from time to time in effect. Minimum ownership stock shall not be subject to any vesting period or requirement, but may be subject to restrictions on transfer and/or such other restrictions on incidents of ownership as the Committee may determine. Such restrictions are not expected to constitute a substantial risk of forfeiture for federal income tax purposes.

Awards may be granted in connection with the surrender or cancellation of previously granted awards, or may be amended, under such terms and conditions, including numbers of shares and exercise price, exercisability or termination, that are the same as or different from the existing awards, all as the Committee may approve, except that no such grant or amendment may effect a repricing of the original award and no amendment may modify an outstanding award in a manner that is adverse to the participant without the participant's consent.

ADMINISTRATION; CHANGE IN CONTROL

The 2008 Director Plan provides that it shall be administered by the Committee or subcommittee thereof, constituted so as to permit awards under the 2008 Director Plan to comply with the "non-employee director" provisions of Rule 16b-3 under the Exchange Act. The Board of Directors has the authority within the terms and limitations of the 2008 Director Plan (including the authority to delegate such authority in whole or in part to the Committee) to designate recipients of awards and to determine the timing, form and amount of shares of Common Stock subject to such awards. The Committee has the authority within the terms and limitations of the 2008 Director Plan to determine or modify (so long as it does not effect a repricing of the original award) the terms, conditions, restrictions and limitations of awards, including vesting provisions, terms of exercise of an award, expiration dates and the treatment of an award in the event of the retirement, disability, death or other termination of a participant's service as a non-employee director of the Corporation, and to construe and interpret the 2008 Directors Plan. Such authority includes (subject to the limitations of the 2008 Directors Plan) the discretion to accelerate vesting, extend the term or waive termination provisions or other restrictive conditions of outstanding awards.

The Committee is authorized to include specific provisions in award agreements relating to the treatment of awards in the event of a "Change in Control" of the Company and is authorized to take certain other actions in such an event. Change in Control under the 2008 Director Plan is defined generally to include: (i) a change in ownership involving a majority of the outstanding voting securities of the Company, (ii) a sale of all or substantially all of the assets of the Company or L-3 Communications Corporation or any successor thereto, or (iii) certain changes, during any period of 24 months or less, of 50 percent or more of the members of its Board of Directors.

The Committee may delegate to certain officers of the Company its duties under the 2008 Directors Plan subject to such conditions and limitations as the Committee may prescribe, except that under no circumstances may any such duties be delegated (including the authority to approve the grant of an award) except as permitted under applicable law. It is intended generally that the awards under the 2008 Directors Plan and the 2008 Directors Plan itself comply with and be interpreted in a manner that satisfy the applicable requirements of Rule 16b-3, so that the participants will be entitled to the benefits of Rule 16b-3 or other exemptive rules under that Section. The 2008 Directors Plan provides that no member of the Committee shall have any liability to any person for any action taken or not taken in good faith under the 2008 Directors Plan.

AMENDMENT AND TERMINATION

The Board of Directors has the authority to amend, suspend or discontinue the 2008 Directors Plan at any time, subject to stockholder approval that may be required under applicable law. Notwithstanding the foregoing, no such

action may be taken that would modify an outstanding award in a manner that is adverse to the participant without the participant's consent, change the requirements relating to the Committee, or (without obtaining stockholder approval) extend the term of the 2008 Director Plan.

AUTHORIZED SHARES; OTHER PROVISIONS; NON-EXCLUSIVITY

The number of shares of the Common Stock that may be issued in respect of awards under the 2008 Directors Plan may not exceed 300,000 shares. The number of shares available for grant and the shares subject to outstanding awards (as well as individual exercise prices of awards) shall be adjusted to reflect the effect of a stock dividend, stock split, recapitalization, merger, consolidation, reorganization, combination or exchange of shares, extraordinary dividend or other distribution or other similar transaction. Any unexercised or undistributed portion of any expired, cancelled, terminated or forfeited award, or any alternative form of consideration under an award that is not paid in connection with the settlement of any portion of an award, will again be available for award under the 2008 Directors Plan, whether or not the participant has received benefits of ownership (such as dividends or dividend equivalents or voting rights) during the period in which the participant's ownership was restricted or otherwise not vested. However, the following shares of Common Stock shall not become available for reissuance under the 2008 Directors Plan: (i) shares tendered by participants as full or partial payment to the Company upon exercise of stock options and (ii) shares withheld by, or otherwise remitted to, the Company to satisfy a participant's tax withholding obligations in connection with an award.

UPON APPROVAL OF THE 2008 DIRECTORS PLAN BY THE STOCKHOLDERS, THE COMPANY INTENDS TO REGISTER UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933 THE 300,000 SHARES OF COMMON STOCK AUTHORIZED FOR ISSUANCE UNDER THE 2008 DIRECTORS PLAN.

Full payment for shares purchased on exercise of any option or received under any other award, along with payment of any required tax withholding, must be made at the time of such exercise in cash or, if permitted by the Committee, in shares of Common Stock delivered by the participant or withheld from an award, or any combination thereof, including such "cashless exercise" procedures as may be permitted by the Committee. Any payment required in respect of other awards may be in such amount and in any lawful form of consideration as may be authorized by the Committee.

The 2008 Directors Plan does not impose minimum vesting periods on any types of awards, and the Committee may establish the vesting requirements (if any) for awards in its sole discretion. However, shares of Common Stock acquired after exercise of an option may not, in the ordinary course, be sold before the expiration of six months from the grant date.

The 2008 Directors Plan is not exclusive and does not limit the authority of the Company, the Board of Directors or the Committee to grant awards or authorize any other compensation, with or without reference to the Common Stock, under any other plan or authority.

FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSEQUENCES

The following is a general description of Federal income tax consequences to participants and the Company relating to nonqualified stock options and certain other awards that may be granted under the 2008 Directors Plan. This discussion does not purport to cover all tax consequences relating to stock options and other awards.

An optionee will not recognize income upon the grant of a nonqualified stock option to purchase shares of Common Stock. Upon exercise of the option, the optionee will recognize ordinary compensation income equal to the excess of the fair market value of the Common Stock on the date the option is exercised over the option price for such Common Stock. The tax basis of the Common Stock acquired by exercising an option in the hands of the optionee will equal the option price for the Common Stock plus the amount of ordinary compensation income the optionee recognizes upon exercise of the option, and the holding period for the Common Stock will commence on the day the option is

exercised. An optionee who sells Common Stock acquired by exercising an option will recognize capital gain or loss measured by the difference between the tax basis of the Common Stock and the amount realized on the sale. Such gain or loss will be long-term if the Common Stock is held for more than 12 months after exercise and short-term if held for 12 months or less after exercise. The Company will be entitled to a deduction equal to the amount of ordinary compensation income recognized by the optionee. The deduction will be allowed at the same time the optionee recognizes the income.

Nontransferable restricted stock subject to a substantial risk of forfeiture results in income recognition equal to the excess of the fair market value of the Common Stock over the purchase price (if any) at the time the restrictions lapse (unless the recipient elects to accelerate recognition as of the grant date); in such case, the Company will generally have (at the time the participant recognizes income) a corresponding deduction.

A restricted stock unit should not result in income recognition for a participant until the participant is no longer subject to a substantial risk of forfeiture and receives a distribution of Common Stock. The amount of the income shall be equal to the fair market value of the Common Stock on the date that the shares of Common Stock are delivered to the participant. In such case, the Company will generally have (at the time the participant recognizes income) a corresponding deduction.

Minimum ownership stock will not be subject to a substantial risk of forfeiture so it is expected to result in income recognition equal to the excess of the fair market value of the Common Stock over the purchase price (if any) at the time of the grant of the award. The Company will generally have a corresponding deduction at the same time.

If, as a result of a change in control event, a participant's stock options or other rights become immediately exercisable, or restrictions immediately lapse on an award, or cash, shares or other benefits covered by another type of award are immediately vested or issued, the additional economic value, if any, attributable to the acceleration or issuance may be deemed a "parachute payment" under Section 280G of the Code. In such case, the participant may be subject to a 20% non-deductible excise tax as to all or a portion of such economic value, in addition to any income tax payable. The Company will not be entitled to a deduction for that portion of any parachute payment that is subject to the excise tax.

The American Jobs Creation Act of 2004 introduced a new section of the Code ("Section 409A") covering certain nonqualified deferred compensation arrangements. Section 409A generally establishes new rules that must be followed with respect to covered deferred compensation arrangements in order to avoid the imposition of an additional 20% tax (plus interest) on the service provider who is entitled to receive the deferred compensation. Certain awards that may be granted under the 2008 Directors Plan may constitute "deferred compensation" within the meaning of and subject to Section 409A. The 2008 Directors Plan is intended to be interpreted and operated in accordance with Section 409A, including any regulations or guidance issued by the Treasury Department, and contains a number of provisions intended to avoid the imposition of additional tax on the 2008 Directors Plan participants under Section 409A. The Board of Directors may amend the 2008 Directors Plan, and the Committee may amend outstanding awards thereunder, while preserving the intended benefits of awards granted under the 2008 Directors Plan to avoid the imposition of an additional tax under Section 409A. In addition, no award under the 2008 Directors Plan can be granted, deferred, accelerated, extended, paid out or modified under the 2008 Directors Plan in a manner that would result in the imposition of an additional tax under Section 409A on a participant. If a payment with respect to an award would result in tax liability to the participant under 409A, the Company will not make the payment when otherwise required and instead will make the payment on the first day that payment would not result in the tax liability.

The Board of Directors Recommends a Vote FOR Approval of the L-3 Communications Holdings, Inc. 2008 Directors Stock Incentive Plan.

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Proposal 4. Selection of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

The Audit Committee of the Board of Directors has selected PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP to act as our independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2008, and a proposal to ratify this selection will be submitted to the stockholders at the Annual Meeting. PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP has acted as our independent registered public accounting firm since our formation in 1997, and the Audit Committee and the Board of Directors believe it is desirable and in our best interests to continue to retain that firm. Representatives of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP will be present at the Annual Meeting. Such representatives will have the opportunity to make a statement if they desire to do so and are expected to be available to respond to appropriate questions.

If the foregoing proposal is not approved by the holders of a majority of the shares represented at the Annual Meeting, the selection of our independent registered public accounting firm will be reconsidered by the Audit Committee and the Board of Directors.

The Board of Directors Recommends a Vote FOR Ratification of the Appointment of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as our Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm.

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The Board of Directors and Certain Governance Matters

Our Board of Directors directs the management of our business and affairs, as provided by Delaware law, and conducts its business through meetings of the Board of Directors and four standing committees: the Executive, Audit, Nominating/Corporate Governance and Compensation Committees. In addition, from time to time, special committees may be established under the direction of the Board of Directors when necessary to address specific issues.

The Board of Directors has affirmatively determined that all of the directors, other than Mr. Strianese, including those who serve on the Executive, Audit, Nominating/Corporate Governance and Compensation Committees of the Board of Directors, have no material relationship with us, either directly or as a partner, stockholder, or officer of an organization that has a relationship with us. Therefore, all of our directors, other than Mr. Strianese, are "independent" for purposes of the NYSE listing standards. In connection with its determination that Mr. Millard and Professor Canizares are independent directors, the Board of Directors considered the fact that we conducted business with Massachusetts Institute of Technology, or MIT, where Mr. Millard is a trustee and Professor Canizares is employed as a full time professor. During 2007, we retained MIT to provide research and development on our behalf, and MIT purchased equipment from us. Payments made to, or received from, MIT were less than 1% of MIT's or L-3's annual consolidated gross revenues during its last completed fiscal year. Mr. Millard and Professor Canizares did not have any material direct or indirect interest in these transactions and Professor Canizares recused himself from all decisions regarding L-3. In addition, in connection with its determination that Mr. Millard is independent, the Board of Directors considered the fact that Mr. Millard is employed by Lehman Brothers Inc. and the Board of Directors engaged Lehman Brothers Inc. as a broker in connection with our Common Stock share repurchase program. In reaching this determination the Board of Directors considered the fact that Mr. Millard was not involved in our decision to retain Lehman Brothers Inc. as our broker and Mr. Millard did not receive any direct or indirect benefit due to the commission fees paid to Lehman Brothers Inc. In 2007, Lehman Brothers Inc. received commission fees of approximately \$150,000 from L-3.

Mr. Millard serves as a director, trustee or in a similar capacity (but not as an executive officer or employee) for one or more non-profit organizations to whom we have made charitable contributions. Contributions to these organizations were less than \$100,000 during their last completed fiscal years and were below the thresholds set forth under our categorical standards of director independence.

In addition, the Board of Directors has determined that Professor Canizares and Messrs. Corcoran and Simon, members of the Audit Committee, are "independent" for purposes of Section 10A(m)(3) of the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934.

Pursuant to the requirements of the NYSE, the Board of Directors has adopted Corporate Governance Guidelines that meet or exceed the independence standards of the NYSE. Also, as part of our Corporate Governance Guidelines, the Board of Directors has adopted categorical standards to assist it in evaluating the independence of each of its directors. The categorical standards, which are set forth as Exhibit C to this proxy statement, are intended to assist the Board of Directors in determining whether or not certain relationships between our directors and us, either directly or as a partner, stockholder or officer of an organization that has a relationship with us, are "material relationships" for purposes of the NYSE independence standards. The categorical standards establish thresholds at which such relationships are deemed not to be material. Our Corporate Governance Guidelines, which include our categorical standards of independence, can be obtained through our Web site at http://www.L-3com.com.

Directors are expected to attend board meetings and meetings of the committees on which they serve and to spend the time needed, and meet as frequently as necessary, in order to properly discharge their responsibilities. In addition, to

the extent reasonably practicable, directors are expected to attend stockholder meetings. During the fiscal year ended December 31, 2007, the Board of Directors held eleven regularly scheduled meetings and one special meeting. Each director attended at least 75% of the combined number of meetings of the Board of Directors and meetings of committees on which he served during the past fiscal year. All of our current directors attended our annual

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stockholders meeting in April 2007. In accordance with applicable NYSE listing requirements, our independent directors hold regular executive sessions at which management, including the President and Chief Executive Officer, is not present. Mr. Millard, our Non-Executive Chairman of the Board of Directors, presides at the regularly held executive sessions of the independent directors.

Executive Committee

The Executive Committee currently consists of Messrs. Cohen, Corcoran and Millard (Chairman). This committee did not meet during 2007. The Executive Committee may exercise most board powers during the period between board meetings.

Audit Committee

The Audit Committee currently consists of Professor Canizares and Messrs. Corcoran (Chairman) and Simon. This committee met thirteen times during 2007. The Audit Committee is generally responsible for, among other things:

appointing, compensating, retaining and terminating our independent registered public accounting firm;

g firm;
• overseeing the

· selecting,

auditing work of any independent registered public accounting firm employed by us, including the resolution of any disagreement between management and the independent registered public accounting firm regarding financial reporting, for the purpose of preparing or issuing an audit report or performing other audit, review or attest services;

pre-approving audit, other audit, audit-related and permitted non-audit services to be performed by the independent registered public accounting firm and related fees;

meeting with our

independent registered public accounting firm to review the proposed scope of the annual audit of our financial statements and to discuss such other matters that it deems appropriate;

• reviewing the

findings of the independent registered public accounting firm with respect to the annual audit;

• meeting to review

and discuss with management and the independent registered public accounting firm our periodic financial reports prior to our filing them with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and reporting annually to the Board of Directors with respect to such matters;

• reviewing with our

financial and accounting management, the independent registered public accounting firm and internal auditor the adequacy and effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting, financial reporting process and disclosure controls and procedures; and

• reviewing the

internal audit function.

The Board of Directors has determined that all of the members of the Audit Committee are financially literate and meet the independence requirements mandated by the NYSE listing standards, Section 10A(m)(3) of the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934 and our independence standards.

In addition, the Board of Directors has determined that Mr. Simon is an "audit committee financial expert," as defined by Item 407(d)(5) of Regulation S-K.

Compensation Committee

The Compensation Committee currently consists of Messrs. Cohen (Chairman), Millard, Shalikashvili and Washkowitz. This committee, which had five meetings during 2007, is responsible for administering our 1998 Directors Stock Option Plan for Non-Employee Directors and our 1999 Long Term Performance Plan. In addition, if approved by stockholders, this committee will administer the L-3 Communications Holdings, Inc. 2008 Long Term Performance Plan and the L-3 Communications Holdings, Inc. 2008 Directors Stock Incentive Plan.

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This committee is also responsible for, among other functions:

reviewing

and approving corporate goals and objectives relevant to the Chief Executive Officer compensation;

• evaluating the

performance of the Chief Executive Officer in light of these corporate goals and objectives and, either as a committee or together with other independent directors (as directed by the Board of Directors), determining and approving the annual salary, bonus, stock options and other benefits, direct and indirect, of the Chief Executive Officer based on such evaluation;

· reviewing and

making recommendations to the Board of Directors with respect to non-Chief Executive Officer compensation, L-3's incentive compensation and equity-based plans that are subject to the approval of the Board of Directors, and overseeing the activities of the individuals responsible for administering those plans;

• reviewing.

discussing and approving the compensation discussion and analysis section contained in this proxy statement; and

reviewing

and approving all equity compensation plans of L-3 that are not otherwise subject to the approval of L-3's stockholders.

In fulfilling its responsibilities, the committee can delegate any or all of its responsibilities to a subcommittee of the committee. For a discussion concerning the processes and procedures for determining executive and director compensation and the role of executive officers and compensation consultants in determining or recommending the amount or form of compensation, see Compensation Discussion and Analysis beginning on page 30 and Compensation of Directors beginning on page 54.

The Board of Directors has determined that all of the members of the Compensation Committee meet the independence requirements mandated by the NYSE listing standards and the rules of the SEC in each case as they are applicable to serving on the Compensation Committee, and our standards of independence. In addition, all members of the Compensation Committee other than Mr. Millard qualify as "outside directors" under Section 162(m) of the Code. Mr. Millard, who may not qualify as an "outside director" under 162(m), abstains from actions by the Compensation Committee with respect to compensation awards that are intended to qualify as performance-based awards under Section 162(m). For more of a discussion concerning section 162(m), see Compensation Discussion and Analysis — Other Factors Affecting Compensation on page 39.

Nominating/Corporate Governance Committee

The Nominating/Corporate Governance Committee currently consists of Messrs. Shalikashvili, Simon, Washkowitz (Chairman) and White. This committee, which met four times during 2007, monitors corporate governance policies and procedures and serves as the Nominating Committee for the Board of Directors.

The primary functions performed by this committee include, among other responsibilities:

developing, recommending and monitoring corporate governance policies and procedures for L-3 and the Board of Directors;

recommending to the Board of Directors criteria for the selection of new directors;

• identifying and

recommending to the Board of Directors individuals to be nominated as directors;

• evaluating candidates recommended by stockholders in a timely manner;

• conducting all necessary and appropriate inquiries into the backgrounds and qualifications of possible candidates;

• overseeing the evaluation of the Board of Directors and management; and

• overseeing and approving the management continuity planning process.

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The Nominating/Corporate Governance Committee will consider candidates for nomination as a director recommended by stockholders, directors, officers, third party search firms and other sources. In identifying candidates for membership on the Board of Directors, the Nominating/Corporate Governance Committee takes into account (i) minimum individual qualifications, such as strength of character, mature judgment, industry knowledge or experience and an ability to work collegially with the other members of the Board of Directors and (ii) all other factors it considers appropriate. After conducting an initial evaluation of a candidate, the committee will interview that candidate if it believes the candidate might be suitable to be a director and may also ask the candidate to meet with other directors and management. If the Nominating/Corporate Governance Committee believes a candidate would be a valuable addition to the Board of Directors, it will recommend to the full Board of Directors that candidate's election.

The Nominating/Corporate Governance Committee will review all candidates in the same manner, regardless of the source of the recommendation. Individuals recommended by stockholders for nomination as a director will be considered in accordance with the procedures described under Stockholder Proposals and Nominations on page 24 of this proxy statement.

The Board of Directors has determined that all of the members of the Nominating/Corporate Governance Committee meet the independence requirements mandated by the applicable NYSE listing standards applicable to serving on the Nominating/Corporate Governance Committee and our standards of independence.

Committee Charters and Corporate Governance Guidelines

The Board of Directors has adopted a charter for each of the Audit, Nominating/Corporate Governance and Compensation Committees and corporate governance guidelines that address the make-up and functioning of the Board of Directors. You can find links to these materials on our Web site at: http://www.L-3com.com. A copy of such materials may also be obtained without charge upon request from our Corporate Secretary.

Code of Ethics and Business Conduct

The Board of Directors has adopted a code of ethics and business conduct that applies to all of our directors, officers and employees. You can obtain a copy of this code without charge upon request from our Corporate Secretary. You can also find a link to such code on our Web site at http://www.L-3com.com. In accordance with, and to the extent required by, the rules and regulations of the SEC, we intend to post on our Web site waivers or implied waivers (as such terms are defined in Item 5.05 of Form 8-K of the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934) and amendments of the code of ethics and business conduct that apply to any of our directors and executive officers, including our president and chief executive officer, vice president and chief financial officer and corporate controller or other persons performing similar functions.

Stockholder Communications with Directors

Anyone who would like to communicate with, or otherwise make his or her concerns known directly to, the chair of any of the Executive, Audit, Nominating/Corporate Governance and Compensation Committees, or to the non-management directors as a group, may do so either by email that can be accessed through our Web site or by addressing such communications or concerns to the Corporate Secretary of L-3 Communications Holdings, Inc., 600 Third Avenue, New York, New York 10016, who will forward such communications to the appropriate party. The addressed communications may be done confidentially or anonymously.

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Stockholder Proposals and Nominations

Any stockholder desiring to submit a proposal to be presented for consideration in our 2009 proxy statement must submit such proposal, including proposals with respect to recommending director candidates, to us no later than the close of business on November 18, 2008. Under Rule 14a-8 of the Exchange Act, a stockholder submitting a proposal is required to be a record or beneficial owner of at least 1% or \$2,000 in market value of the Common Stock and to have held such Common Stock for at least one year prior to the date of submission of the proposal, and he or she must continue to own such securities through the date on which the meeting is held. Any stockholder who wishes to present a proposal at our 2009 annual meeting, outside the processes of Rule 14a-8 of the Exchange Act, must submit such proposal to us no later than the close of business on January 31, 2009. All proposals should be sent by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the attention of the Corporate Secretary, L-3 Communications Holdings, Inc., 600 Third Avenue, New York, New York 10016.

Stockholders may recommend director candidates for consideration by the Nominating/Corporate Governance Committee. Such notice must include the name, address, and class and number of shares owned by the stockholder making such recommendation; the name, age, business address, residence address and principal occupation of the nominee; and the number of shares beneficially owned by the nominee. It must also include the information that would be required to be disclosed in the solicitation of proxies for election of directors under federal securities laws. You must submit the nominee's consent to be elected and to serve. The Company may require any nominee to furnish any other information, within reason, that may be needed to determine the eligibility of the nominee.

The notice must be delivered to the Corporate Secretary, who will forward the notice to the Nominating/Corporate Governance Committee for consideration.

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Executive and Certain Other Officers of the Company

Set forth below is certain information regarding each of our current executives, other than Mr. Strianese who is presented under "Class I — Nominees for Term Expiring in 2011", and certain of our other officers.

Name

Age Principal Occupation and Other Information Jimmie V. Adams 71 Senior Vice President — Washington, D.C. Operations. He became a Senior Vice President in August 2006. General Jimmie V. Adams (U.S.A.F.—Ret.) joined us in May 1997. From April 1996 until April 1997, he was Vice President of Lockheed Martin's Washington Operations for the CI and Systems Integration Sector. Prior to the April 1996 acquisition of Loral, he had held the same position at Loral since 1993. Before joining Loral in 1993, he was Commander-in-Chief, Pacific Air Forces, Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii, capping a 35-year career with the U.S. Air Force. He was also Deputy Chief of Staff for Plans and Operation for U.S. Air Force Headquarters and Vice Commander of Headquarters Tactical Air Command and Vice Commander-in-Chief of the U.S. Air Forces Atlantic at Langley Air Force Base. He is a command pilot with more than 141 combat missions. Curtis Brunson 60 Senior Vice President — Corporate Strategy and Development. Mr. Brunson became a Senior Vice President in February 2007 and is responsible for L-3's corporate growth initiatives, including customer relationships, technical development and business development. Mr. Brunson began his career in 1972 with Sperry Systems Management Division, prior to its merger into Unisys Government Services. At Unisys for over 20 years, he held several management positions of increasing responsibility. When Loral acquired Unisys Communication Systems in Salt Lake City, he was General Manager. That division became part of L-3 Communications during its formation in 1997, with Mr. Brunson becoming President at that time. Mr. Brunson holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Science from the New York Institute of Technology and a Masters of Science degree in Computer Science from Polytechnic Institute in Brooklyn, New York. David T. Butler III 51 Senior Vice President — Business Operations, Mr. Butler became a Senior Vice President in February 2007. He had been the Vice President of Mergers, Acquisitions and Corporate Strategy since December 2000. He joined us in 1997 as our Corporate Director of Planning and Strategic Development. Prior to joining us, Mr. Butler held a number of financial positions with Loral and Lockheed Martin. Mr. Butler is a graduate of Villanova University. 25

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Name

Age Principal Occupation and Other Information Robert W. Drewes 65 Senior Vice President and President of the L-3 Integrated Systems Group. He became a Senior Vice President in August 2006. Mr. Drewes became a Vice President in March 2002 upon our acquisition of the Integrated Systems business from Raytheon Company. Mr. Drewes became President of the Integrated Systems business in May 2001. Prior to joining Integrated Systems, Mr. Drewes was the Vice President of Productivity for Raytheon Company. Mr. Drewes joined Raytheon Company in November 1997 after completing 33 years of distinguished service in the U.S. Air Force with the rank of Major General. James W. Dunn 64 Senior Vice President and President of the Sensors and Simulation Group. Mr. Dunn became a Senior Vice President in January 2004. He joined us in June 2000 as President of our Link Simulation and Training division. Prior to joining us, from April 1996, when Loral Corporation was acquired by Lockheed Martin, until May 2000, Mr. Dunn served as president of several Lockheed Martin business units, including the Tactical Defense Systems Group, the Defense Systems Group, Fairchild Systems and the NESS Eagan, Akron and Archibald divisions. Prior to that, Mr. Dunn was with the Loral Corporation, which he joined in 1978, and held a series of management positions there during his 18-year tenure, including President of Loral Fairchild Systems, Senior Vice President of Engineering and Senior Vice President of Program Management. Mr. Dunn has Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Electrical Engineering and a Master's degree in Business Administration. Kathleen E. Karelis 47 Senior Vice President, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary. Ms. Karelis joined L-3 in December 2006 as a Senior Vice President, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary. In private practice, Ms. Karelis was a Senior Partner at the law firm of Jenner & Block. She has represented L-3 and many other government contractors in the full range of issues faced by leaders in the defense and aerospace community. She received a Juris Doctorate, cum laude, from the University of Miami School of Law, where she was the Managing Editor of the University of Miami Law Review and a member of the Order of the Coif. Ms. Karelis also holds a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration and a Master's degree in Contract and Acquisition Management. 26

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Name

Age Principal Occupation and Other Information Robert W. RisCassi 72 Senior Vice President. He became a Senior Vice President in August 2006. General Robert W. RisCassi (U.S. Army-Ret.) joined us in April 1997. From April 1996 until April 1997, he was Vice President of Land Systems for Lockheed Martin's C3I and Systems Integration Sector. Prior to the April 1996 acquisition of Loral, he had held the same position for Loral since 1993. He joined Loral in 1993 after retiring as U.S. Army Commander in Chief, United Nations Command/Korea. His 35-year military career included posts as Army Vice Chief of Staff; Director, Joint Staff, Joint Chiefs of Staff; Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations and Plans; and Commander of the Combined Arms Center. Charles J. Schafer 60 Senior Vice President and President of the Products Group. Mr. Schafer became a Senior Vice President in April 2002. Mr. Schafer was appointed President of the Products Group in September 1999. He joined us in August 1998 as Vice President — Business Operations. Prior to August 1998, he was President of Lockheed Martin's Tactical Defense Systems Division, a position he also held at Loral since September 1994. Prior to the April 1996 acquisition of Loral, Mr. Schafer held various executive positions with Loral, which he joined in 1984. Carl E. Vuono 73 Senior Vice President and President of the L-3 Services Group, General Vuono (U.S. Army-Ret.) became a Senior Vice President in August 2006. He joined L-3 when we acquired MPRI in June of 2000. General Vuono came to MPRI and L-3 after a distinguished military career during which he served at all levels of command. His service to the nation culminated in his appointment as the 31st Chief of Staff of the U.S. Army and, in that capacity, he was the architect of the trained and ready Army and led the Army in combat operations in Panama and in Desert Storm. Ralph G. D'Ambrosio 40 Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Principal Accounting Officer. Mr. D'Ambrosio became Chief Financial Officer in January 2007. From March 2005 until January 2007, he was our Vice President — Finance and Principal Accounting Officer. He became a Vice President in July 2001 and was our Controller from August 2000 until March 11, 2005. He joined us in August 1997 and was our Assistant Controller until July 2000. Prior to joining us, he was a senior manager at Coopers & Lybrand LLP, where he held a number of positions since 1989. Mr. D'Ambrosio holds a Bachelor's degree, summa cum laude, in Business Administration from Iona College and a Master's degree, with honors, in Business Administration from the Stern School of Business at New York University. Mr. D'Ambrosio is also a Certified Public Accountant.

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Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners

We know of no person who beneficially owned more than five percent of the Common Stock, except as set forth below.

Name and

Address of Beneficial Owner(1) Amount and Nature of Beneficial Ownership(1) Percent of Class(1) ClearBridge Advisors, LLC Smith Barney Fund Management LLC 399 Park Avenue New York, New York 10022 11,258,111 8.95 %

(1) All

information shown is based on information reported by the filer on a Schedule 13G filed with the SEC on February 14, 2008, in which the group reported that it had shared dispositive power over 11,258,111 shares of Common Stock and shared voting power over 9,083,300 shares of Common Stock.

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Security Ownership of Management

As of March 3, 2008, the record date, there were 122,483,203 shares of our Common Stock outstanding. The following table shows the amount of Common Stock beneficially owned (unless otherwise indicated) by our named executive officers, our directors, and by all of our current executive officers and directors as a group.

Except as otherwise indicated, all information listed below is as of March 3, 2008.

```
Name of Beneficial Owner Common
Stock
Beneficially
Owned
Directly or
Indirectly(1) Common
Stock
Acquirable
Within
60 Days(2) Total
Common
Stock
Beneficially
Owned Percentage of
Shares of
Common Stock
Outstanding(3) Directors and Named Executive Officers
                                                                       Michael T. Strianese
                                                                                              1,633
                       * Ralph G. D'Ambrosio(4)
                                                                                  * Kathleen E. Karelis
226,001
           227,634
                                                    3,531
                                                             41,000
                                                                       44,531
                                                                                                          134
                        * Carl E. Vuono(5)
                                                                             * Robert W. Drewes
   16,667
             16,801
                                              1,130
                                                                  69,297
                                                                                                    2,290
                                                       68,167
                     * Claude R. Canizares
                                                                          * Peter A. Cohen(6)
26,667
          28,957
                                              1.131
                                                       7,732
                                                                                                 31,454
                                                                8,863
                    * Thomas A. Corcoran
                                             1,461
                                                      23,232
                                                                            * Robert B. Millard(7)
2,732
         34,186
                                                                 24,693
                                                                                                    176,957
                        * John M. Shalikashvili
                                                          9,232
                                                                   9,949
                                                                             * Arthur L. Simon
  20,232
            197,189
                                                  717
                                                                                                  6,161
19,232
          25,393
                     * Alan H. Washkowitz(8)
                                                 205,312
                                                            20,232
                                                                                   * John P. White
                                                                       225,544
                                                                                                      1,111
                   * Directors and Executive Officers as a Group (19 persons)
5,232
         6,343
                                                                                          670,776
                                                                              468,131
1,138,907
```

number of shares shown includes shares that are individually or jointly owned and over which the individual has either sole or shared investment or voting authority. The shares of our Common Stock directly owned include the number of shares allocated to the accounts of executive officers under our savings and stock purchase plans as follows: Mr. Strianese, 1,633 shares; Mr. D'Ambrosio, 1,531 shares; Ms. Karelis, 134 shares; Mr. Vuono, 730 shares; Mr. Drewes, 2,290 shares; and 21,427 shares held by the executive officers as a group. (2) Shares that are deemed to be beneficially owned by the individual by virtue of the individual's right to acquire the shares upon the exercise of outstanding stock options within 60 days from March 3, 2008. (3) In computing the percentage ownership of any person, the amount of shares outstanding is deemed to include the amount of shares beneficially owned by such person (and only such person) by reason of these acquisition rights. As a result, the percentage of outstanding shares of any person as shown in this table does not necessarily reflect the person's actual ownership or voting power with

(1) The

respect to the number of shares of Common Stock actually outstanding at March 3, 2008. (4) Includes 2,000 shares of restricted stock. (5) Includes 400 shares owned directly. (6) Includes 20,000 shares held by Ramius Securities, LLC. Mr. Cohen is a managing member of C4S & Co., LLC, which is the managing member of Ramius Capital Group, LLC, the parent company of Ramius Securities, LLC. Mr. Cohen disclaims beneficial ownership of these shares except to the extent of his pecuniary interest therein. (7) Includes 96,770 shares owned by a charitable foundation of which Mr. Millard and his wife are the sole trustees, and as to which Mr. Millard disclaims beneficial ownership. (8) Includes 96,324 shares in trust, for the benefit of Mr. Washkowitz's children, for which Mr. Washkowitz and his wife are co-trustees and as to which Mr. Washkowitz disclaims beneficial ownership. * Share ownership does not exceed one percent, including stock options exercisable within 60 days of March 3, 2008.

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Compensation Discussion and Analysis

Oversight of L-3's Executive Compensation Practices

L-3's executive compensation program is administered by the Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors, referred to in this section as the "Committee." The Committee is responsible for, among other functions: (i) reviewing and approving corporate goals and objectives relevant to the President and Chief Executive Officer's compensation and evaluating the performance of the President and Chief Executive Officer in light of these corporate goals and objectives; (ii) reviewing and making recommendations to the Board of Directors with respect to the compensation of other executive officers, and L-3's equity incentive plans and other incentive compensation that are subject to the approval of the Board of Directors; (iii) overseeing the activities of the individuals responsible for administering these incentive compensation and equity-based plans; and (iv) either as a Committee or together with the other independent directors, determining and approving the total compensation for the President and Chief Executive Officer based on an evaluation of his performance. The Committee charter can be found on L-3's Web site, http://www.L-3com.com under the "Investor Relations" tab by selecting "Corporate Governance."

The Committee also has the sole authority to select and/or retain outside counsel, compensation and benefits consultants, or any other consultants to provide it with advice and assistance in connection with the execution of its responsibilities. The Committee retains an outside consulting firm that reports directly to the Committee to assist it in the evaluation of L-3's executive compensation program. Mercer (US) Inc. ("Mercer") currently advises the Committee on a variety of issues, including compensation strategy, market benchmarking, executive pay trends and developments, and the review of L-3's incentive compensation plans and potential design modifications.

Objectives of Executive Compensation Program

L-3 is one of the largest aerospace and defense contractors in the United States. Our executive compensation program is designed to drive L-3's mission, which is to maximize stockholder value while providing compensation that is competitive and encourages strong operational and financial performance. The specific objectives of our executive compensation program include the following:

Alignment — to align the interests of executives and stockholders through equity-based compensation awards;

Retention — to

attract, retain and motivate highly qualified, high performing executives to lead our continued growth and success. Many of our executives are often presented with other professional opportunities, and we offer a variety of compensation components in order to compete to retain our executives' services. L-3 provides fair and competitive pay relative to comparably-sized organizations in order to be competitive in our industry; and

• Performance — to

provide rewards commensurate with performance by emphasizing variable compensation that is dependent upon the executive's achievements and L-3's performance.

In order to achieve these specific objectives, the executive compensation program is guided by the following core principles:

rewards

under annual and long-term incentive plans are based upon L-3's short-term and longer-term financial results and enhancing stockholder value through stock appreciation and the payment of dividends;

named executive

officer pay is set at competitive levels to attract, retain and motivate highly talented individuals who are necessary for L-3 to achieve its goals, objectives and overall financial success;

• compensation of an

executive is based on such individual's role, responsibilities, performance and experience, taking into account the desired pay relationships within the executive team; and

• our executive

compensation program places a strong emphasis on performance-based variable pay to ensure a high pay-for-performance culture.

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Program Overview

We use a variety of components in our executive pay program. The following chart provides an overview of our compensation and benefits programs and why each of these particular elements is included.

Element Purpose Characteristics Base Salaries Compensate executives for their level of responsibility and sustained individual performance. Also helps attract and retain strong talent. Fixed component; eligibility for annual merit increases based on sustained individual performance. Annual Incentives Promote the achievement of L-3's annual corporate and business unit financial goals, as well as individual goals. Performance-based cash opportunity; amount earned will vary based on company, business unit and individual results. Long-Term Incentives Promote the achievement of (i) share price appreciation, (ii) intermediate term results and (iii) retention of key executives. Performance-based equity and cash opportunity; amounts earned/realized will vary from the targeted grant-date fair value based on actual financial and stock price performance. Retirement Plans Provide an appropriate level of replacement income upon retirement. Also provide an incentive for a long-term career with L-3, which is a key objective. Fixed component; however, retirement contributions tied to pay will vary based on performance. Factors Considered When Setting Executive Compensation

When making pay determinations for named executive officers, the Committee considers a variety of factors including, among others: (i) L-3's actual performance against its business plan and also relative to its prior year performance, (ii) overall company performance and size relative to industry peers, (iii) individual executive performance and expected contribution to L-3's future success, (iv) changes in economic conditions and the external marketplace and (v) in the case of named executive officers other than the President and Chief Executive Officer, the recommendation of Mr. Strianese, L-3's President and Chief Executive Officer. Ultimately, the Committee, taking into account the advice of Mercer, the Committee's consultant, uses its business judgment when determining precisely how much to pay our named executive officers. The Committee evaluates each named executive officer's performance during the year based on company performance, leadership qualities, business responsibilities, and long-term potential to enhance stockholder value. Mercer's opinions are also taken into consideration in deciding what salary, bonus, long-term incentives and other benefits and severance to give each executive in order to meet L-3's objectives.

In developing the pay recommendations and resulting levels for each named executive officer, Mercer presents peer group pay practices, compensation survey data and general industry pay practices to the Committee and the President and Chief Executive Officer, as described below. The President and Chief Executive Officer develops pay recommendations for the other named executive officers, which are discussed and, as appropriate, approved by the Committee. Other than the recommendations made by the President and Chief Executive Officer with respect to the compensation of the other named executive officers, the named executive officers do not participate in the setting of compensation for themselves. The President and Chief Executive Officer does not participate in the setting of his own compensation.

In setting total compensation, a consistent approach is generally applied for all of L-3's named executive officers. Exceptions to our policies are made, as appropriate, to address critical business and personal needs.

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Factors Considered

In setting compensation for the named executive officers, the Committee considers the following:

Cash

versus non-cash compensation. The Committee considers an appropriate balance between cash and non-cash compensation. Base salary, annual incentives and a portion of the performance units are cash-based. Stock options, restricted stock units and a portion of the performance units are equity-based;

• Prior year's

compensation. The Committee considers the prior year's bonuses and long-term incentive awards when approving bonus payouts or equity grants;

· Performance and

competitive practices. On an annual basis, and in connection with setting executive compensation packages for the named executive officers, the Committee reviews L-3's operating income growth; earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization growth; earnings per share growth; free cash flow growth; operating margin growth; net income to free cash flow conversion; sales growth; and total stockholder return. In addition, the Committee considers peer group pay practices and emerging market trends. No specific weighting is assigned to these factors when setting compensation levels, nor are particular targets set for any particular factor. Total compensation from year to year can vary significantly based on L-3's and the individual executive's performance; and

• Application of

discretion. The Committee evaluates numerous factors, including executive and company performance, and uses its discretion and informed judgment when determining the appropriate compensation levels.

To establish market benchmarks, pay is reviewed among a group of leading aerospace and defense companies ("peer group") that have global operations and a diversified business. The peer group information is developed for the Committee by Mercer.

For 2007, the Committee used a peer group that consisted of the following companies:

Alliant Techsystems, Inc.

Lockheed Martin Corporation The Boeing Company Northrop Grumman Corporation General Dynamics Corporation Precision Castparts Corporation Goodrich Corporation Raytheon Company Harris Corporation Rockwell Collins, Inc. Honeywell International, Inc. Sequa Corporation ITT Corporation United Technologies Corporation

The Committee believes that the group, taken as a whole, is appropriate for comparison purposes.

The Committee also reviews competitive compensation levels prepared by Mercer using the most appropriate compensation surveys available, including surveys from Mercer, Hewitt Associates, Inc., Towers Perrin, and Watson Wyatt Worldwide, Inc. Compensation survey data provides information on pay levels for a broader group of companies than the peer group, across all industries. The named executive officers at L-3 are compared to executives of similar positions and responsibilities at companies across a variety of industries. Companies included in the review of competitive compensation levels are selected based on revenue, as executive compensation levels typically are positively correlated with company size.

Total Compensation Mix

As discussed above, L-3's executive compensation package emphasizes a performance-based annual bonus and long-term incentive award opportunities. As a result, a majority of the named executive officers' compensation is dependent upon the performance of the named executive officer and L-3. The following table sets forth the allocation among base salary, annual bonus and long-term incentive awards for 2007 for L-3's named executive officers.

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Element President and
CEO Average of 4 other named
executive officers Base salary 11 % 25 % Performance-based compensation — Annual bonus 28 % 35 % — Long-term incentive (expected value at grant) 61 % 40 %

The Committee feels that the allocation of pay elements shown above achieves an appropriate balance of short-term vs. long-term compensation, as well as fixed vs. variable compensation. The Committee believes that the greater weighting placed on performance-based compensation, especially long-term incentives, encourages an appropriate degree of risk-taking and aligns the named executive officers' financial interests with those of our stockholders.

Base Salary

Base salary provides an executive with a steady income stream and is based upon his or her level of responsibility, experience, individual performance and contribution to our overall success. Competitive base salaries, in conjunction with other pay components, enable L-3 to attract and retain highly talented executives. The Committee typically sets base salaries for named executive officers at the median of market levels. However, base salaries will vary in practice based upon an individual's level of responsibility, prior experience, and performance over time.

Salaries are reviewed annually with any adjustments made after considering peer group practices for similar positions and individual factors, such as competencies, skills, experience and performance. The Committee generally approves salary increases for executives in March of each year, which become generally effective in April of each year. We also give executives promotional salary increases when new roles are assumed. On January 18, 2007, Ralph G. D'Ambrosio was promoted from Vice President of Finance and Principal Accounting Officer to Vice President, Chief Financial Officer, and Principal Accounting Officer. In connection with his promotion, his annual salary was increased from \$315,000 to \$475,000. On January 1, 2007, Carl E. Vuono received a promotional salary increase in connection with assuming increased responsibilities as Group President of the L-3 Services Group effective October 1, 2006.

For 2007, the President and Chief Executive Officer's salary was not increased. The following base salary adjustments for the other named executive officers were approved by the Committee, based on a number of factors, including the recommendation of the President and Chief Executive Officer and relevant market data provided by Mercer. The President and Chief Executive Officer's recommendation was based in part on competitive market data provided by management's outside compensation consultant, Towers Perrin, which was provided to the Committee in connection with his recommendation.

Named Executive Officer Salary on

December 31, 2006 Effective Date of

2007 Increase Reason for

Increase % Increase New Salary Michael T. Strianese \$ 1,000,000 N/A N/A N/A \$ 1,000,000 Ralph G.

D'Ambrosio \$ 315,000 1/18/2007 Promotion 51% \$ 475,000 Kathleen E. Karelis \$ 650,000 N/A N/A

N/A \$ 650,000 Carl E. Vuono \$ 351,050 1/1/2007 Promotion 42% \$ 500,000 Robert W. Drewes \$ 450,000 1/1/2007 Merit 11% \$ 500,000

Annual Incentive Plan

The Annual Incentive Plan provides all executives, including named executive officers, the opportunity to earn annual cash bonuses based on the performance of L-3 and the executive. A significant percentage of named executive officers'

compensation is composed of these annual bonuses. Bonuses are paid in cash following the year in which they are earned. Bonuses earned for 2007 were paid in March 2008.

L-3's financial performance is evaluated within the context of peer group performance. No specific targets are set for any performance measures that the Committee reviews annually and bonuses paid to the named executive officers are fully discretionary, except as set forth in the following paragraph.

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In connection with determining the amounts for 2007 bonuses for each named executive officer, the Committee considered: (i) the Company's (or in the case of Group Presidents, the applicable group's) 2007 financial performance against its business plan and also relative to its prior year performance; (ii) the significant accomplishments and overall leadership of the executive; (iii) the prior year's compensation for the executive; (iv) in the case of named executive officers other than the President and Chief Executive Officer, the bonus recommendation of the President and Chief Executive Officer; (v) competitive market pay levels for the executive; and (vi) in the case of Ms. Karelis, the requirement under her offer letter to pay her a minimum 2007 bonus of \$550,000. Based on these factors, the Committee approved the following 2007 cash bonuses for the named executive officers:

Named

Executive Officer 2007 Bonus Amount Michael T. Strianese \$2,500,000 Ralph G. D'Ambrosio \$600,000 Kathleen E. Karelis \$550,000 Carl E. Vuono \$925,000 Robert W. Drewes \$925,000 Long-Term Incentives

Long-term incentives are intended to align the interests of the named executive officers and stockholders by linking a meaningful portion of executive pay to long-term stockholder value creation and financial success over a multi-year period. Long-term incentives are also provided to facilitate Common Stock ownership by L-3's named executive officers and other senior executives. The Committee considers individual and company performance when determining long-term incentive opportunities.

In 2007, long-term incentives were awarded to named executive officers in the form of stock options, performance units and restricted stock units. This combination of incentives was approved based on Mercer's recommendation to diversify long-term incentives to reflect current market practices. Prior to 2007, named executive officers generally received long-term incentives solely in the form of stock options. As part of the new program, stock options are granted to reward executives for long-term share price appreciation, performance units are granted to reward employees for intermediate term results, and restricted stock units are granted to enhance retention.

After considering recommendations made by Mercer, the Committee set the 2007 target opportunity for each named executive officer as follows:

Named

Executive Officer Target Amount Michael T. Strianese \$5,500,000 Ralph G. D'Ambrosio \$800,000 Kathleen E. Karelis \$800,000 Carl E. Vuono \$900,000 Robert W. Drewes \$900,000 Based on these target levels, total 2007 direct compensation (salary, bonus and long-term incentives) for the President and Chief Executive Officer was between the 50th and 75th percentiles for his position relative to competitive market data, while total 2007 direct compensation for the other named executive officers, on average, was between the 50th and 75th percentiles for their positions relative to competitive market data.

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The Committee, based upon the advice of Mercer, established the following target mix, to balance, in its judgment, the goals of share price appreciation, intermediate term results and retention, and to reflect market practice in the industry:

To determine the number of shares or units underlying each award, stock options are valued using the Black-Scholes method of stock option valuation used by L-3 for financial reporting purposes, restricted stock units are valued at the date-of-grant value, and performance units are valued at the date-of-grant target value.

Stock Options. The Committee believes that stock options align the interests of L-3's executives with those of L-3's stockholders since stock options only provide value to executives if the price of our Common Stock increases after the stock options are granted. During 2007, named executive officers received stock option grants with the following characteristics:

Nonqualified stock options that have an exercise price equal to the closing price of L-3 stock on the grant date;

• Generally vest

in equal annual increments over a three-year period; and

• Expire ten years

after the grant date.

Restricted Stock or Restricted Stock Units. Restricted stock units were introduced as a regular component of the long-term incentive program during 2007. These awards may also be made to recognize increased responsibilities or special contributions, to attract new executives, to retain executives or to recognize certain other special circumstances. During 2007, named executive officers received restricted stock unit grants with the following characteristics:

Restricted

stock units that automatically convert into shares of our Common Stock on the vesting date;

· Generally vest three

years from the grant date; and

Receive dividend

equivalents during the vesting period.

Performance Units. Performance units were introduced as a regular component of the long-term incentive program during 2007. Each performance unit has a target value on the grant date equal to a share our Common Stock. The final value of each unit will vary based upon (i) the level of performance achieved over the associated performance period in relation to a pre-determined performance goal established by the Committee and (ii) the value of our Common Stock price at the end of the performance period. Units issued under the program are payable in either cash or shares of our Common Stock as determined by the Committee. Performance measures used under this plan are intended to reinforce stockholder value creation. The measures selected for the 2007 performance units were relative Total Stockholder Return (TSR) and growth in diluted Earnings Per Share (EPS) during the 2.5-year period beginning July 1, 2007 and ending December 31, 2009. These measures

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were chosen because they are aligned with stockholder value creation either directly (TSR) or indirectly (growth in diluted EPS). Associated weightings and goals are as follows:

Relative

TSR — weighted 50%: This measure compares our percentile ranking in TSR to the TSR of each of the other companies in the S&P 1500 Aerospace & Defense Index (A&D Index), in accordance with the table below. The A&D Index was selected in 2007 as it provides for a larger group of companies than the peer group against which to compare L-3 TSR performance. In addition, the TSR performance of the A&D Index is publicly disclosed, and thus provides an objective method to allow for the relative comparison of L-3 performance. Interpolation between points in the table occurs on a straight-line basis. TSR is defined as price change in our Common Stock plus dividends, divided by our Common Stock price at the beginning of the performance period. Dividends are assumed to be reinvested.

Performance Levels

Relative TSR Unit Multiplier Maximum > 74th percentile 200 % 63rd percentile 150 % Target 50th percentile 100 % Threshold 40th percentile 50 % Below Threshold < 40th percentile 0 %

• Growth in

Diluted EPS — weighted 50%: This measure compares our compounded annual growth rate in diluted EPS (adjusted to exclude certain unusual or nonrecurring items) to internal performance objectives. In establishing target performance levels, L-3 considers its business plan and information provided to stockholders and analysts.

Performance Levels

EPS

Growth

Rate Cumulative

EPS Required Unit

Multiplier Maximum $\geq 15\% \geq \$17.26 200\%$ 12% \$16.26 150% Target 10% \$15.61 100% 9% \$15.29 75% Threshold 8% \$14.98 50% Below Threshold < 8% < \$14.98 0% Note: Cumulative EPS based on 2006 diluted EPS of \$5.05, excluding certain litigation and stock-based charges.

As discussed above, for the 2007 award, a performance period of 2.5 years was established. The amount earned at the end of the 2.5-year performance period may be more or less than the target based upon our actual performance over the period.

Performance units earned based on TSR results are payable in cash and units earned based on EPS results are payable in our Common Stock. The Committee believes that providing a meaningful portion of the incentives payable in our Common Stock encourages share ownership among the executive participants.

Performance falling between any of the identified points of TSR or growth in diluted EPS in the charts above will result in an interpolated vesting (e.g., an 11% EPS Growth Rate will yield a unit multiplier of 125%).

Long-Term Incentive Grant Practices. The Committee approves all long-term incentive awards to named executive officers at in-person or telephonic meetings. Long-term incentive awards are generally granted to named executive officers on an annual basis at the first Committee meeting held following the release of our second quarter earnings results. It is the Committee's general policy to grant long-term incentive awards to named executive officers either (i) during window periods we establish following quarterly announcements of historical earnings results or (ii) at Committee

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meetings held in connection with or following new hires or promotions. The exercise price of any option granted by the Committee is the NYSE closing price on the date that the Committee approves the awards. We do not have a program, plan or practice to grant equity-based awards to any employees in coordination with the release of material nonpublic information.

Other Pay Elements

The named executive officers are eligible to participate in the same benefits and severance offered to other senior executives. These include:

Retirement benefits;

compensation;

arrangements; and

• Deferred

· Change in control

• Perquisites.

Retirement Benefits

L-3 provides retirement benefits as part of a competitive pay package to attract and retain employees. Most of L-3's named executive officers are eligible to participate in the L-3 Communications Corporation Pension Plan, a tax-qualified defined benefit plan, and a nonqualified Supplemental Executive Retirement Plan (SERP). Mr. Drewes participates in the L-3 Integrated Systems Retirement Plan and the SERP. Mr. Vuono does not participate in any pension plan or SERP. No employee contributions are required in order to participate in L-3's defined benefit plans.

The SERP is designed to provide retirement benefits based on age, service with L-3, base salary and annual incentive payouts. In addition, the SERP provides benefits that make up for benefits not accrued under the traditional pension/retirement plans due to certain limits imposed by the Internal Revenue Code. The amount of the retirement benefit is based on the highest base salary plus bonus for five out of the ten most recent years, or 60 months out of the most recent 120 months, depending upon the plan, and years of credited service.

Most of L-3's executives also participate in a 401(k) plan under which L-3 matches 80% of an employee's contributions up to 5% of his or her base salary, subject to any limitations imposed by ERISA. For Mr. Drewes, Integrated Systems matches 100% of his contributions up to 4% of his eligible compensation and makes an annual contribution of one-half of one percent of earnings up to \$1,125. For Mr. Vuono, MPRI makes a discretionary match and a discretionary annual contribution that can vary from year to year. For 2007, the discretionary match was 100% of his contributions up to 3% of eligible compensation and the discretionary contribution will be approximately \$1,400. The 401(k) plan also allows for catch-up employee contributions which are matched at the same percentage as other employee contributions.

Retirement benefits are designed such that the amount a named executive officer would receive with 30 years of employment by L-3 equals approximately 45% to 55% of his or her final average pay (base salary and bonus).

For a more detailed discussion of L-3's retirement plans, see the 2007 Pension Benefits table and the discussion that follows beginning on page 46 of this proxy statement.

Deferred Compensation

In order to provide employees with additional savings opportunities, which helps L-3 attract and retain employees, L-3 provides a deferred compensation plan. This plan allows for voluntary deferrals by executives, including named executive officers, of up to 50% of salary and 100% of annual cash incentive awards into an unfunded, non-qualified account. We do not make any contribution to any named executive officer's account. Deferred amounts receive interest at the prime rate.

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Employment and Severance Arrangements

L-3 does not have any employment agreements with its named executive officers. L-3 also does not have any formal arrangements that provide for severance to named executive officers other than in connection with a change in control and, in the case of Ms. Karelis, in connection with a termination of employment by the Company without cause. For a further discussion, see Change in Control Arrangements below and Potential Payments Upon Change in Control or Termination of Employment on pages 51-53.

Change in Control Arrangements

In order to preserve morale and productivity and encourage retention in the face of the disruptive impact of an actual or rumored change in control, we provide a bridge to future employment in the event a named executive officer's job is eliminated as a consequence of a change in control. L-3's Change of Control Severance Plan is intended to align executive and stockholder interests by enabling executives to consider corporate transactions that are in the best interests of the stockholders and other constituents without undue concern over whether the transactions may jeopardize the executive's own employment. The plan provides a lump sum payment and benefits continuation as a result of a termination of employment by the Company without cause or by the employee for good reason during the two years following a change in control, plus protection for pre-change in control terminations that occur at the request of an acquirer or otherwise in anticipation of a change in control. The lump sum payment (severance amount) for each named executive officer is a multiple of base salary and average annual bonus for the three years prior to the year of termination, plus unpaid bonus for the current year earned through the termination date. The multiple for our President and Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer and General Counsel is 3.0 and the multiple for the other named executive officers is 2.5. Upon a change in control, all unvested equity awards vest immediately ("single trigger" treatment of equity). Based upon the advice of Mercer, the Committee believes this is a common practice in the broad marketplace.

For all named executive officers, if the Change in Control severance payment, when aggregated with all other Change in Control payments, would subject the named executive officer to an excise tax under Section 280G of the Code, then the severance payment will be reduced to the highest amount for which no excise tax would be due, only if the reduced amount is greater than the unreduced amount net of the excise tax.

For a discussion of amounts that would be realized by L-3's named executive officers upon a Change in Control, see Potential Payments Upon Change in Control or Termination of Employment on pages 51-53.

Perquisites

In order to facilitate the attraction and retention of highly qualified executives, we provide named executive officers with certain other benefits that we believe are consistent with current market practices. In 2007, the named executive officers were eligible for an executive physical, supplemental life insurance and participation in an executive medical plan.

In addition, for security purposes, the President and Chief Executive Officer is provided with a company car and security driver and has access to L-3's fractionally-owned aircraft for occasional personal use. The President and CEO is required to reimburse L-3 for any incremental cost incurred by L-3 in connection with his personal use of the aircraft and did so in 2007. The incremental cost incurred by L-3 for the President and Chief Executive Officer's use of the company car and security driver is disclosed in the Summary Compensation Table.

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Stock Ownership Guidelines

In 2007, the Committee approved stock ownership guidelines for its named executive officers and a number of other senior executives. The Committee believes that executives should accumulate a meaningful level of ownership in L-3 shares over time and that such ownership will further reinforce stockholder value creation. The stock ownership guidelines are as follows:

• President and CEO: 5X

base salary • Group Presidents, CFO, General Counsel: 3X base salary • Other Participants: 1X or 2X base salary The Committee will review progress towards guideline achievement annually. Those subject to ownership guidelines have five years from becoming subject to the guidelines to achieve the required ownership percentages. After the five-year acquisition period, if executives have not met the applicable guideline, annual bonuses will be paid 100% in L-3 shares that cannot be sold until the guideline is satisfied.

"Stock ownership" is defined to include 100% of shares held outright, stock equivalents (e.g., stock units), shares held in benefit plans and unvested restricted stock; and 50% of the value of vested, "in-the-money" stock options.

Other Factors Affecting Compensation

We make reasonable efforts to maximize the tax deductibility of compensation paid to named executive officers and to achieve favorable accounting treatment, provided that it does not conflict with intended plan design or program objectives.

Limitations on Deductibility of Compensation. Section 162(m) of the Code generally limits the tax deductibility of compensation paid by a public company to its chief executive officer and certain other highly compensated executive officers ("covered employees") to \$1 million in the year the compensation becomes taxable to the executive. There is an exception to the limit on deductibility for performance-based compensation that meets certain requirements.

The Committee considers the impact of this rule when developing and implementing its executive compensation programs. The Committee also believes that it is important to preserve flexibility in administering compensation programs in a manner designed to promote varying corporate goals. Accordingly, the Committee has not adopted a policy that all compensation must qualify as deductible under Section 162(m). Amounts paid under any of our compensation programs, including salaries, bonuses and equity-based awards, may not qualify as performance-based compensation excluded from the limitation on deductibility. Our deferred compensation plan permits compensation deferred under the plan to be exempt from the limit on tax deductibility.

Accounting and Tax Considerations. L-3 considers the accounting implications of all aspects of its executive compensation program. For example, awards to named executive officers of restricted stock units and performance units payable in shares of our Common Stock qualify for favorable (i.e., fixed as opposed to variable) accounting treatment under Statement of Financial Accounting Standards (SFAS) No. 123R, Share-Based Payments, (SFAS 123R). However, accounting treatment is just one of many factors considered by the Committee when designing compensation plans and making pay determinations.

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Compensation Committee Report

The Compensation Committee has reviewed and discussed the Compensation Discussion and Analysis with management. Based on its review and discussion with management, the Compensation Committee recommended to L-3's Board of Directors that the Compensation Discussion and Analysis be included in L-3's proxy statement and Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2007.

During 2007, Peter A. Cohen (Chairman), Robert B. Millard, John M. Shalikashvili and Alan H. Washkowitz served as members of the Compensation Committee.

Peter A. Cohen (Chairman)

Robert B. Millard John M. Shalikashvili Alan H. Washkowitz 40

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Summary Compensation Table

The following table provides summary information concerning compensation paid or accrued by us to or on behalf of our President and Chief Executive Officer, our Vice President and Chief Financial Officer and each of our three other most highly compensated executive officers, collectively referred to herein as the named executive officers.

```
Name and Principal Position Year Salary
($) Bonus
($) Stock
Awards(1)
($) Option
Awards(2)
($) Non-Equity
Incentive
Plan
Compensation
($) Change in
Pension Value
and
Nonqualified
Deferred
Compensation
Earnings(3)
($) All Other
Compensation(4)
($) Total
($) Michael T. Strianese
                         2007
                                  1,000,000
                                              2,500,000
                                                            549,887
                                                                       1,864,385
                                                                                  — 499,782
                                                                                                 97,579
            (President and Chief Executive Officer and Director)(5)
6,511,633
                                                                  2006
                                                                           775,192
                                                                                      1,650,000
                                  3,693,950 Ralph G. D'Ambrosio
                                                                   2007
829,728
         — 355,963
                        83,067
                                                                            463,923
                                                                                       600,000
                                                                                                   168,477
  180,396 - 28,544
                         32,457
                                   1,473,797
                                                (Vice President and Chief Financial Officer)(6)
                                                                                              2006
               — — Kathleen E. Karelis 2007
                                                   650,000
                                                              550,000
                                                                         79,977
                                                                                    414,484
                                                                                             — 41,829
           2,179,899
                       (Senior Vice President, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary)(7)
443,609
                                                                                          2006
           — — Carl E. Vuono 2007
                                                                           256,727
                                         494,271
                                                     925,000
                                                                164,953
                                                                                       - 338,458
                                                                                                    42,354
              (Senior Vice President and President of the L-3 Services Group)
                                                                            2006
                                                                                     351,052
  2,221,763
                                                                                                600,000
                           225,391
                                       72,948
                                                 5,478,221 Robert W. Drewes
                                                                                2007
                                                                                        498,077
  275,828
            3,953,002(8)
                                                                                                   925,000
                                      42,363
  164,953
                                                             (Senior Vice President and President of the
             378,288
                       — 331.698
                                                2.340.379
Integrated Systems Group)
                           2006
                                    450,000
                                               825,000
                                                           -425,973 -373,798
                                                                                       66,368
                                                                                                 2,141,139
```

Represents the equity compensation expense calculated in accordance with SFAS 123R and recognized in the Company's financial statements for 2007 and 2006 with respect to equity awards for restricted stock and restricted stock units granted in 2007 and 2006 and prior years, which are amortized over a 3 year period, and performance units granted in 2007 (whether payable in shares or cash), which are amortized over a 2.5-year period. The assumptions used in the valuation model for the performance units with performance targets based on Total Stockholder Return are substantially similar to the assumptions used in the stock option valuation model, other than with respect to the

risk-free interest rate, which is based on U.S. Treasuries with a maturity matching the remaining measurement period, and no holding period. For a discussion of the general terms of restricted stock, restricted stock units and performance units, see Compensation Discussion and Analysis on pages 35-36 and Potential Payments Upon Change In Control or Termination of Employment on page 51. (2) Represents the equity compensation expense calculated in accordance with SFAS 123R and recognized in the Company's financial statements for 2007 and 2006 for stock option awards granted in 2007 and 2006 and prior years. See Notes 2 and 16 to the audited consolidated financial statements included in L-3's 2007 Annual Report on Form 10-K for a discussion of the assumptions used in calculating equity compensation expense in connection with these stock option equity awards. Equity compensation expense excludes the charge we recorded in the 2006 second quarter in connection with our voluntary review of our historical stock-based compensation award practices. See Note 3 to the audited consolidated financial statements included in L-3's 2007 Annual Report on Form 10-K for a discussion of this charge. For a discussion of the general terms of our stock options, see Compensation Discussion and Analysis on page 35 and Potential Payments Upon Change In Control or Termination of Employment on page 51. (3) Amounts in this column reflect the increase in the actuarial value of defined benefit plans during 2007 and 2006, as applicable. For Mr. Vuono, amounts represent above-market earnings on non-qualified deferred compensation. Mr. Vuono does not participate in any company defined benefit plan. Actuarial value computations are based on SFAS No. 87, Employers' Accounting for Pensions assumptions, which are discussed in Note 18 to the audited consolidated financial statements included in L-3's 2007 Annual Report filed on Form 10-K.

Table of Contents (4) The following table describes each component of the All Other Compensation column in the Summary Compensation Table above for 2007.

Name Year Employer

Contributions

to Employee

Savings Plan

(\$) Life

Insurance(a)

(\$) Medical

Insurance

Benefits(b)

(\$) Restricted

Stock

Dividend

Payment

- (\$) Other
- (\$) Total

(\$) Michael T. Strianese(c) 2007 13,000 5,280 3,636 8,285 67,378(d) 97,579 Ralph G. D'Ambrosio 32,457 Kathleen E. Karelis 2007 2007 9,000 10,116 8,636 4,705 9,000 3,432 5,304 1,205 424.668(e) 443,609 Carl E. Vuono 2007 11.823 21,812 7,364 1,355 5,304 — 42,354 Robert W. Drewes 2007 15,100 19,584 1,355 1,020 42,363 (a)

Represents premium payments for executive life insurance and group term life insurance. (b) Represents payments of medical premiums for a company-provided executive medical reimbursement plan and executive health exams. (c) Mr. Strianese has access to L-3's fractionally-owned aircraft for occasional personal use. Mr. Strianese is required to reimburse L-3 for any incremental costs incurred by L-3 in connection with his personal use of the aircraft and did so in 2007. (d) Represents the incremental cost associated with the use of a company car. These incremental costs include the termination fee from the prior lease, the monthly lease payments, maintenance, gas, tolls, parking and all other costs associated with the car. (e) Represents relocation expenses for temporary housing, moving expense and transportation during a relocation period, including \$174,578 related to payroll taxes on relocation expenses treated as taxable compensation. (5) Mr. Strianese was elected Interim Chief Executive Officer on June 9, 2006, and was subsequently elected President and Chief Executive Officer on October 23, 2006. In connection with his promotion, his base salary was increased from \$550,000 per year to \$1,000,000 per year. (6) Mr. D'Ambrosio was promoted to Chief Financial Officer in January 2007. (7) Ms. Karelis joined the Company as Senior Vice President, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary in December 2006. (8) For 2006, Mr. Vuono received his final annual award credit of \$3,953,002 provided for under his long-term deferred incentive award plan under his amended employment agreement (which expired on June 30, 2006). Mr. Vuono's long-term deferred incentive award plan earned interest of \$979,263 in 2007 and \$732,343 in 2006, which includes above-market earnings of \$338,458 in 2007 and \$225,391 in 2006.

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1,205

2,410

119,994

2007 Grants of Plan-Based Awards

The following table provides information on performance units, restricted stock units and option awards granted in 2007 to each of our named executive officers under L-3's 1999 Long Term Performance Plan. Plan-based awards are generally granted to the named executive officers on an annual basis at the first Compensation Committee meeting held following the release of L-3's second quarter earnings results (August 1 in 2007).

Estimated Future Payouts Under Equity Incentive Plan Awards(1) All Other Stock Awards: Number of Shares of Stock or Units(2) (#) All Other Option Awards: Number of Securities Underlying Options(3) (#) Exercise or Base Price of Option Awards (\$/Sh) Grant Date Fair Value of Stock and Option Awards(4) (\$) Name Grant Date Threshold (#) Target (#) Maximum (#) Michael T. Strianese 8/1/2007 91,514 99.58 2,102,992 8/1/2007 8,285 16,570 1,650,041 8/1/2007(5) 4,143 16,570 825,020 8/1/2007(6) 974,979 Ralph G. D'Ambrosio 8/1/2007 4,143 8,285 16,570 99.58 2,410 13,311 305,887 8/1/2007 239,988 8/1/2007(5) 603

8/1/2007(6)

603

1,205

2,410

141,804

Kathleen E	. Karelis 8/1	1/2007		13,311	99.58	305,887	8/1/2007	1	
2,410	239,9	988 8/1/200	7(5) 603	1,205	2,410		119,99	94 8/1	1/2007(6)
603 1,2	05 2,410		141,804	Carl E. V	uono 8/1/	2007		14,9	99.58
344,126	8/1/2007		2,711		269,961	8/1/2007(5) 678	1,356	2,712
	135,030	8/1/2007(6)	678 1,3	355 2,7	710	1:	59,456 Ro	bert W. I	Drewes
8/1/2007		14,975	99.58	344,126	8/1/200)7	2,7	11	
269,961	8/1/2007(5)	678 1,35	56 2,712		13	5,030 8/1	/2007(6)	678	1,355
2,710		159,456							
									(1)

Represents performance units granted to the named executive officers. The final value of each unit will vary based upon (i) the level of performance achieved over the associated performance period in relation to a pre-determined performance goal established by the Compensation Committee and (ii) the price of our Common Stock at the end of the performance period. The measures selected for the 2007 performance units were Total Stockholder Return and growth in diluted Earnings Per Share during the 2.5-year period beginning July 1, 2007 and ending December 31, 2009. The amounts disclosed represent the number of shares of our Common Stock issuable (or payable in cash) assuming achievement of the specific Threshold, Target or Maximum levels of performance established by the Compensation Committee for these measures over this period. See Compensation Discussion and Analysis — Long-Term Incentives — Performance Units on pages 35-36 for a further discussion of the performance units. See Potential Payments Upon Change in Control or Termination of Employment on page 51 for a discussion concerning the effect of a change in control or termination of employment on outstanding performance units. (2) Represents restricted stock units granted to the named executive officers. There were no performance or other market condition requirements included in the terms of the restricted stock unit awards to the named executive officers. For a discussion of our restricted stock units, see Compensation Discussion and Analysis — Long-Term Incentives — Restricted Stock or Restricted Stock Units on page 35. For a discussion concerning the effect of a change in control or termination of employment on outstanding restricted stock units, see Potential Payments Upon Change in Control or Termination of Employment on page 51. (3) Represents stock option awards granted to the named executive officers. There were no performance or other market condition requirements included in the terms of the option awards to the named executive officers. For a discussion of our stock option awards, see Compensation Discussion and Analysis — Long-Term Incentives — Stock Options on page 35. For a discussion concerning the effect of a change in control or termination of employment on outstanding stock option awards, see Potential Payments Upon Change in Control or Termination of Employment on page 51. (4) Represents, in the case of performance unit awards, the grant date fair value of a performance unit award calculated in accordance with FAS 123R multiplied by the Target number of shares of our Common Stock issuable (or payable in cash) pursuant to the grant or, in the case of an option award or restricted stock unit award, the grant date fair value of the option award or restricted stock unit award, as the case may be, calculated in accordance with FAS 123R. For a discussion of the general terms of our stock options, restricted stock, restricted stock units, and performance units, see Compensation Discussion and Analysis on pages 35-36 and Potential Payments Upon Change in Control or Termination of Employment on page 51. (5) Represents performance unit awards with performance targets based on growth in diluted Earnings Per Share and are payable in our Common Stock at the end of the performance period. (6) Represents performance unit awards with performance targets based on Total Stockholder Return and are payable in cash based on the closing price of our Common Stock at the end of the performance period.

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Outstanding Equity Awards at Fiscal Year End 2007

The following table provides information with respect to holdings of exercisable and unexercisable stock options and unvested, and as applicable, unearned restricted stock, restricted stock units and performance units held by the Company's named executive officers at December 31, 2007.

Option Awards Stock Awards Name Grant

Date Number of

Securities

Underlying

Unexercised

Options

(#)

Exercisable(1) Number of

Securities

Underlying

Unexercised

Options

(#)

Unexercisable(1) Option

Exercise

Price

(\$) Option

Expiration

Date Number of

Shares or

Units of

Stock

That Have

Not

Vested

(#)(2) Market

Value of

Shares or

Units of

Stock That

Have Not

Vested

(\$)(3) Equity

Incentive

Plan

Awards:

Number of

Unearned

```
Shares,
Units or
Other
Rights That
Have Not
Vested
(#) Equity
Incentive
Plan Awards:
Market or
Payout Value
of Unearned
Shares.
Units or
Other Rights
That Have
Not Vested
($)(3) Michael T. Strianese
                            1/19/1999
                                         25,000
                                                   — 20.25
                                                              1/19/2009
                                                                                           10/25/1999
        — 18.75
                                                               54,000
                                                                         — 39.70
                                                                                    11/15/2011
                    10/25/2009
                                                 11/15/2001
      3/4/2003
                                                                                        — 35.95
                  25,000
                                       3/4/2013
                                                                  3/4/2003
                                                                              50,000
                            — 35.60
                          11/10/2004
                                        40,000
3/4/2013
                                                   — 68.16
                                                              11/10/2014
                                                                                           7/12/2005
13,333
                   74.94
                          7/12/2015
                                                      8/2/2006
                                                                  33,334
                                                                            66,666
                                                                                       72.20 8/2/2016
          6,667
             11/6/2006
                         33,334
                                    66,666
                                              80.39
                                                     11/6/2016
                                                                                 8/1/2007
                                                                                             -91,514
                                  8/1/2007
                                                             16,570 1,755,426
99.58
       8/1/2017
                                                                                           8/1/2007 (4)
                   16,570
                             1,755,426
                                           8/1/2007 (5)
                                                                                8,285
                                                                                         877,713 Ralph G.
                                    — 53.75
                                                                           3/25/2002
                                                                                        3,333
                                                                                                 — 62.91
D'Ambrosio 3/25/2002
                           6,667
                                               3/25/2012
3/25/2012
                            7/21/2003
                                         1.667
                                                  — 45.11
                                                              7/21/2013
                                                                                          7/21/2003
                    7/21/2013
13.333
          — 49.10
                                                 3/15/2005
                                                                       4,000
                                                                                75.23
                                                                                        3/15/2015
                                                              8,000
       10/10/2005
                                    2,000 211,880
                                                                8/2/2006
                                                                            4,000
                                                                                     8,000
8/2/2016
                          8/2/2006
                                                     1,500 158,910
                                                                                 8/1/2007
                                                                                             — 13,311
99.58
       8/1/2017
                                  8/1/2007
                                                             2,410 255,315
                                                                                         8/1/2007 (4)
                         255,315
                                      8/1/2007 (5)
                                                                          1.205
                                                                                   127,658 Kathleen E.
                2.410
         12/5/2006
                       16,667
                                           83.30
                                                  12/5/2016
Karelis
                                 33.333
                                                                              8/1/2007
                                                                                          — 13.311
99.58
       8/1/2017
                                                             2,410 255,315
                                                                                         8/1/2007 (4)
                                  8/1/2007
                2,410
                         255,315
                                                                                   127,658 Carl E. Vuono
                                      8/1/2007 (5)
                                                                          1,205
                      — 29.00 7/31/2010
                                                             7/12/2001
                                                                          12,000
                                                                                    — 34.00 7/12/2011
7/31/2000
             5,000
                3/25/2002
                             8,000
                                      — 53.75
                                                  3/25/2012
                                                                              3/25/2002
                                                                                           4,000
       3/25/2012
                                   11/14/2003
                                                 20,000
                                                            — 45.80 11/14/2013
62.91
7/12/2005
                       7.083
                                74.94 7/12/2015
                                                                   8/2/2006
             14,167
                                                                               5,000
                                                                                        10,000
                                                                                                  72.20
8/2/2016
                          8/1/2007
                                      — 14,975
                                                    99.58
                                                            8/1/2017
                                                                                       8/1/2007
                                 8/1/2007 (4)
                                                                               287,309
                                                                                           8/1/2007 (5)
     2,711
            287,203
                                                                      2,712
                            143,549 Robert W. Drewes
                                                         10/10/2005
                                                                       20,000
                                                                                 10,000
                                                                                           78.60
                   1,355
10/10/2015
                            8/2/2006
                                        6,667
                                                            72.20
                                                                  8/2/2016
                                                                                              8/1/2007
                                                  13,333
  14,975
                   8/1/2017
            99.58
                                              8/1/2007
                                                                     2,711 287,203
                                                                                                 8/1/2007
                        2,712
                                 287,309
                                             8/1/2007 (5)
                                                                              1,355
                                                                                       143,549
(4)
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(1) Options generally

vest in equal, annual increments over a three-year period starting with the grant date. For a discussion concerning the effect of a change in control or termination of employment on outstanding stock option awards, see Potential Payments Upon Change in Control or Termination of Employment on page 51. (2) Represents restricted stock or restricted stock units, which generally vest over a three year period following the grant date. Each restricted stock unit automatically converts into one share of our Common Stock on the vesting date. For a discussion concerning the effect of a change in control or termination of employment on outstanding restricted stock or unit awards, see Potential Payments Upon Change in Control or Termination of Employment on page 51. (3) The market value is based on the closing price of our Common Stock on December 31, 2007 of \$105.94 multiplied by the number of shares or units. (4) Reflects the number of shares of our Common Stock issuable assuming achievement of the Maximum level of performance in respect of performance units whose performance targets are based on growth in diluted Earnings Per Share. The Maximum level of performance is reported for these units based on the Company's 2007 fiscal year performance (i.e., the Company's performance for that portion of the 2007 fiscal year falling within the performance period) measured against the performance targets in accordance with applicable securities regulations. For a further discussion of our performance units, see Compensation Discussion and Analysis — Long-Term Incentives — Performance Units on pages 35-36. For a discussion concerning the effect of a change in control or termination of employment on performance unit awards, see Potential Payments Upon Change in Control or Termination of Employment on page 51. (5) Reflects the number of shares of our Common Stock payable in cash (based on the closing price of our Common Stock at the end of the performance period) assuming achievement of the Target level of performance in respect of performance units whose performance targets are based on relative Total Stockholder Return. The Target level of performance is reported for these units based on the Company's 2007 fiscal year performance (i.e., the Company's performance for that portion of the 2007 fiscal year falling within the performance period) measured against the performance targets in accordance with applicable securities regulations. For a further discussion of our performance units, see Compensation Discussion and Analysis — Long-Term Incentives — Performance Units on pages 35-36. For a discussion concerning the effect of a change in control or termination of employment on performance unit awards, see Potential Payments Upon Change in Control or Termination of Employment on page 51.

2007 Option Exercises and Stock Vested

The following table provides information regarding the amounts received by our named executive officers upon the exercise of stock options during the year ended December 31, 2007. No shares of restricted stock, restricted stock units, or performance units held by any of our named executive officers vested during 2007.

```
Option Awards Name Number of Shares on Exercise Value Realized on Exercise(1) Michael T. Strianese — Ralph G. D'Ambrosio 15,000 776,175 Kathleen E. Karelis — Carl E. Vuono 35,000 2,219,840 Robert W. Drewes 13,333 523,587
```

realized on exercise is based on the difference between the aggregate exercise price paid and the fair market value of the shares acquired as a result of such exercise.

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2007 Pension Benefits

The following table provides information regarding the pension benefits for our named executive officers under L-3's qualified and supplemental plans. The material terms of the plans are described following the table.

```
Name Plan Name Number of Years
Credited Service
(#) Present Value of
Accumulated
Benefit(1)
($) Payments During
Last Fiscal Year
($) Michael T. Strianese L-3 Communications Corporation Pension Plan
                                                                     17.11 (2)
                                                                                 260,110
                                                                                            — L-3
Communications Corporation Supplemental Executive Retirement Plan
                                                                   17.11 (2)
                                                                               1,447,637
                                                                                           — Ralph G.
D'Ambrosio L-3 Communications Corporation Pension Plan
                                                                   75,642

    L-3 Communications

                                                          10.41
Corporation Supplemental Executive Retirement Plan
                                                   10.41
                                                            130.139
                                                                      — Kathleen E. KarelisL-3
Communications Corporation Pension Plan
                                         1.08
                                                 13,943
                                                           — L-3 Communications Corporation
Supplemental Executive Retirement Plan
                                      1.08
                                               27,886
                                                         — Carl E. Vuono(3)— — — Robert W. Drewes
L-3 Integrated Systems
Retirement Plan
                  9.08 (4)
                             295,617 — L-3 Communications
Corporation Supplemental
Executive Retirement Plan
                           9.08 (4)
                                      1,282,023
                                                                                                (1) The
```

present values of the accumulated benefits in the table were determined using the same assumptions that were used for financial reporting as of December 31, 2007, including a 6.50% discount rate and post-retirement mortality in accordance with the RP-2000 Combined Mortality table. We used age 65, the normal retirement age under the pension plans and the supplemental executive retirement plans, to determine the present value of the accumulated benefits in the table. For the assumptions used in calculating the present value of the accumulated benefits, see Note 18 to the audited consolidated financial statements included in L-3's 2007 Annual Report on Form 10-K. (2) Includes 6.42 years of service provided by Mr. Strianese as an employee of Loral Corporation and Lockheed Martin Corporation because L-3 assumed the pension benefit obligations relating to all employees transferred from Lockheed Martin Corporation in connection with L-3's formation in 1997. The years of credited service in excess of actual years of service provided to L-3 resulted in an increase to the present value of accumulated benefits for Mr. Strianese as of December 31, 2007 under the L-3 Communications Corporation Pension Plan and the L-3 Communications Corporation Supplemental Executive Retirement Plan of \$97,548 and \$542,902, respectively. (3) Mr. Vuono does not participate in the L-3 Communications Corporation Pension Plan or the L-3 Communications Corporation Supplemental Executive Retirement Plan. (4) Includes 3.25 years of service provided by Mr. Drewes as an employee of Raytheon Company (Raytheon) because the L-3 Integrated Systems Retirement Plan considers service at Raytheon for all employees transferred in connection with L-3's acquisition of the Aircraft Integration Systems business in March 2002. The years of credited service in excess of actual years of service provided to L-3 resulted in an increase to the present value of accumulated benefits for Mr. Drewes as of December 31, 2007 under the L-3 Integrated Systems Retirement Plan and the L-3 Communications Corporation Supplemental Executive Retirement Plan of \$105,810 and \$458,874, respectively.

The present value of the accumulated benefits for each of the named executives shown in the table above reflects the present value of the benefits earned under each of the pension plans as of December 31, 2007. The pension benefits that are the basis for the present values of the accumulated benefits shown are calculated using the executive's final average compensation (salary and bonus and

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specific inclusions and exclusions that vary by plan) of the five highest years out of the last ten years employed by L-3, including the year of retirement and years of creditable service under each of the plans as of December 31, 2007.

A more complete discussion of the material factors useful to an understanding of each plan is presented below.

Qualified Pension Plans

L-3 Communications Corporation Pension Plan

Eligibility

Employees were eligible to participate in the plan after one year of service, and upon attaining 21 years of age. Effective January 1, 2007, employees hired on or after January 1, 2007 are not eligible to participate in the plan.

Vesting

Employees are fully vested after five years of service, and there is no partial vesting.

Availability of Early Retirement Benefits Employees are eligible for early retirement benefits after age 55, provided that they have ten years of eligibility service.

Earnings Earnings are defined as base pay and bonus

and limited to the IRS earnings limit of \$230,000 in 2008.

Final Average Earnings (FAE) FAE is equal to the

average of the participant's earnings for the five calendar years during the ten calendar years prior to date of termination that results in the highest average earnings amount.

Covered Compensation Covered Compensation is equal to the average of the wage levels at which social security tax is applied for each year during the 35-year period ending in the year the participant reaches social security retirement age.

Benefit Plan Formula The annual pension benefit is equal to 1.5% of FAE up to Covered Compensation, plus 1.75% of FAE in excess of Covered Compensation, for each plan year (partial and completed months) of accrual service.

Early Retirement Reduction Factors For those participants that are eligible to retire early, the reduction factor is 1/180 for each of the first 60 months prior to age 65 and 1/360 for each of the next 60 months.

Payment Options The plan provides for a number of payment options including a single life annuity (normal form for single participants), a qualified 50% joint and survivor annuity (normal form for married participants), other joint and survivor options, period certain options and level income options.

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L-3 Integrated Systems Retirement Plan

Eligibility

Employees were eligible to participate in the plan after one year of service, and upon attaining 21 years of age. The benefit structure of the plan in which Mr. Drewes participates was closed to new entrants on March 8, 2002.

Vesting

Employees are fully vested after five years of service, and there is no partial vesting.

Availability of Early Retirement Benefits Employees are eligible for early retirement benefits after age 55, with ten years of service.

Monthly Earnings Monthly Earnings are defined as base

pay, lump sum payments in lieu of salary increases, performance-based bonuses, awards for service extension or completion of overseas assignments and shift premiums.

Final Average Earnings (FAE) FAE is equal to an

average of the participant's Monthly Earnings for the highest 60 consecutive months out of the last 120 months of employment.

Estimated Primary Social Security Benefit The

Estimated Primary Social Security Benefit represents an estimate of the unreduced amount that will be received annually from social security at age 65 or a participant's age at retirement, if later.

Benefit

Plan Formula The annual pension benefit is equal to the greater of (i) 1.8% for each of the first 20 years of benefit service plus 1.2% for each year of benefit service in excess of 20 years, multiplied by the difference between the FAE and the Estimated Primary Social Security Benefit, or (ii) the period of service as a salaried employee multiplied by \$492.

Retirement Reduction Factors For those participants that are eligible to retire early, there is no reduction for retirements beginning at age 60 or over.

Supplemental Plans

The Supplemental Executive Retirement Program (SERP) has the same provisions as the Qualified Pension Plans. However, this plan takes into consideration earnings above the annual IRS earnings limit and provides a non-qualified benefit to those participants based on those earnings in excess of the IRS limit or the Section 415 benefit limits.

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	a	h	le	OT.	Cc	n	te	nts

2007 Nonqualified Deferred Compensation

The following table provides information regarding contributions, earnings and balances for our named executive officers under our long-term deferred incentive plan and our nonqualified deferred compensation plans.

Name Executive
Contributions in
Last Fiscal Year(1)
(\$) Aggregate Earnings
in Last Fiscal Year
(\$) Aggregate
Withdrawals/
Distributions
(\$) Aggregate Balance at
Last Fiscal Year End(3)
(\$) Michael T. Strianese — — — Ralph G. D'Ambrosio— — — Kathleen E. Karelis — — —
Carl E. Vuono 603,567 1,188,443 (2) — 15,453,514 Robert W. Drewes — — —
(1) The
amounts in this column are included in the Salary and Bonus columns of the Summary Compensation Table on
page 41. (2) Aggregate earnings in the last fiscal year are based on the prime rate. The amount reported includes
\$338,458 of above market interest related to the long-term deferred incentive plan and is included in the Summary
Compensation Table. (3) Of the total aggregate balance reported for Mr. Vuono at December 31, 2007, \$4,360,765
represents compensation earned in 2006 and is included in the Salary, Bonus and Non-Equity Incentive Plan
Compensation columns of the Summary Compensation Table for that year.
See Compensation Discussion and Analysis for a discussion of Deferred Compensation on page 37.
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Change of Control Severance Plan

On August 15, 2006, our Board of Directors approved a Change of Control Severance Plan for executive officers, non-executive officers and other corporate employees. The Board of Directors based its approval on the recommendation of its Compensation Committee, composed solely of independent directors. The Compensation Committee's recommendation was based, in part, on consultations with Mercer, its outside compensation consultant that reports directly to the Compensation Committee, and was not in anticipation of, or in response to, any particular transaction or process.

Under this plan, executive officers, non-executive officers and other corporate employees will be entitled to severance benefits if their employment is terminated in connection with or following a change in control of L-3. The following chart sets forth the material terms of the program with respect to our named executive officers:

Protection

Period Two years following the occurrence of a change in control. In addition, the program will cover terminations that become effective prior to the occurrence of a change in control, if such termination has been effected (i) upon the request of the acquirer or (ii) otherwise in anticipation of the change in control.

Payout

Requirements Severance payments are required following termination by us without cause or termination by the eligible officer or employee for good reason during the protection period.

Severance Benefits
Lump sum payment equal to a

multiple of annual salary and three-year average bonus:

•Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer and General

Counsel — three times

•Senior Vice Presidents and Group Presidents — two and a half

times

Bonus for Year of Change in Control/Termination Pro rata bonus based on number of months worked in the year of termination and three year average bonus (or actual, if performance is determinable).

Benefits/Perquisites Continuation Continuation of medical and life insurance benefits at the same cost to the executive, or cash equal to any increased premiums, for the same periods as the severance multiple.

Restrictive

Covenants Non-compete and non-solicit covenants for one-year period following termination of employment.

Amendment and Termination of the Plan Prior to the occurrence of a change in control, the Compensation Committee may amend or terminate the program at any time upon 90 days written notice.

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Potential Payments Upon Change in Control or Termination of Employment

The following table summarizes the effect of the following events upon outstanding equity awards issued to our named executive officers.

Equity
Award Type Change in
Control Death /
Disability Qualified
Retirement(1) Termination
by Company
for cause Termination
by Company

without cause Resignation Options Immediate vesting of full award. Immediate vesting of full award. Unvested options are forfeited. Forfeiture of full award. Unvested options are forfeited. Unvested options are forfeited. Restricted Stock (Units) Immediate vesting of full award. Immediate vesting of full award. No immediate effect. Vesting continues as if the executive remained an employee. Forfeiture of full award. Forfeiture of full award. Forfeiture of full award. Performance Units Immediate payment based on Target level of performance, prorated to reflect reduced service period. (2) No immediate effect. Payment is based on actual performance for the full performance period, prorated to reflect reduced service period. No immediate effect. Payment is based on actual performance for the full performance period, prorated to reflect reduced service period. Forfeiture of full award. No immediate effect. Payment is based on actual performance period, prorated to reflect reduced service period. Forfeiture of full award.

(1)

Qualified Retirement is defined as a termination of employment that satisfies all of the following: (i) the executive terminates employment more than one year after the grant date of the applicable equity award, (ii) the executive terminates employment on or after attaining age 65 and completing at least five years of continuous service, (iii) the executive is not subject to termination for cause by the Company at the time of the employee's termination and (iv) the executive is available for consultation following the termination of employment at the reasonable request of the Company. (2) In connection with a change in control, the Compensation Committee has the discretion to increase this payment (but not above the benefit payable for the Maximum level of performance achievement) to the extent (if any) that the Committee is able to assess that the Company's progress towards achievement of the applicable performance measures, at or prior to the change in control, exceeds the Target performance level requirement as adjusted to reflect the reduced service period.

The following table quantifies the payments under our severance arrangements, equity compensation plans and supplemental pension plan that would be made assuming that a change in control, death or disability occurred on December 31, 2007. Payments under other plans do not change as a result of a change in control or termination of employment, and quantification of those payments are found elsewhere in this Proxy Statement under 2007 Pension Benefits on pages 46-48 and 2007 Nonqualified Deferred Compensation on page 49 or are paid under plans available generally to salaried employees that do not discriminate in scope, terms or operation in favor of executive officers.

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Named Executive Officer Change in Control (\$) Death/Disability (\$) Michael T. Strianese Severance(1)(2)8,305,000 — Medical Benefits(1)(3) 48,396 Insurance Premiums(1) 17,503 — Outplacement Benefits(1)(4) 18,000 Acceleration of Stock 4,741,333 Acceleration of Restricted Stock (Units)(7)(8) Options(5)(6)4,741,333 1,755,426 1,755,426 Acceleration of Performance Units(9)(10) 351,085 — Supplemental Plan(11) 689,213 —(11) TOTAL 6,496,759 Ralph G. D'Ambrosio Severance(1)(2)2,901,769 — Medical Benefits(1)(3) 15,925,956 — Life Insurance Premiums(1) 13,218 — Outplacement Benefits(1)(4) 18,000 Acceleration of 67,296 477,418 Acceleration of Restricted Stock (Units)(7)(8) Stock Options(5)(6) 477,418 626,105 626,105 Acceleration of Performance Units(9)(10) 51,063 — Supplemental Plan(11) 104,881 —(11) TOTAL 4,259,750 1,103,523 Kathleen E. Karelis Severance(1)(2)(12)4,150,000 — Medical Benefits(1)(3) 58,368 — Life Insurance Premiums(1) 11,959 — Outplacement Benefits(1)(4) 18,000 Acceleration of Stock Options(5)(6) 839,317 839,317 Acceleration of Restricted Stock (Units)(7)(8) 255,315 255,315 Acceleration of Performance Units(9)(10) 51.063 — Supplemental Plan(11) — — (11) TOTAL(12) 1,094,632 Carl E. Vuono 3,348,178 — Medical Benefits(1)(3) 5,384,022 Severance(1)(2)— Outplacement Benefits(1)(4) 18,000 39,925 — Life Insurance Premiums(1) 173 Acceleration of 652,214 652,214 Acceleration of Restricted Stock (Units)(7)(8) Stock Options(5)(6) 287,203 287,203 Acceleration of Performance Units(9)(10) 57,441 — Supplemental Plan(11) — — (11) TOTAL 4,403,134 4.003.526 939,417 Robert W. Drewes Severance(1)(2)— Medical Benefits(1)(3) 60,893 Life Insurance Premiums(1) — Outplacement Benefits(1)(4) 18,000 Acceleration of Stock 14,535 Options(5)(6)818,496 818,496 Acceleration of Restricted Stock (Units)(7)(8) 287,203 287,203 Acceleration of Performance Units(9)(10) 57,441