IROBOT CORP Form DEF 14A April 13, 2009

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

## **SCHEDULE 14A**

Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (Amendment No.

Filed by the Registrant b

Filed by a Party other than the Registrant o

Check the appropriate box:

- o Preliminary Proxy Statement
- o Confidential, For Use of the Commission Only (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2))
- **b** Definitive Proxy Statement
- o Definitive Additional Materials
- o Soliciting Material Pursuant to §240.14a-12

## **iRobot Corporation**

(Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)
(Name of Person(s) Filing Proxy Statement, if other than the Registrant)

Payment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box):

- b No fee required.
- o Fee computed on table below per Exchange Act Rules 14a-6(i)(1) and 0-11.
  - 1) Title of each class of securities to which transaction applies:
  - 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:
  - 5) Total fee paid:
- o Fee paid previously with preliminary materials.

O	whi	Check box if any part 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.:		
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Dear Stockholder: April 13, 2009

You are cordially invited to attend the annual meeting of stockholders of iRobot Corporation to be held at 2:00 p.m., local time, on Thursday, May 28, 2009 at iRobot Corporation headquarters located at 8 Crosby Drive, Bedford, Massachusetts 01730.

At this annual meeting, you will be asked to elect three class I directors for three-year terms, to ratify the appointment of our independent registered public accountants, and to approve an amendment to the 2005 Stock Option and Incentive Plan and a stock option exchange program for eligible iRobot Corporation employees, excluding, among others, our executive officers. The board of directors unanimously recommends that you vote FOR election of the director nominees, FOR ratification of appointment of our independent registered public accountants, and FOR the amendment to the 2005 Stock Option and Incentive Plan and a stock option exchange program for eligible employees, excluding, among others, our executive officers.

Details regarding the matters to be acted upon at this annual meeting appear in the accompanying proxy statement. Please give this material your careful attention.

Whether or not you plan to attend the annual meeting, we urge you to sign and return the enclosed proxy so that your shares will be represented at the annual meeting. If you attend the annual meeting, you may vote in person even if you have previously returned your proxy card. Your prompt cooperation will be greatly appreciated.

Very truly yours,

COLIN M. ANGLE
Chief Executive Officer & Chairman of the Board

## iROBOT CORPORATION 8 Crosby Drive Bedford, Massachusetts 01730 (781) 430-3000

## NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS To Be Held on May 28, 2009

To the Stockholders of iRobot Corporation:

The annual meeting of stockholders of iRobot Corporation, a Delaware corporation (the Company), will be held on Thursday, May 28, 2009, at 2:00 p.m., local time, at iRobot Corporation headquarters located at 8 Crosby Drive, Bedford, Massachusetts 01730, for the following purposes:

- 1. To elect three (3) class I directors, nominated by the Board of Directors, each to serve for a three-year term and until his successor has been duly elected and qualified or until his earlier resignation or removal;
- 2. To ratify the appointment of the accounting firm of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as the Company s independent registered public accountants for the current fiscal year;
- 3. To approve an amendment to the 2005 Stock Option and Incentive Plan and a stock option exchange program for eligible iRobot Corporation employees, excluding, among others, our executive officers, which would enable them to exchange certain out-of-the-money stock options issued under the Company s equity plans, for new stock options exercisable for fewer shares of common stock with lower exercise prices and extended vesting terms, and:
- 4. To transact such other business as may properly come before the annual meeting and any adjournments or postponements thereof.

Proposal 1 relates solely to the election of three (3) class I directors nominated by the board of directors and does not include any other matters relating to the election of directors, including without limitation, the election of directors nominated by any stockholder of the Company.

Only stockholders of record at the close of business on April 9, 2009, are entitled to notice of and to vote at the annual meeting and at any adjournment or postponement thereof.

All stockholders are cordially invited to attend the annual meeting in person. However, to assure your representation at the annual meeting, we urge you, whether or not you plan to attend the annual meeting, to sign and return the enclosed proxy so that your shares will be represented at the annual meeting. If you attend the annual meeting, you may vote in person even if you have previously returned your proxy card. Directions to iRobot Corporation headquarters can be found at the Company s website, http://www.irobot.com.

By Order of the Board of Directors,

GLEN D. WEINSTEIN Senior Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary

Bedford, Massachusetts April 13, 2009

IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING THE AVAILABILITY OF PROXY MATERIALS FOR THE SHAREHOLDER MEETING TO BE HELD ON MAY 28, 2009. THE PROXY STATEMENT AND ANNUAL REPORT TO SHAREHOLDERS ARE AVAILABLE AT <a href="http://materials.proxyvote.com/462726">http://materials.proxyvote.com/462726</a>

WHETHER OR NOT YOU EXPECT TO ATTEND THE ANNUAL MEETING, PLEASE COMPLETE, DATE AND SIGN THE ENCLOSED PROXY CARD AND MAIL IT PROMPTLY IN THE ENCLOSED ENVELOPE IN ORDER TO ASSURE REPRESENTATION OF YOUR SHARES. NO POSTAGE NEED BE AFFIXED IF THE PROXY CARD IS MAILED IN THE UNITED STATES.

IN ACCORDANCE WITH OUR SECURITY PROCEDURES, ALL PERSONS ATTENDING THE ANNUAL MEETING WILL BE REQUIRED TO PRESENT PICTURE IDENTIFICATION.

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## iROBOT CORPORATION 8 Crosby Drive Bedford, Massachusetts 01730

# PROXY STATEMENT For the Annual Meeting of Stockholders To Be Held on May 28, 2009

April 13, 2009

This proxy statement is furnished in connection with the solicitation of proxies by the board of directors of iRobot Corporation, a Delaware corporation (the Company), for use at the annual meeting of stockholders to be held on Thursday, May 28, 2009, at 2:00 p.m., local time, at iRobot Corporation headquarters located at 8 Crosby Drive, Bedford, Massachusetts 01730, and any adjournments or postponements thereof. An annual report to stockholders, containing financial statements for the fiscal year ended December 27, 2008, is being mailed together with this proxy statement to all stockholders entitled to vote at the annual meeting. This proxy statement and the form of proxy are expected to be first mailed to stockholders on or about April 21, 2009.

The purposes of the annual meeting are to elect three class I directors for three-year terms, to ratify the appointment of the Company s independent registered public accountants, and to approve an amendment to the 2005 Stock Option and Incentive Plan (the 2005 Plan) and a stock option exchange program for eligible employees, excluding, among others, our executive officers. Only stockholders of record at the close of business on April 9, 2009 will be entitled to receive notice of and to vote at the annual meeting. As of March 27, 2009, 24,941,889 shares of common stock, \$.01 par value per share, of the Company were issued and outstanding. The holders of common stock are entitled to one vote per share on any proposal presented at the annual meeting.

Stockholders may vote in person or by proxy. If you attend the annual meeting, you may vote in person even if you have previously returned your proxy card. Any proxy given pursuant to this solicitation may be revoked by the person giving it at any time before it is voted. Proxies may be revoked by (i) filing with the Secretary of the Company, before the taking of the vote at the annual meeting, a written notice of revocation bearing a later date than the proxy, (ii) duly completing a later-dated proxy relating to the same shares and delivering it to the Secretary of the Company before the taking of the vote at the annual meeting, or (iii) attending the annual meeting and voting in person (although attendance at the annual meeting will not in and of itself constitute a revocation of a proxy). Any written notice of revocation or subsequent proxy should be sent so as to be delivered to iRobot Corporation, 8 Crosby Drive, Bedford, Massachusetts 01730, Attention: Secretary, before the taking of the vote at the annual meeting.

The representation in person or by proxy of at least a majority of the outstanding shares of common stock entitled to vote at the annual meeting is necessary to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. Votes withheld from any nominee, abstentions and broker non-votes are counted as present or represented for purposes of determining the presence or absence of a quorum for the annual meeting. A non-vote occurs when a nominee holding shares for a beneficial owner votes on one proposal but does not vote on another proposal because, with respect to such other proposal, the nominee does not have discretionary voting power and has not received instructions from the beneficial owner.

For Proposal 1, the election of class I directors, the nominees receiving the highest number of affirmative votes of the shares present or represented and entitled to vote at the annual meeting shall be elected as directors. For Proposal 2, the ratification of the appointment of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as the Company s independent registered public accountants for the current fiscal year, and for Proposal 3, the approval of an amendment to the 2005 Plan and a stock

option exchange program for eligible employees, excluding, among others, our executive officers, an affirmative vote of a majority of the shares present, in person or represented by proxy, and voting on each such matter is required for approval. Abstentions are included in the number of shares present or represented and voting on each matter. Broker non-votes—are not considered voted for the particular matter and have the effect of reducing the number of affirmative votes required to achieve a majority for such matter by reducing the total number of shares from which the majority is calculated.

The person named as attorney-in-fact in the proxies, Glen D. Weinstein, was selected by the board of directors and is an officer of the Company. All properly executed proxies returned in time to be counted at the annual meeting will be voted by such person at the annual meeting. Where a choice has been specified on the proxy with respect to the foregoing matters, the shares represented by the proxy will be voted in accordance with the specifications. If no such specifications are indicated, such proxies will be voted FOR election of the director nominees, FOR ratification of the appointment of our independent registered public accountants and FOR the approval of an amendment to the 2005 Plan and a stock option exchange program for eligible employees, excluding, among others, our executive officers.

Aside from the election of directors, ratification of the appointment of the independent registered public accountants, and approval of an amendment to the 2005 Plan and a stock option exchange program for eligible employees, the board of directors knows of no other matters to be presented at the annual meeting. If any other matter should be presented at the annual meeting upon which a vote properly may be taken, shares represented by all proxies received by the board of directors will be voted with respect thereto in accordance with the judgment of the person named as attorney-in-fact in the proxies.

## SECURITY OWNERSHIP OF CERTAIN BENEFICIAL OWNERS AND MANAGEMENT

The following table sets forth certain information regarding beneficial ownership of the Company s common stock as of March 27, 2009: (i) by each person who is known by the Company to beneficially own more than 5% of the outstanding shares of common stock; (ii) by each director or nominee of the Company; (iii) by each named executive officer of the Company; and (iv) by all directors and executive officers of the Company as a group. Unless otherwise noted below, the address of each person listed on the table is c/o iRobot Corporation, 8 Crosby Drive, Bedford, Massachusetts 01730.

		Percentage of Shares
Name of Beneficial Owner	Shares Beneficially Owned(1)	Beneficially Owned(2)
OppenheimerFunds, Inc.(3)	2,571,257	10.3%
2 World Financial Center		
225 Liberty Street		
New York, NY 10281-1008		
BlackRock, Inc.(4)	1,399,950	5.6%
40 East 52 <sup>nd</sup> Street		
New York, NY 10022		
Morgan Stanley(5)	1,242,630	5.0%
1585 Broadway		
New York, NY 10036		
Colin M. Angle(6)	1,906,292	7.6%
John J. Leahy	0	*
Joseph W. Dyer(7)	247,267	1.0%
Glen D. Weinstein(8)	113,636	*
Alison Dean(9)	30,724	*
Rodney A. Brooks, Ph.D.(10)	1,266,939	5.1%
Ronald Chwang(11)	754,681	3.0%

Jacques S. Gansler(12)	61,401	*	
Andrea Geisser(13)	50,775	*	
Helen Greiner(14)	1,530,178	6.1%	
George C. McNamee(15)	107,128	*	
Peter T. Meekin(16)	48,000	*	
Paul J. Kern(17)	34,001	*	
Geoffrey P. Clear(18)	182,140	*	
All executive officers, directors and nominees as a			
group (19) (13 persons)	6,151,022	24.7%	
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- \* Represents less than 1% of the outstanding common stock.
- (1) Beneficial ownership is determined in accordance with the rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission and includes voting and investment power with respect to shares. Unless otherwise indicated below, to the knowledge of the Company, all persons listed below have sole voting and investment power with respect to their shares of common stock, except to the extent authority is shared by spouses under applicable law. Pursuant to the rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission, the number of shares of common stock deemed outstanding includes (i) shares issuable pursuant to options held by the respective person or group that are currently exercisable or may be exercised within 60 days of March 27, 2009 and (ii) shares issuable pursuant to restricted stock units held by the respective person or group that vest within 60 days of March 27, 2009.
- (2) Applicable percentage of ownership as of March 27, 2009 is based upon 24,941,889 shares of common stock outstanding.
- (3) OppenheimerFunds, Inc. has shared voting power and shared dispositive power with respect to all of these shares. This information has been obtained from a Schedule 13G/A filed by OppenheimerFunds, Inc. with the Securities and Exchange Commission on January 26, 2009, and includes 2,500,000 shares over which Oppenheimer Global Opportunity Fund has shared voting and shared dispositive power. The address of Oppenheimer Global Opportunity Fund is 6803 S. Tucson Way, Centennial, CO 80112.
- (4) BlackRock, Inc. has shared voting power and shared dispositive power with respect to all of these shares. This information has been obtained from a Schedule 13G filed by BlackRock, Inc. with the Securities and Exchange Commission on February 10, 2009.
- (5) Morgan Stanley has sole voting power with respect to 1,143,868 of these shares and sole dispositive power with respect to all of these shares. This information has been obtained from a Schedule 13G filed by Morgan Stanley with the Securities and Exchange Commission on February 17, 2009.
- (6) Includes 17,167 shares issuable to Mr. Angle upon exercise of stock options, 4,075 shares issuable to Mr. Angle upon vesting of restricted stock units and 190,549 shares held in a trust for the benefit of certain of his family members.
- (7) Includes 200,416 shares issuable to Mr. Dyer upon exercise of stock options and 2,875 shares issuable to Mr. Dyer upon vesting of restricted stock units.
- (8) Includes 104,202 shares issuable to Mr. Weinstein upon exercise of stock options and 1,838 shares issuable to Mr. Weinstein upon vesting of restricted stock units.
- (9) Includes 28,567 shares issuable to Ms. Dean upon exercise of stock options.
- (10) Includes 4,667 shares issuable to Dr. Brooks upon exercise of stock options.
- (11) Includes an aggregate of 526,970 shares held by iD5 Fund, L.P. Dr. Chwang is a general partner of the management company for iD5 Fund, L.P. and may be deemed to share voting and investment power with respect to all shares held by iD5 Fund, L.P. Dr. Chwang disclaims beneficial ownership of such shares except to the extent of his pecuniary interest, if any. Also includes 34,001 shares issuable to Dr. Chwang upon exercise of stock options and 193,710 shares held in a trust for the benefit of certain of his family members.

- (12) Includes 60,001 shares issuable to Dr. Gansler upon exercise of stock options.
- (13) Includes 34,001 shares issuable to Mr. Geisser upon exercise of stock options and 3,868 shares issuable to Mr. Geisser upon vesting of phantom stock.
- (14) Includes 10,667 shares issuable to Ms. Greiner upon exercise of stock options and 2,200 shares issuable to Ms. Greiner upon vesting of restricted stock units.
- (15) Includes 34,001 shares issuable to Mr. McNamee upon exercise of stock options and 3,487 shares issuable to Mr. McNamee upon vesting of phantom stock.
- (16) Includes 34,001 shares issuable to Mr. Meekin upon exercise of stock options and 3,481 shares issuable to Mr. Meekin upon vesting of phantom stock.
- (17) Consists of 34,001 shares issuable to Mr. Kern upon exercise of stock options.
- (18) Includes 123,350 shares held by Geoffrey P. Clear and Marjorle P. Clear (JTWROS), over which Mr. Clear and Mrs. Clear share voting power and investment power.
- (19) Includes an aggregate of 595,692 shares issuable upon exercise of stock options held by twelve (12) executive officers and directors, an aggregate of 10,988 shares issuable pursuant to restricted stock units held by four (4) executive officers and directors, and an aggregate of 10,836 shares issuable upon vesting of phantom stock to three (3) directors. Excludes securities beneficially owned by Mr. Clear, who is no longer employed by the Company, and Jeffrey A. Beck, who was appointed President, Home Robots as of April 1, 2009.

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#### PROPOSAL 1

## **ELECTION OF DIRECTORS**

## **Nominees**

Our board of directors currently consists of nine members. Our amended and restated certificate of incorporation divides the board of directors into three classes. One class is elected each year for a term of three years. The board of directors, upon the recommendation of the nominating and corporate governance committee, has nominated Colin M. Angle, Ronald Chwang, Ph.D., and Paul J. Kern, Gen. U.S. Army (ret.) and recommended that each be elected to the board of directors as a class I director, each to hold office until the annual meeting of stockholders to be held in the year 2012 and until his successor has been duly elected and qualified or until his earlier death, resignation or removal. Messrs. Angle and Kern and Dr. Chwang are class I directors whose terms expire at this annual meeting. Mr. Angle serves as our chairman of the board and chief executive officer. The board of directors is also composed of (i) three class II directors (Helen Greiner, George C. McNamee and Peter T. Meekin), whose terms expire upon the election and qualification of directors at the annual meeting of stockholders to be held in 2010 and (ii) three class III Directors (Rodney A. Brooks, Ph.D., Andrea Geisser, and Jacques S. Gansler, Ph.D.) whose terms expire upon the election and qualification of directors at the annual meeting of stockholders to be held in 2011.

The board of directors knows of no reason why any of the nominees would be unable or unwilling to serve, but if any nominee should for any reason be unable or unwilling to serve, the proxies will be voted for the election of such other person for the office of director as the board of directors may recommend in the place of such nominee. Unless otherwise instructed, the proxy holders will vote the proxies received by them for the nominees named below.

## **Recommendation of the Board**

## THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS UNANIMOUSLY RECOMMENDS THAT YOU VOTE FOR THE NOMINEES LISTED BELOW.

The following table sets forth the nominees to be elected at the annual meeting and continuing directors, the year each such nominee or director was first elected a director, the positions with us currently held by each nominee and director, the year each nominee s or director s current term will expire and each nominee s and director s current class:

Nominee s or Director s Name and Year First Became a Director	Position(s) with the Company	Year Current Term Will Expire	Current Class of Director
Nominees for Class I Directors:			
Colin M. Angle	Chairman of the Board, Chief		
1992	<b>Executive Officer and Director</b>	2009	I
Ronald Chwang, Ph.D.			
1998	Director	2009	I
Paul J. Kern, Gen. U.S. Army (ret.)			
2006	Director	2009	I
<b>Continuing Directors:</b>			
Helen Greiner			
1994	Director	2010	II

George C. McNamee 1999	Director	2010	II
Peter T. Meekin		2010	
2003	Director	2010	II
Rodney A. Brooks, Ph.D.			
1990	Director	2011	III
Andrea Geisser			
2004	Director	2011	III
Jacques S. Gansler, Ph.D.			
2003	Director	2011	III
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#### DIRECTORS AND EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

The following table sets forth the director nominees to be elected at the annual meeting, the directors and the executive officers of the Company, their ages immediately prior to the annual meeting, and the positions currently held by each such person with the Company.

Name	Age	Position
Colin M. Angle	41	Chairman of the Board, Chief Executive Officer and Director
John J. Leahy	50	Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer
Jeffrey A. Beck	46	President, Home Robots
Joseph W. Dyer	62	President, Government & Industrial
Glen D. Weinstein	38	Senior Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary
Alison Dean	44	Vice President, Financial Controls & Analysis
Rodney A. Brooks, Ph.D.	54	Director
Ronald Chwang, Ph.D.(1)	61	Director
Jacques S. Gansler, Ph.D.(2)	74	Director
Andrea Geisser(3)	66	Director
Helen Greiner	41	Director
George C. McNamee(1)(2)(3)	62	Director
Peter T. Meekin(2)(3)	59	Director
Paul J. Kern, Gen. U.S. Army (ret)(1)	63	Director

- (1) Member of compensation committee
- (2) Member of nominating and corporate governance committee
- (3) Member of audit committee

Colin M. Angle, a co-founder of iRobot, has served as chairman of the board since October 2008, as chief executive officer since June 1997, and prior to that, as our president since November 1992. Mr. Angle has also served as a director since October 1992. Mr. Angle also worked at the National Aeronautical and Space Administration s Jet Propulsion Laboratory where he participated in the design of the behavior-controlled rovers that led to Sojourner exploring Mars in 1997. Mr. Angle holds a B.S. in Electrical Engineering and an M.S. in Computer Science, both from MIT.

John J. Leahy has served as our executive vice president, chief financial officer and treasurer since June 2008. From August 2007 to September 2007, Mr. Leahy, served as executive vice president, chief financial officer, principal financial/accounting officer and assistant treasurer of The Hanover Insurance Group, Inc. From 1999 to 2007, Mr. Leahy served as executive vice president and chief financial officer of Keane, Inc., and served as interim president and chief executive officer from May 2006 to January 2007. Mr. Leahy received a B.S. in Finance from Merrimack College and an M.B.A. from Boston College.

Jeffrey A. Beck has served as the president of our home robots division since April 2009. Prior to joining iRobot, Mr. Beck served at AMETEK Corporation as senior vice president and general manager, Aerospace & Defense from 2008 to 2009 and as vice president & general manager, Power Systems and Instruments Division from 2004 to 2008. From 1996 to 2004, Mr. Beck served in a number of positions at Danaher Corporation, including president, Danaher Precision Systems Division and vice president of sales, Kollmorgen I&C Division. Mr. Beck holds a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from the New Jersey Institute of Technology and an M.B.A. from Boston University.

Joseph W. Dyer has served as the president of our government and industrial robots division since July 2006. Mr. Dyer served as executive vice president and general manager of our government and industrial robots division from September 2003 until July 2006. Prior to joining iRobot, Mr. Dyer served for 32 years in the U.S. Navy. From July 2000 until July 2003, he served as Vice Admiral commanding the Naval Air Systems Command at which he was responsible for research and development, procurement and in-service

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support for naval aircraft, weapons and sensors. He is an elected fellow in the Society of Experimental Test Pilots and the National Academy of Public Administration. He also chairs NASA s Aerospace Safety Advisory Panel. Mr. Dyer holds a B.S. in Chemical Engineering from North Carolina State University and an M.S. in Finance from the Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, California.

Glen D. Weinstein has served as our general counsel since July 2000. Since February 2005, Mr. Weinstein has also served as a senior vice president, and he served as a vice president from February 2002 to January 2005. Since March 2004, he has also served as our secretary. Prior to joining iRobot, Mr. Weinstein was with Covington & Burling, a law firm in Washington, D.C. Mr. Weinstein holds a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from MIT and a J.D. from the University of Virginia School of Law.

Alison Dean has served as our vice president, financial controls & analysis and principal accounting officer since March 2007. Ms. Dean served as our vice president, financial planning & analysis from August 2005 until March 2007. From 1995 to August 2005, Ms. Dean served in a number of positions at 3Com Corporation, including vice president and corporate controller from 2004 to 2005 and vice president of finance worldwide sales from 2003 to 2004. Ms. Dean holds a B.A. in Business Economics from Brown University and an M.B.A. from Boston University.

Rodney A. Brooks, Ph.D., a co-founder of iRobot, has served as a director since our inception in August 1990, and from inception until February 2004, as the chairman of the board of directors. Dr. Brooks held various positions at iRobot since our inception, including chief technology officer from June 1997 until September 2008, and prior to that, treasurer and president. In September 2008, Dr. Brooks co-founded Heartland Robotics to develop low-cost industrial robots that will empower workers and serves as its chairman and chief technology officer. Dr. Brooks has taken a leave from his position as Panasonic Professor of Robotics at MIT. From August 1997 until June 2003, he was the director of the MIT Artificial Intelligence Laboratory. Dr. Brooks is a member of the National Academy of Engineering. Dr. Brooks holds a degree in pure mathematics from the Flinders University of South Australia and a Ph.D. in Computer Science from Stanford University.

Ronald Chwang, Ph.D, has served as a director since November 1998. Dr. Chwang is the chairman and president of iD Ventures America, LLC (formerly known as Acer Technology Ventures) under the iD SoftCapital Group, a venture investment and management consulting service group formed in January 2005. From August 1998 until December 2004, Dr. Chwang was the chairman and president of Acer Technology Ventures, LLC, managing high-tech venture investment activities in North America. Dr. Chwang also serves on the board of directors of Silicon Storage Technology, Inc. and a number of other private high tech companies. Dr. Chwang holds a B.Eng. (with honors) in Electrical Engineering from McGill University and a Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering from the University of Southern California.

Jacques S. Gansler, Ph.D. has served as a director since July 2004. Dr. Gansler has been a professor at the University of Maryland, where he leads the school s Center for Public Policy and Private Enterprise, since January 2001. From November 1997 until January 2001, Dr. Gansler served as the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics for the U.S. federal government. Dr. Gansler holds a B.E. in electrical engineering from Yale University, an M.S. in Electrical Engineering from Northeastern University, an M.A. in Political Economy from New School for Social Research, and a Ph.D. in Economics from American University.

Andrea Geisser has served as a director since March 2004. Mr. Geisser is currently a senior advisor to Fenway Partners Resources, a private equity firm, and senior advisor to Zephyr Management Inc., a global private equity firm. From 1995 to 2005, Mr. Geisser was a managing director of Fenway Partners. Prior to founding Fenway Partners, Mr. Geisser was a managing director of Butler Capital Corporation. Prior to that, he was a managing director of Onex Investment Corporation, a Canadian management buyout company. From 1974 to 1986, he was a senior officer of Exor America. Mr. Geisser has been a board member and audit committee member of several private companies.

Mr. Geisser holds a bachelor s degree from Bocconi University in Milan, Italy and a P.M.D. from Harvard Business School.

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Helen Greiner, a co-founder of iRobot, has served as a director since July 1994. Ms. Greiner also served as president of iRobot from June 1997 until February 2004 and as chairman of the board from February 2004 until October 2008. In October 2008, Ms. Greiner resigned as an employee of iRobot and as chairman of the board to become chairman, president & CEO of The Droid Works. Prior to joining iRobot, Ms. Greiner founded California Cybernetics, a company commercializing Jet Propulsion Laboratory technology. She has been honored by Technology Review Magazine as an Innovator for the Next Century. Ms. Greiner holds a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering and an M.S. in Computer Science, both from MIT.

George C. McNamee has served as a director since August 1999. Mr. McNamee is a managing partner of FA Technology Ventures, an information and energy technology venture capital firm. From 1984 to 2007, Mr. McNamee served as chairman of First Albany Companies Inc., a specialty investment banking firm. Mr. McNamee serves as chairman of the board of directors of Plug Power Inc. and is a director of Broadpoint Securities Group, Inc. and several private companies. He is a Trustee of the American Friends of Eton College and the Albany Academies. Mr. McNamee holds a B.A. from Yale University.

*Peter T. Meekin* has served as a director since February 2003. Mr. Meekin has been a managing director of Trident Capital, a venture capital firm, since 1998. Prior to joining Trident Capital, he was vice president of venture development at Enterprise Associates, LLC, the venture capital division of IMS Health. Mr. Meekin holds a B.S. in Mathematics from the State University of New York at New Paltz.

Paul J. Kern, Gen. U.S. Army (ret.) has served as a director since May 2006. Gen. Kern has served as president and chief operating officer of AM General LLC since 2008, and as a senior counselor to The Cohen Group, an international strategic business consulting firm, from January 2005 until 2008. From 1963 to 2004, Gen. Kern served in the U.S. Army and, from October 2001 to November 2004, as Commanding General of the U.S. Army Materiel Command. Prior to his command in the U.S. Army Materiel Command, he served as the military deputy to the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology. Gen. Kern also serves on the board of directors of ITT Corporation. He holds a B.S. from the United States Military Academy at West Point, an M.S. in Civil Engineering from the University of Michigan and an M.S. in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Michigan.

Our executive officers are elected by the board of directors on an annual basis and serve until their successors have been duly elected and qualified or until their earlier death, resignation or removal.

## CORPORATE GOVERNANCE AND BOARD MATTERS

## **Independence of Members of the Board of Directors**

The board of directors has determined that Drs. Chwang and Gansler and Messrs. Geisser, McNamee, Meekin and Kern are independent within the meaning of the director independence standards of The NASDAQ Stock Market, Inc., or NASDAQ, and the Securities and Exchange Commission, including Rule 10A-3(b)(1) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or the Exchange Act. Furthermore, the board of directors has determined that each member of each of the committees of the board of directors is independent within the meaning of the director independence standards of NASDAQ and the Securities and Exchange Commission.

## **Executive Sessions of Independent Directors**

Executive sessions of the independent directors are held prior to each regularly scheduled in-person meeting of the board of directors. Executive sessions do not include any of our non-independent directors and are chaired by a lead independent director who is appointed annually by the board of directors from our independent directors.

Mr. McNamee currently serves as the lead independent director. In this role, Mr. McNamee serves as chairperson of the independent director sessions and assists the board in assuring effective corporate governance. The independent directors of the board of directors met in executive session four (4) times in 2008.

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## **Policies Governing Director Nominations**

## **Director Qualifications**

The nominating and corporate governance committee of the board of directors is responsible for reviewing with the board of directors from time to time the appropriate qualities, skills and characteristics desired of members of the board of directors in the context of the needs of the business and current make-up of the board of directors. This assessment includes consideration of the following minimum qualifications that the nominating and corporate governance committee believes must be met by all directors:

nominees must have experience at a strategic or policy making level in a business, government, non-profit or academic organization of high standing;

nominees must be highly accomplished in his or her respective field, with superior credentials and recognition;

nominees must be well regarded in the community and shall have a long-term reputation for the highest ethical and moral standards:

nominees must have sufficient time and availability to devote to the affairs of the Company, particularly in light of the number of boards on which the nominee may serve;

nominees must be free of conflicts of interest and potential conflicts of interest, in particular with relationships with other boards; and

nominees must, to the extent such nominee serves or has previously served on other boards, demonstrate a history of actively contributing at board meetings.

The board of directors seeks members from diverse professional backgrounds who combine a broad spectrum of relevant industry and strategic experience and expertise that, in concert, offer us and our stockholders diversity of opinion and insight in the areas most important us and our corporate mission. In addition, nominees for director are selected to have complementary, rather than overlapping, skill sets. All candidates for director nominee must have time available to devote to the activities of the board of directors. The nominating and corporate governance committee also considers the independence of candidates for director nominee, including the appearance of any conflict in serving as a director. Candidates for director nominee who do not meet all of these criteria may still be considered for nomination to the board of directors, if the nominating and corporate governance committee believes that the candidate will make an exceptional contribution to us and our stockholders.

## Process for Identifying and Evaluating Director Nominees

The board of directors is responsible for selecting its own members. The board of directors delegates the selection and nomination process to the nominating and corporate governance committee, with the expectation that other members of the board of directors, and of management, will be requested to take part in the process as appropriate.

Generally, the nominating and corporate governance committee identifies candidates for director nominee in consultation with management, through the use of search firms or other advisors, through the recommendations submitted by stockholders or through such other methods as the nominating and corporate governance committee deems to be helpful to identify candidates. Once candidates have been identified, the nominating and corporate governance committee confirms that the candidates meet all of the minimum qualifications for director nominees

established by the nominating and corporate governance committee. The nominating and corporate governance committee may gather information about the candidates through interviews, detailed questionnaires, comprehensive background checks or any other means that the nominating and corporate governance committee deems to be helpful in the evaluation process. The nominating and corporate governance committee then meets as a group to discuss and evaluate the qualities and skills of each candidate, both on an individual basis and taking into account the overall composition and needs of the board of directors. Based on the results of the evaluation process, the nominating and corporate governance committee recommends candidates for the board of directors approval as director nominees for election to the board of directors. The nominating and corporate governance committee also recommends candidates to the board of directors for appointment to the committees of the board of directors.

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## Procedures for Recommendation of Director Nominees by Stockholders

The nominating and corporate governance committee will consider director nominee candidates who are recommended by our stockholders. Stockholders, in submitting recommendations to the nominating and corporate governance committee for director nominee candidates, shall follow the following procedures:

The nominating and corporate governance committee must receive any such recommendation for nomination not later than the close of business on the 120th day nor earlier than the close of business on the 150th day prior to the first anniversary of the date of the proxy statement delivered to stockholders in connection with the preceding year s annual meeting.

All recommendations for nomination must be in writing and include the following:

Name and address of the stockholder making the recommendation, as they appear on our books and records, and of such record holder s beneficial owner;

Number of shares of our capital stock that are owned beneficially and held of record by such stockholder and such beneficial owner;

Name, age, business and residential address, educational background, current principal occupation or employment, and principal occupation or employment for the preceding five full fiscal years of the individual recommended for consideration as a director nominee;

All other information relating to the recommended candidate that would be required to be disclosed in solicitations of proxies for the election of directors or is otherwise required, in each case pursuant to Regulation 14A under the Exchange Act, including the recommended candidate s written consent to being named in the proxy statement as a nominee and to serving as a director if approved by the board of directors and elected; and

A written statement from the stockholder making the recommendation stating why such recommended candidate meets our criteria and would be able to fulfill the duties of a director.

Nominations must be sent to the attention of our secretary by U.S. mail (including courier or expedited delivery service) to:

iRobot Corporation 8 Crosby Drive Bedford, Massachusetts 01730 Attn: Secretary of iRobot Corporation

Our secretary will promptly forward any such nominations to the nominating and corporate governance committee. Once the nominating and corporate governance committee receives the nomination of a candidate and the candidate has complied with the minimum procedural requirements above, such candidacy will be evaluated and a recommendation with respect to such candidate will be delivered to the board of directors.

## Policy Governing Security Holder Communications with the Board of Directors

The board of directors provides to every security holder the ability to communicate with the board of directors as a whole and with individual directors on the board of directors through an established process for security holder communication as follows:

For communications directed to the board of directors as a whole, security holders may send such communications to the attention of the chairman of the board of directors by U.S. mail (including courier or expedited delivery service) to:

iRobot Corporation 8 Crosby Drive Bedford, Massachusetts 01730 Attn: Chairman of the Board, c/o Secretary

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For security holder communications directed to an individual director in his or her capacity as a member of the board of directors, security holders may send such communications to the attention of the individual director by U.S. mail (including courier or expedited delivery service) to:

iRobot Corporation 8 Crosby Drive Bedford, Massachusetts 01730

Attn: [Name of the director], c/o Secretary

We will forward any such security holder communication to the chairman of the board, as a representative of the board of directors, or to the director to whom the communication is addressed, on a periodic basis. We will forward such communications by certified U.S. mail to an address specified by each director and the chairman of the board for such purposes or by secure electronic transmission.

## Policy Governing Director Attendance at Annual Meetings of Stockholders

Our policy is to schedule a regular meeting of the board of directors on the same date as our annual meeting of stockholders and, accordingly, directors are encouraged to be present at our stockholder meetings. All nine (9) board members attended the annual meeting of stockholders held in 2008.

## **Board of Directors Evaluation Program**

The board of directors performs annual self-evaluations of its composition and performance, including evaluations of its standing committees and individual evaluations for each director. In addition, each of the standing committees of the board of directors conducts it own self-evaluation, which is reported to the board of directors. The board of directors retains the authority to engage its own advisors and consultants.

For more corporate governance information, you are invited to access the Corporate Governance section of our website available at <a href="http://www.irobot.com">http://www.irobot.com</a>.

#### **Code of Ethics**

We have adopted a code of ethics, as defined by regulations promulgated under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and the Exchange Act, that applies to all of our directors and employees worldwide, including our principal executive officer, principal financial officer, principal accounting officer and controller, or persons performing similar functions. A current copy of the Code of Business Conduct and Ethics is available at the Corporate Governance section of our website at <a href="http://www.irobot.com">http://www.irobot.com</a>. A copy of the Code of Business Conduct and Ethics may also be obtained, free of charge, from us upon a request directed to: iRobot Corporation, 8 Crosby Drive, Bedford, Massachusetts 01730, Attention: Investor Relations. We intend to disclose any amendment to or waiver of a provision of the Code of Business Conduct and Ethics that applies to our principal executive officer, principal financial officer, principal accounting officer or controller, or persons performing similar functions, by posting such information on its website available at <a href="http://www.irobot.com">http://www.irobot.com</a> and/or in our public filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

For more corporate governance information, you are invited to access the Corporate Governance section of our website available at <a href="http://www.irobot.com">http://www.irobot.com</a>.

## THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND ITS COMMITTEES

## **Board of Directors**

The board of directors met nine (9) times during the fiscal year ended December 27, 2008, and took action by unanimous written consent two (2) times. Each of the directors attended at least 75% of the aggregate of the total number of meetings of the board of directors and the total number of meetings of all committees of the board of directors on which they served during fiscal 2008. The board of directors has the following standing committees: audit committee; compensation committee; and nominating and corporate

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governance committee, each of which operates pursuant to a separate charter that has been approved by the board of directors. A current copy of each charter is available at <a href="http://www.irobot.com">http://www.irobot.com</a>. Each committee reviews the appropriateness of its charter at least annually. Each committee retains the authority to engage its own advisors and consultants. The composition and responsibilities of each committee are summarized below.

#### **Audit Committee**

The audit committee of the board of directors currently consists of Messrs. Geisser, McNamee and Meekin, each of whom is an independent director within the meaning of the director independence standards of NASDAQ and the Securities and Exchange Commission, or SEC, including Rule 10A-3(b)(1) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or the Exchange Act. Mr. Geisser serves as the chairman of the audit committee. In addition, the board of directors has determined that Mr. Geisser is financially literate and that Mr. Geisser qualifies as an audit committee financial expert—under the rules of the SEC. Stockholders should understand that this designation is a disclosure requirement of the SEC related to Mr. Geisser—s experience and understanding with respect to certain accounting and auditing matters. The designation does not impose upon Mr. Geisser any duties, obligations or liability that are greater than are generally imposed on him as a member of the audit committee and the board of directors, and his designation as an audit committee financial expert pursuant to this SEC requirement does not affect the duties, obligations or liability of any other member of the audit committee or the board of directors.

The audit committee met seven (7) times during the fiscal year ended December 27, 2008. The audit committee operates under a written charter adopted by the board of directors, a current copy of which is available at the Corporate Governance section of our website at <a href="http://www.irobot.com">http://www.irobot.com</a>.

As described more fully in its charter, the audit committee oversees our accounting and financial reporting processes, internal controls and audit functions. In fulfilling its role, the audit committee responsibilities include:

appointing, approving the compensation of, and assessing the independence of our independent registered public accounting firm;

pre-approving auditing and permissible non-audit services, and the terms of such services, to be provided by our independent registered public accounting firm;

reviewing and discussing with management and the independent registered public accounting firm our annual and quarterly financial statements and related disclosures;

coordinating the oversight and reviewing the adequacy of our internal control over financial reporting;

establishing policies and procedures for the receipt and retention of accounting related complaints and concerns; and

preparing the audit committee report required by SEC rules to be included in our annual proxy statement.

## **Compensation Committee**

The compensation committee of the board of directors currently consists of Mr. McNamee, Gen. Kern, and Dr. Chwang, each of whom is an independent director within the meaning of the director independence standards of NASDAQ, a non-employee director as defined in Rule 16b-3 of the Exchange Act, and an outside director pursuant to Rule 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code. Mr. McNamee serves as the chairman of the compensation committee. The compensation committee include:

annually reviewing and approving corporate goals and objectives relevant to compensation of our chief executive officer;

evaluating the performance of our chief executive officer in light of such corporate goals and objectives and determining the compensation of our chief executive officer;

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overseeing and administering our compensation, welfare, benefit and pension plans and similar plans; and reviewing and making recommendations to the board with respect to director compensation.

The compensation committee met six (6) times and took action by unanimous written consent fourteen (14) times during the fiscal year ended December 27, 2008. The compensation committee operates under a written charter adopted by the board of directors, a current copy of which is available at the Corporate Governance section of our website at <a href="http://www.irobot.com">http://www.irobot.com</a>.

## **Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee**

The nominating and corporate governance committee of the board of directors currently consists of Dr. Gansler, and Messrs. Meekin and McNamee, each of whom is an independent director within the meaning of the director independence standards of NASDAQ and applicable rules of the SEC. Dr. Gansler serves as the chairman of the nominating and corporate governance committee. The nominating and corporate governance committee s responsibilities include:

developing and recommending to the board criteria for board and committee membership;

establishing procedures for identifying and evaluating director candidates including nominees recommended by stockholders;

identifying individuals qualified to become board members;

recommending to the board the persons to be nominated for election as directors and to each of the board s committees;

developing and recommending to the board a code of business conduct and ethics and a set of corporate governance guidelines; and

overseeing the evaluation of the board and management.

The nominating and corporate governance committee met five (5) times during the fiscal year ended December 27, 2008. The nominating and corporate governance committee operates under a written charter adopted by the board of directors, a current copy of which is available at the Corporate Governance section of our website at <a href="http://www.irobot.com">http://www.irobot.com</a>.

## **Compensation Committee Interlocks and Insider Participation**

During 2008, Dr. Chwang, Gen. Kern and Mr. McNamee served as members of the compensation committee. No member of the compensation committee was an employee or former employee of us or any of our subsidiaries, or had any relationship with us requiring disclosure herein.

During the last year, no executive officer of the Company served as: (i) a member of the compensation committee (or other committee of the board of directors performing equivalent functions or, in the absence of any such committee, the entire board of directors) of another entity, one of whose executive officers served on our compensation committee; (ii) a director of another entity, one of whose executive officers served on our compensation committee; or (iii) a member of the compensation committee (or other committee of the board of directors performing equivalent

functions or, in the absence of any such committee, the entire board of directors) of another entity, one of whose executive officers served as a director of the Company.

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## REPORT OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

No portion of this audit committee report shall be deemed to be incorporated by reference into any filing under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, through any general statement incorporating by reference in its entirety the proxy statement in which this report appears, except to the extent that the Company specifically incorporates this report or a portion of it by reference. In addition, this report shall not be deemed filed under either the Securities Act or the Exchange Act.

This report is submitted by the audit committee of the board of directors. The audit committee currently consists of Messrs. Geisser (chairman), McNamee and Meekin. None of the members of the audit committee is an officer or employee of the Company, and the board of directors has determined that each member of the audit committee meets the independence requirements promulgated by NASDAQ and the Securities and Exchange Commission, including Rule 10A-3(b)(1) under the Exchange Act. Mr. Geisser is an audit committee financial expert as is currently defined under SEC rules. The audit committee operates under a written charter adopted by the board of directors.

The audit committee oversees the Company s accounting and financial reporting processes on behalf of the board of directors. The Company s management has the primary responsibility for the financial statements, for maintaining effective internal control over financial reporting, and for assessing the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting. In fulfilling its oversight responsibilities, the audit committee has reviewed and discussed with management the Company s consolidated financial statements for the fiscal year ended December 27, 2008, including a discussion of, among other things, the quality of the Company s accounting principles, the reasonableness of significant estimates and judgments, and the clarity of disclosures in the Company s financial statements.

The audit committee also reviewed with PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, the Company s independent registered public accounting firm, the results of their audit and discussed matters required to be discussed by the Statement on Auditing Standards No. 61 (*Communication with Audit Committees*), as currently in effect, other standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board, rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission and other applicable regulations. The audit committee has reviewed permitted services under rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission as currently in effect and discussed with PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP their independence from management and the Company, including the matters in the written disclosures and the letter from the independent registered public accounting firm required by applicable requirements of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board regarding the independent accountant s communications with the audit committee concerning independence, and has considered and discussed the compatibility of non-audit services provided by PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP with that firm s independence.

The audit committee meets with the independent registered public accounting firm, with and without management present, to discuss the results of their examinations; their evaluations of the Company s internal control, including internal control over financial reporting; and the overall quality of the Company s financial reporting.

Based on its review of the financial statements and the aforementioned discussions, the audit committee concluded that it would be reasonable to recommend, and on that basis did recommend, to the board of directors that the audited financial statements be included in the Company s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 27, 2008.

The audit committee has also evaluated the performance of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, including, among other things, the amount of fees paid to PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP for audit and non-audit services in 2008. Information about PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP s fees for 2008 is discussed below in this proxy statement under Proposal 2 *Ratification of Appointment of Independent Registered Public Accountants.* Based on its evaluation, the audit

committee has recommended that the Company retain PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP to serve as the Company s independent registered public accounting firm for the 2009 fiscal year.

Respectfully submitted by the Audit Committee,

Andrea Geisser (chairman) George C. McNamee Peter T. Meekin

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## REPORT OF THE COMPENSATION COMMITTEE OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

No portion of this compensation committee report shall be deemed to be incorporated by reference into any filing under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, through any general statement incorporating by reference in its entirety the proxy statement in which this report appears, except to the extent that the Company specifically incorporates this report or a portion of it by reference. In addition, this report shall not be deemed filed under either the Securities Act or the Exchange Act.

The compensation committee of the board of directors, which is comprised solely of independent directors within the meaning of applicable rules of The NASDAQ Stock Market, Inc., outside directors within the meaning of Section 162 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, and non-employee directors within the meaning of Rule 16b-3 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, is responsible for developing executive compensation policies and advising the board of directors with respect to such policies and administering the Company s cash incentive, stock option and employee stock purchase plans. The compensation committee sets performance goals and objectives for the chief executive officer and the other executive officers, evaluates their performance with respect to those goals and sets their compensation based upon the evaluation of their performance. In evaluating executive officer pay, the compensation committee may retain the services of a compensation consultant and consider recommendations from the chief executive officer with respect to goals and compensation of the other executive officers. The compensation committee assesses the information it receives in accordance with its business judgment. The compensation committee also periodically reviews director compensation. All decisions with respect to executive and director compensation are approved by the compensation committee and recommended to the full board for ratification. George McNamee, Paul Kern and Ronald Chwang are the current members of the compensation committee.

The compensation committee has reviewed and discussed the Compensation Discussion and Analysis (the CD&A) for the year ended December 27, 2008 with management. In reliance on the reviews and discussions referred to above, the compensation committee recommended to the board of directors, and the board of directors has approved, that the CD&A be included in the proxy statement for the year ended December 27, 2008 for filing with the SEC.

Respectfully submitted by the Compensation Committee,

George C. McNamee (chairman) Paul J. Kern Ronald Chwang

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## COMPENSATION AND OTHER INFORMATION CONCERNING DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS

## **Compensation Discussion & Analysis**

#### Overview

Our compensation philosophy is based on a desire to balance retention of executive talent with pay for performance-based incentive compensation, which is designed to reward our named executive officers for continued service and our sustained financial and operating performance. We believe that the compensation of our named executive officers should align our executives—interests with those of our stockholders and focus executive behavior on the achievement of both near-term corporate targets as well as long-term business objectives and strategies. It is the responsibility of the compensation committee of our board of directors to administer our compensation practices to ensure that they are competitive and include incentives that are designed to appropriately drive our performance, including our revenue and earnings growth. Our compensation committee reviews and approves all of our executive compensation policies, including executive officer salaries, bonuses and equity awards.

## Objectives of Our Compensation Programs

Our compensation programs for our executive officers are designed to achieve the following objectives:

to provide competitive compensation that attracts, motivates and retains the best talent and the highest caliber executives to serve us and help us to achieve our strategic objectives;

to align management s interest with our success;

to connect a significant portion of the total potential cash compensation paid to executives to our annual financial performance or the division, region or segment of our business for which an executive has management responsibility by basing cash incentive compensation on corresponding financial targets;

to align management s interest with the interests of stockholders through long-term equity incentives; and

to provide management with performance goals that are directly linked to our annual plan for growth and profit.

We believe that the compensation of our named executive officers should reflect their success as a management team, rather than as individuals, in attaining key operating objectives, such as revenue growth and gross profit improvement, as well as longer-term strategic objectives, such as invention and product development.

We also believe that their compensation should not be based on the short-term performance of our stock, whether favorable or unfavorable, but rather that the price of our stock will, in the long-term, reflect our operating performance, and ultimately, the management of the company by our named executive officers. We seek to have the long-term performance of our stock reflected in executive compensation through our stock option and other equity incentive programs.

## Methodologies for Establishing Executive Compensation

The compensation committee, which is comprised entirely of independent directors, reviews the compensation packages for our named executive officers, including an analysis of all elements of compensation separately and in the aggregate. In determining the appropriate compensation levels for our chief executive officer, the compensation committee meets outside the presence of all our executive officers. With respect to the compensation levels of all other named executive officers, the compensation committee meets outside the presence of all executive officers except our chief executive officer and, in 2008, our former chairman of the board. Mr. Angle, our chief executive officer, annually reviews each other named executive officer is performance with the compensation committee.

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With the input of our human resources department and compensation consultants, the chief executive officer makes recommendations to the compensation committee regarding base salary levels, target incentive awards, performance goals for incentive compensation and equity awards for named executive officers, other than Mr. Angle. In conjunction with the annual performance review of each named executive officer in January of each year, the compensation committee carefully considers the recommendations of the chief executive officer when setting base salary, bonus payments under the prior year s incentive compensation plan, target amounts and performance goals for the current year s incentive compensation plan, and any other special adjustments or bonuses. In addition, the compensation committee similarly determines equity incentive awards, if any, for each named executive officer.

Our compensation plans are developed, in part, by utilizing publicly available compensation data and subscription compensation survey data for national and regional companies in the technology, defense, household durables and robotics industries. We believe that the practices of this group of companies provide us with appropriate compensation benchmarks, because these companies have similar organizational structures and tend to compete with us to attract executives and other employees. For benchmarking executive compensation, we typically review the compensation data we have collected from the complete group of companies, as well as a subset of the data from companies with revenues, numbers of employees and market capitalizations similar to our profile.

With respect to 2008 base salary, cash incentive compensation, and long-term incentives, we reviewed companies with similar-sized revenues of greater than \$160 million and less than \$630 million and market capitalizations of between \$275 million to \$1.1 billion, in particular: Aerovironment, Inc., Argon ST, Inc., Audiovox Corp., Axsys Technologies, Inc., Ducommun Incorporated, Force Protection Inc., Gencorp Inc., Genesis Microchip Inc., Heico Corp., LoJack Corporation, National Presto Industries Inc., Plantronics Inc., Raven Industries Inc., Syntax-Brillian Corp., Tivo, Inc. and Universal Electronics Inc.

The compensation committee also engaged a consultant, DolmatConnell & Partners, to help evaluate peer companies for cash compensation and long-term incentive purposes, analyze applicable compensation data and determine appropriate compensation levels for our named executive officers.

We will annually reassess the relevance of our peer group and make changes when judged appropriate. We believe that the use of benchmarking is an important factor in remaining competitive with our peers and furthering our objective of attracting, motivating and retaining highly qualified personnel.

The compensation committee reviews all components of compensation for named executive officers. In accordance with its charter, the compensation committee also, among other responsibilities, administers our incentive compensation plan, and reviews and makes recommendations to management on company-wide compensation programs and practices. In setting compensation levels for our executive officers in fiscal 2008, the compensation committee considered many factors in addition to benchmarking described above, including, but not limited to:

the scope and strategic impact of the executive officer s responsibilities,

our past business and segment performance and future expectations,

our long-term goals and strategies,

the performance and experience of each individual,

past salary levels of each individual and of the named executive officers as a group,

relative levels of pay among the executive officers,

the amount of base salary in the context of the executive officer s total compensation and other benefits,

for each named executive officer, other than the chief executive officer, the evaluations and recommendations of the chief executive officer, and

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the competitiveness of the compensation packages relative to the selected benchmarks as highlighted by the independent compensation consultant s analysis.

The compensation committee determines compensation for our chief executive officer using the same factors it uses for other executive officers, placing relatively less emphasis on base salary, and instead, creating greater performance-based opportunities through long-term equity and short term cash incentive compensation, which we believe better aligns our chief executive officer s interests with our success and the interests of our stockholders. In assessing the compensation paid to our chief executive officer, the compensation committee relies on both information from our selected benchmarks and its judgment with respect to the factors described above.

### Elements of Compensation

Our executive compensation program consists of three primary elements: salary, long-term equity interest, primarily in the form of stock options and restricted stock awards, and an annual cash incentive program based on both corporate and, if appropriate, divisional performance. All of our executive officers also are eligible for certain benefits offered to employees generally, including life, health, disability and dental insurance, as well as to participate in our 401(k) plan. We also enter into executive agreements with our executive officers that provide for certain severance benefits upon termination of employment following a change in control of the Company.

## Annual Cash Compensation

<u>Base Salary</u>. The compensation committee believes that our executive officers, including our chief executive officer, are paid salaries in line with their qualifications, experience and responsibilities. Salaries are structured so that they are at least comparable with salaries paid by the peer companies reviewed by the compensation committee in the technology and robotics industry. We target base salaries for each of our executives at the market median (50th percentile) in the technology and robotics industry and also take into consideration many additional factors which we believe enable us to attract, motivate and retain our leadership team in an extremely competitive environment. Salaries are reviewed generally on an annual basis.

Fiscal year 2007 demonstrated our ability to sustain growth while laying a strong foundation for continued expansion. Under Mr. Angle s leadership, we improved our results of operations, achieved record revenues and gained momentum in areas of critical importance such as international market expansion and key military programs. As a result, in 2008, Mr. Angle received salary compensation of \$372,288. The increase in Mr. Angle s annual salary from \$330,625 in 2007 to \$378,769 was based on the compensation committee s consideration of the factors described above. Additionally, the decision to increase Mr. Angle s base salary was based on the compensation committee s assessment that Mr. Angle s 2007 salary was below the market median salary for chief executive officers whose companies were included in the selected benchmarks and that it would be appropriate to move towards more closely aligning Mr. Angle s salary with the 50th percentile of such benchmarks.

Fiscal year 2008 base salaries for our executive officers, other than Mr. Angle, were determined by the compensation committee after considering the base salary level of the executive officers in prior years and taking into account for each executive officer the amount of base salary as a component of total compensation. Base salary levels for each of our executive officers, other than our chief executive officer, were also based upon evaluations and recommendations made by our chief executive officer. These recommendations include an assessment of the individual s responsibilities, experience, individual performance and contribution to our performance, and also generally take into account the competitive environment for attracting and retaining executives consistent with our business needs.

In light of the considerations discussed above, for fiscal year 2008, the annual base salaries of our chief executive officer, chief financial officer, president, government & industrial robots, senior vice president and general counsel and vice president, financial controls and analysis were \$378,769, \$350,012, \$325,000, \$284,875 and \$230,000, respectively. In addition, the annual base salaries of our former officers including our former chairman of the board and former chief financial officer were \$330,625 and \$278,200, respectively. We

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believe that the base salaries paid to our executive officers during our fiscal year 2008 achieve our executive compensation objectives, compare favorably to our peer group and, in light of our overall compensation program, are within our target of providing total compensation at the market median.

<u>Cash Incentive Compensation</u>. The compensation committee believes that some portion of overall cash compensation for executive officers should be at risk, *i.e.*, contingent upon successful implementation of our strategy. For our named executive officers, including our chief executive officer, the granting of cash incentive payments is based on an evaluation of achievement against predetermined financial and operational metrics in accordance with our Senior Executive Incentive Compensation Plan that was adopted by the compensation committee. Target cash incentives for named executive officers are generally targeted at the 50th percentile of similar cash incentives provided to officers in peer companies reviewed by the compensation committee in the technology and robotics industries. The amount of cash incentives paid to the named executive officers, however, is subject to the discretion of the compensation committee based on its assessment of our performance in general or the achievement of specific goals.

For fiscal 2008, the target bonus awards under our Senior Executive Incentive Compensation Plan for each of our named executive officers, as a percentage of base salary, were 85% for our chief executive officer, 65% for our chief financial officer, 65% for the president of our Government & Industrial Robots division, 50% for our senior vice president and general counsel, and 25% for our vice president, financial controls and analysis. In addition, the target cash incentive awards under our Senior Executive Incentive Compensation Plan for our now departed officers, as a percentage of base salary, were 80% for our chairman and 40% for our former chief financial officer. This target payout amount was set at levels the compensation committee determined were appropriate in order to achieve our objective of retaining those executives who perform at or above the levels necessary for us to achieve our business plan, which, among other things, involved growing our company in a cost-effective way.

We designed our Senior Executive Incentive Compensation Plan to focus our executives on achieving key corporate financial objectives and strategic milestones, and to reward substantial achievement of these company financial objectives and strategic milestones. The performance goals and cash incentive payment criteria established by the compensation committee under our 2008 Senior Executive Incentive Compensation Plan were designed to require significant effort and operational success on the part of us and our named executive officers for achievement. While the Senior Executive Incentive Compensation Plan is designed to provide cash incentive payments based upon objectively determinable formulas that tie cash incentive payments to specific financial goals and strategic milestones, the compensation committee retains the discretion to adjust cash incentive payments under the Senior Executive Incentive Compensation Plan based upon additional factors.

For each executive officer, except Mr. Leahy, 100% of his or her target cash incentive compensation in 2008 was tied to a company-wide revenue threshold. We had to achieve minimum revenue of approximately \$300 million for any portion of the cash incentive compensation to be accrued, with accrual increasing ratably until we achieve revenue of approximately \$311 million, at which 100% of the target cash incentive compensation would have been accrued; provided, however, that the payment of such cash incentive compensation was conditioned on our pre-tax net income as a percentage of revenue for fiscal 2008 remaining above a pre-determined threshold of 2%. The compensation committee chose revenue achievement as a primary determinant of cash incentive compensation because it believed that, as a growth company, we should reward meaningful revenue growth. The compensation committee conditioned the payment of cash incentive compensation on the achievement of a minimum level of pre-tax net income as a percentage of revenue because it believed that we must balance our growth with a disciplined increase in profitability designed to allow us to achieve our more long-term financial goals.

We achieved our revenue threshold for 2008, but because we did not achieve the minimum level of pre-tax net income, the executive officers, except Mr. Leahy, did not meet performance thresholds under the formula driven portion of the 2008 Senior Executive Incentive Compensation Plan. Nevertheless, based upon its discretion under the

2008 Senior Executive Incentive Compensation Plan, the compensation committee determined that cash incentive compensation should be paid based upon a number of factors including the

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substantial achievement of the fundamental revenue target, the company s strengthened balance sheet and overall organizational improvements, the extraordinary global economic conditions, the lack of any cash incentive compensation paid pursuant to the 2007 Senior Executive Incentive Compensation Plan, and the comparable cash incentive compensation of companies within our peer group. Based on these factors, the compensation committee determined that our chief executive officer, chief financial officer, president, government & industrial robots, senior vice president and general counsel and vice president, financial controls and analysis should receive \$105,714, \$122,504, \$153,380, \$88,954 and \$39,928, respectively, which corresponds to 33.5%, 100.0%, 73.4%, 63.0% and 69.9%, respectively, of each executive s total target cash incentive compensation amount.

Because Mr. Leahy joined us in June 2008, after a substantial portion of the year had passed, and in accordance with the terms of his employment offer letter, the compensation committee provided that his cash incentive compensation would be paid at 100% of his threshold bonus amount.

In addition, pursuant to Ms. Greiner s Employment Separation Agreement, a bonus payment of \$102,913 was authorized by the compensation committee. Similarly, pursuant to Mr. Clear s Transitional Services and Departure Agreement, a bonus payment of \$27,791 was approved for Mr. Clear.

### Long-Term Incentives

Executive officers (and other employees) are eligible to receive restricted stock, stock option grants and other stock awards that are intended to promote success by aligning employee financial interests with long-term shareholder value. These stock-based incentives are based on various factors primarily relating to the responsibilities of the individual officer or employee, their past performance, anticipated future contributions and prior option grants. In general, our compensation committee bases its decisions to grant stock-based incentives on recommendations of management and the compensation committee s analysis of peer group compensation information, with the intention of keeping the executives—overall compensation, including the equity component of that compensation, at a competitive level with the comparator companies reviewed by the compensation committee in the technology and robotics industries. Our compensation committee also considers the number of shares of common stock outstanding, the number of shares of common stock authorized for issuance under its equity compensation plans, the number of options and shares held by the executive officer for whom an award is being considered and the other elements of the officer s compensation, as well as our compensation objectives and policies described above. During fiscal year 2008, stock options and deferred stock awards were granted to our named executive officers. As with the determination of base salaries and short term incentive payments, the compensation committee exercises subjective judgment and discretion in view of the above criteria.

## Other Compensation

We also have various broad-based employee benefit plans. Our executive officers participate in these plans on the same terms as other eligible employees, subject to any legal limits on the amounts that may be contributed or paid to executive officers under these plans. We offer a 401(k) plan, which allows our employees to invest in a wide array of funds on a pre-tax basis. We do not provide pension arrangements or post-retirement health coverage for our named executive officers or other employees. We also maintain insurance and other benefit plans for our employees. Executive officers receive higher life, accidental death and dismemberment and disability insurance benefits than other employees. In addition, one executive officer receives amounts allocable to use of our corporate apartment. We also enter into executive agreements with our executive officers providing for certain severance benefits which may be triggered as a result of the termination of such officer s employment under certain circumstances. We offer no perquisites, other than the use of our corporate apartment, that are not otherwise available to all of our employees.

Executive Agreements

We entered into executive agreements with each of our executive officers. The executive agreements provide for severance payments equal to 50% of such officer s annual base salary, as well as certain continued health benefits, in the event that we terminate his or her employment other than for cause. In addition, these

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executive agreements provide that if we experience a change in control and the employment of such officer is terminated without cause, or if such officer terminates his or her employment for certain reasons including a substantial reduction in salary or bonus or geographic movement during the one-year period following the change in control, then all unvested stock options held by such officer become fully-vested and immediately exercisable and such officer is entitled to severance payments equal to 100% of his or her annual base salary and 50% of such officer s annual bonus, as well as certain continued health benefits. The agreements also provide that all options granted to each officer will have their vesting accelerated by 25% upon a change in control. It was the belief of the compensation committee that these provisions were consistent with executive severance arrangements that are customary for public companies at our stage of development and were necessary in order to hire and/or retain the executives.

From time to time, the Company s executive officers enter into stock restriction agreements upon the exercise of their option grants.

We entered into indemnification agreements with each of our executive officers and directors, providing for indemnification against expenses and liabilities reasonably incurred in connection with their service for us on our behalf.

On December 30, 2002, we entered into an independent contractor agreement with Dr. Rodney Brooks. On August 8, 2008, we amended and restated this independent contractor agreement. Our independent contractor agreement with Dr. Brooks shall continue until terminated by either party upon 60 days written notice.

Tax Deductibility of Executive Compensation

In general, under Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, or the Code, we cannot deduct, for federal income tax purposes, compensation in excess of \$1,000,000 paid to certain executive officers. This deduction limitation does not apply, however, to compensation that constitutes qualified performance-based compensation within the meaning of Section 162(m) of the Code and the regulations promulgated thereunder. We have considered the limitations on deductions imposed by Section 162(m) of the Code and it is our present intention, for so long as it is consistent with our overall compensation objective, to structure executive compensation to minimize application of the deduction limitations of Section 162(m) of the Code.

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### **Executive Compensation Summary**

The following table sets forth summary compensation information for the Company s chief executive officer, chief financial officer and the three other most highly compensated executive officers:

### SUMMARY COMPENSATION TABLE

			Non-Equity Incentive						
			Stock	Option	Plan	All Other			
		Salary	Awards	Awards	Compensatio	Total			
Name and Principal Position	Year	(\$)	(\$)(1)	(\$)(1)	(\$)	(\$)(2)(3)	(\$)		
Colin M. Angle	2008	372,288	73,664	84,191	105,714	6,900	642,757		
Chairman, Chief Executive	2007	324,820	30,691	25,944	0	6,750	388,205		
Officer and Director	2006	281,731	17,935		105,081	6,600	411,347		
John J. Leahy(4)	2008	195,199	105,591	173,423	122,504	5,654	602,371		
Executive Vice President, Chief									
Financial Officer and Treasurer									
Joseph W. Dyer	2008	322,074	50,256	49,082	153,380	6,900	581,692		
President and General	2007	300,240	18,285	16,215	0	6,750	341,490		
Manager Government &	2006	277,600	10,313		155,142	6,600	449,655		
Industrial									
Glen D. Weinstein	2008	282,704	47,575	99,841	88,954	6,900	525,974		
Senior Vice President, General									
Counsel and Secretary									
Alison Dean	2008	228,654	21,028	219,421	39,928	6,854	515,885		
Vice President, Financial									
Controls & Analysis, Principal									
Accounting Officer									
Helen Greiner(5)	2008	273,402	223,476	147,927	102,913	337,525(6)	1,085,243		
	2007	324,820	30,691	25,944	0	6,750	388,205		
	2006	282,749	17,935		105,081	6,600	412,365		
Geoffrey P. Clear(7)	2008	201,860	(6,636)	98,300	27,791	83,460(8)	404,775		
	2007	265,144	13,218	20,089	0	6,750	305,201		
	2006	248,461	6,042	5,136	42,999	6,600	309,238		

- (1) Represents the dollar amount recognized for financial statement reporting purposes for the fiscal years ended December 27, 2008, December 29, 2007 and December 30, 2006, as appropriate, in accordance with SFAS No. 123(R) and, accordingly, includes amounts from options granted prior to 2008. See the information appearing in note 2 to our consolidated financial statements included as part of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 27, 2008 for certain assumptions made in the valuation of stock and option awards.
- (2) Excludes medical, group life insurance and certain other benefits received by the named executive officers that are available generally to all of our salaried employees and certain prerequisites and other personal benefits received by the named executive officers which do not exceed \$10,000.

- (3) Represents 401(k) matching contributions.
- (4) Mr. Leahy joined as Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer, iRobot Corporation, on June 9, 2008.
- (5) Ms. Greiner resigned as an employee and as Chairman of the Board, effective October 24, 2008.
- (6) Includes severance payments of \$330,625 and payment in lieu of 401(k) matching contribution of \$6,900 pursuant to an Employment Separation Agreement dated October 22, 2008.

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- (7) Mr. Clear resigned as Senior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer of the Company effective June 9, 2008, and served as Senior Finance Advisor to the Chief Executive Officer from June 9, 2008 until September 5, 2008.
- (8) Includes severance payments pursuant to a Transitional Services and Departure Agreement dated April 30, 2008, equal to \$83,460.

### **Grants of Plan-Based Awards in 2008**

The following table sets forth, for each of the named executive officers, information about grants of plan-based awards during 2008.

### GRANTS OF PLAN-BASED AWARDS 2008

					All Other Stock	All Other Option		Grant Date
					Awards:	Awards: Number	Exercise or	Fair Value
					Number	of	Base	of
					of		Price	Stock
					Shares	Securities	of	and
		Under N		le Payouts y Incentive ls(1)	of Stock or	Underlying	Option	Option
		Threshold	Target	Maximum	Units	<b>Options</b>	Awards	Awards
Name	Grant Date	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)	(#)(2)	(#)(2)	(\$/Sh)	(\$)
Colin M. Angle			315,658					