MITCHAM INDUSTRIES INC Form DEF 14A May 29, 2009

# UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549 SCHEDULE 14A INFORMATION

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

Filed by the Registrant p 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
- Soliciting Material Under Rule 14a-12

## Mitcham Industries, Inc.

(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:
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### MITCHAM INDUSTRIES, INC.

# 8141 SH 75 SOUTH P.O. BOX 1175 HUNTSVILLE, TEXAS 77342-1175

# NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS TO BE HELD JULY 23, 2009

To our Shareholders:

We will hold the Annual Meeting of Shareholders of Mitcham Industries, Inc., a Texas corporation, on Thursday, July 23, 2009, at the Houston Marriott North, 225 North Sam Houston Parkway East, Houston, Texas at 10:00 a.m., local time. At the Annual Meeting, shareholders will be asked to:

- 1. Elect six individuals to serve on our Board of Directors until the next annual meeting of shareholders, each until their respective successors are duly elected and qualified;
- 2. Approve an amendment to the Mitcham Industries, Inc. Stock Awards Plan to increase the shares of common stock authorized for issuance under the plan by 350,000 shares;
- 3. Ratify the selection by the Audit Committee of our Board of Directors of Hein & Associates LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending January 31, 2010; and
- 4. Transact such other business as may properly come before the meeting and any adjournment or postponement thereof.

Our Board of Directors has established the close of business on May 26, 2009 as the record date for determining the shareholders entitled to notice of and to vote at the Annual Meeting of Shareholders to be held July 23, 2009, and any adjournment or postponement thereof.

A list of all shareholders will be available for inspection at our Annual Meeting, and during normal business hours, ten days prior thereto, at our offices, which are located at 8141 SH 75 South, Huntsville, Texas 77340.

Sincerely,

Billy F. Mitcham, Jr.

President and Chief Executive Officer

EVEN IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND THE ANNUAL MEETING, PLEASE COMPLETE, SIGN AND MAIL THE ENCLOSED PROXY CARD AS PROMPTLY AS POSSIBLE IN THE ACCOMPANYING ENVELOPE OR USE THE TELEPHONE OR INTERNET VOTING.

June 1, 2009

IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING THE AVAILABILITY OF PROXY MATERIALS FOR THE SHAREHOLDER MEETING TO BE HELD ON JULY 23, 2009.

The Company's Proxy Statement for the 2009 Annual Meeting of Shareholders and the Annual Report to Shareholders for the fiscal year ended January 31, 2009 are available at www.proxyvote.com

# **Table of Contents**

# **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

	Page
SOLICITATION OF PROXIES	1
Purpose, Place, Date and Time	1
Expenses of Solicitation	1
Shareholders Sharing the Same Last Name and Address	1
VOTING OF SECURITIES	2
Record Date; Shareholders Entitled to Vote	2
Quorum	2
Abstentions and Broker Non-Votes	2
Vote Required	3
Revocation of Proxies	3
CORPORATE GOVERNANCE	3
Our Governance Practices	3
Our Board	4
Committees of Our Board	5
Director Nomination Process	7
COMPENSATION COMMITTEE INTERLOCKS AND INSIDER PARTICIPATION	7
TRANSACTIONS WITH RELATED PERSONS	8
Policies and Procedures	8
Transactions	9
STOCK OWNERSHIP MATTERS	9
Section 16(a) Beneficial Ownership Reporting Compliance	9
Principal Holders of Securities	9
Security Ownership of Management	10
PROPOSAL 1: ELECTION OF DIRECTORS	11
General	11
Information About Director Nominees	11
INTEGRALATION ADOLET OUR EVECUTIVE OFFICERS	12
INFORMATION ABOUT OUR EXECUTIVE OFFICERS	13
COMPENSATION DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS	14
Overview of Our Executive Compensation Program	14
Objectives of Our Executive Compensation Program	14
Implementing Our Objectives	14
Elements of Our Executive Compensation Program	16
Employment Agreements, Severance Benefits and Change in Control Provisions	20
Other Matters	21
COMPENSATION COMMITTEE REPORT	22

EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION	23
Summary Compensation	23
Grants of Plan-Based Awards	24
Narrative Disclosure to Summary Compensation Table and Grants of Plan-Based Awards Table	25
Outstanding Equity Awards Value at Fiscal Year-End Table	26
Option Exercises and Stock Vested	27
Potential Payments upon Termination or Change in Control	27
i	

# **Table of Contents**

	Page
DIRECTOR COMPENSATION	30
General	30
Retainer/Fees	30
Equity-Based Compensation	31
PROPOSAL 2: AMENDMENT TO THE MITCHAM INDUSTRIES, INC. STOCK AWARDS PLAN	32
<u>Introduction</u>	32
Reason for Proposed Amendment	32
Purpose and Key Features of the Plan	32
Number of Shares Subject to the Plan	32
<u>Administration</u>	33
<u>Eligibility</u>	33
Term of Plan	33
Stock Options and SARs	33
Restricted Stock	34
Performance Awards	34
Phantom Stock Awards	34
Stock Payments	34
Other Stock-Based Awards	34
Performance-Based Compensation	34
<u>Miscellaneous</u>	35
Federal Income Tax Aspects of the Plan	35
Inapplicability of ERISA	36
Grants to Certain Individuals	36
Securities Authorized for Issuance under Equity Compensation Plans	37
Recommendation of the Board	37
PROPOSAL 3: RATIFICATION OF THE SELECTION OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC	
ACCOUNTING FIRM	38
FEES AND EXPENSES OF HEIN & ASSOCIATES LLP	38
AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT	39
ANNUAL REPORT	40
OTHER MATTERS	40
SHAREHOLDER PROPOSALS AND DIRECTOR NOMINATIONS	40
ii	

MITCHAM INDUSTRIES, INC. 8141 SH 75 South P.O. Box 1175 Huntsville, Texas 77342-1175

PROXY STATEMENT
FOR
ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS
To be Held July 23, 2009

#### SOLICITATION OF PROXIES

#### Purpose, Place, Date and Time

This proxy statement is furnished in connection with the solicitation by the Board of Directors (Board) of Mitcham Industries, Inc., a Texas corporation, of proxies from the holders of record of our common stock, par value \$0.01 per share, at the close of business on May 26, 2009, for use in voting at the Annual Meeting of Shareholders (Annual Meeting) to be held at the Houston Marriott North, 225 North Sam Houston Parkway East, Houston, Texas at 10:00 a.m., local time, on Thursday, July 23, 2009, and any adjournment or postponement thereof.

The Notice of Annual Meeting, this proxy statement, the attached proxy card and our Annual Report for the fiscal year ended January 31, 2009 are being mailed together on or about June 1, 2009 to each of our shareholders entitled to notice of and to vote at the Annual Meeting.

Properly executed proxies will be voted as directed. If no direction is indicated therein, proxies received in response to this solicitation will be voted **FOR**: (1) the election of each of the six individuals nominated for election as directors; (2) the amendment to the Mitcham Industries, Inc. Stock Awards Plan to increase the shares of stock authorized for issuance under the plan by 350,000 shares; (3) the ratification of the selection of Hein & Associates LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm by our Audit Committee for the fiscal year ending January 31, 2009; and (4) as recommended by our Board with regard to any other matters that properly come before the Annual Meeting, or if no recommendation is given, at the discretion of the appointed proxies.

# **Expenses of Solicitation**

We will bear the entire cost of soliciting proxies, including the cost of the preparation, assembly, printing and mailing of this proxy statement, the proxy card and any additional information furnished to our shareholders in connection with the Annual Meeting. In addition to this solicitation by mail, our directors, officers and other employees may solicit proxies by use of mail, telephone, facsimile, electronic means, in person or otherwise. These persons will not receive any additional compensation for assisting in the solicitation, but may be reimbursed for reasonable out-of-pocket expenses in connection with the solicitation. We have retained Broadridge Investor Communication Services to aid in the distribution of proxy materials and to provide voting and tabulation services for the Annual

Meeting. For these services, we will pay Broadridge a fee of approximately \$11,000 and reimburse it for certain expenses. In addition, we will reimburse brokerage firms, nominees, fiduciaries, custodians and other agents for their expenses in distributing proxy material to the beneficial owners of our common stock.

# **Shareholders Sharing the Same Last Name and Address**

We are sending only one copy of our proxy statement and Annual Report to shareholders who share the same last name and address, unless they have notified us that they want to continue receiving multiple copies. This practice, known as householding, is designed to reduce duplicate mailings and save significant printing and postage costs.

1

#### **Table of Contents**

If you received a householded mailing this year and you would like to have additional copies of our proxy statement and Annual Report mailed to you or you would like to opt out of this practice for future mailings, we will promptly deliver such additional copies to you if you submit your request to our Corporate Secretary in writing at Mitcham Industries, Inc., P.O. Box 1175, Huntsville, Texas 77342-1175 or call us at 936-291-2277. You may also contact us if you received multiple copies of the annual meeting materials and would prefer to receive a single copy in the future.

#### **VOTING OF SECURITIES**

#### **Record Date; Shareholders Entitled to Vote**

Our Board has fixed the close of business on May 26, 2009 as the record date for determining the holders of shares of common stock entitled to notice of and to vote at the Annual Meeting. As of the close of business on May 26, 2009, there were 9,802,138 issued and outstanding shares of common stock, each of which is entitled to one vote on each item of business to be conducted at the Annual Meeting.

For a period of 10 days prior to the Annual Meeting, a list of the shareholders entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting will be available for inspection during normal business hours at our principal place of business, which is located at 8141 SH 75 South, Huntsville, Texas 77340.

## Quorum

Our Second Amended and Restated Bylaws provide that a majority of the outstanding shares of common stock entitled to vote, represented either in person or by proxy, will constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. Consequently, holders of at least 4,901,070 shares of our common stock must be present either in person or by proxy to establish a quorum for the Annual Meeting.

# **Abstentions and Broker Non-Votes**

Abstentions and broker non-votes are counted for purposes of determining the presence or absence of a quorum for the transaction of business. Abstentions occur when stockholders are present at the Annual Meeting but choose to withhold their vote for any of the matters upon which the stockholders are voting. Broker non-votes occur when other holders of record (such as banks and brokers) that hold shares on behalf of beneficial owners do not receive voting instructions from the beneficial owners before the Annual Meeting and do not have discretionary authority to vote those shares if they do not receive timely instructions from the beneficial owners. At the Annual Meeting, brokers will have discretionary authority to vote on proposal nos. 1 (election of directors) and 3 (ratification of independent registered accounting firm selection) in the absence of timely instructions from the beneficial owners. As a consequence, there will be no broker non-votes with regard to proposal nos. 1 and 3. Brokers will not have discretionary authority to vote on proposal no. 2 (amendment to the Stock Awards Plan). Accordingly, there may be broker non-votes with regard to proposal no. 2 and such broker non-votes will not be counted for purposes of determining whether a majority vote is achieved with respect to the approval of the amendment of the Stock Awards Plan.

You may vote FOR or WITHHOLD AUTHORITY for each director nominee. If you WITHHOLD AUTHORITY, your votes will be counted for purposes of determining the presence or absence of a quorum, but will have no legal effect on the election of directors under Texas law.

You may vote FOR, AGAINST or ABSTAIN on our proposal to amend the Stock Awards Plan. In the approval of the amendment to the Stock Awards Plan, abstentions will have the same effect as a vote AGAINST approval.

You may vote FOR, AGAINST or ABSTAIN on our proposal to ratify the selection of our independent registered public accounting firm. In the ratification of the appointment of our independent registered public accounting firm, abstentions will have the same effect as a vote AGAINST ratification.

2

# **Vote Required**

Assuming a quorum is present, the election of directors will require a plurality of the votes cast at the Annual Meeting. The proposal to amend the Stock Awards Plan and the proposal to ratify selection of the independent registered public accounting firm will each require the affirmative vote of a majority of the shares entitled to vote on, and that vote, for, against or expressly abstain, with respect to the proposal at the Annual Meeting.

All votes will be tabulated by the inspector of elections appointed for the Annual Meeting, who will separately tabulate votes for and against and abstentions.

#### **Revocation of Proxies**

If you are a registered shareholder (meaning your shares are registered directly in your name with our transfer agent) you may revoke your proxy at any time prior to the vote tabulation at the Annual Meeting by (1) sending in an executed proxy card with a later date, (2) timely submitting a proxy with new voting instructions by telephone or over the Internet, (3) sending a written notice of revocation by mail to P.O. Box 1175, Huntsville, Texas 77342-1175 marked Proxy Information Enclosed, Attention: Corporate Secretary or (4) by attending and voting in person by completing a ballot at the Annual Meeting. Attendance at the Annual Meeting will not, in itself, constitute revocation of a completed and delivered proxy card.

If you are a street name shareholder (meaning that your shares are held in a brokerage account by a bank, broker or other nominee) and you vote by proxy, you may change your vote by submitting new voting instructions to your bank, broker or nominee in accordance with that entity s procedures.

# **CORPORATE GOVERNANCE**

The following sections summarize information about our corporate governance policies, our Board and its committees and the director nomination process.

#### **Our Governance Practices**

#### General

We are committed to sound corporate governance principles. To evidence this commitment, our Board has adopted charters for its committees and a Code of Ethics. These documents provide the framework for our corporate governance. A complete copy of the current version of each of these documents is available on our website at <a href="http://www.mitchamindustries.com">http://www.mitchamindustries.com</a> or in print, free of charge, to any shareholder who requests it by contacting us by mail at Mitcham Industries, Inc., P.O. Box 1175, Huntsville, Texas 77342-1175, Attention: Corporate Secretary, or by telephone (936) 291-2277. Our Board regularly reviews corporate governance developments and modifies our governance documents as appropriate.

#### Code of Ethics

Our Board has adopted a Code of Ethics that applies to all of our employees, including our Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer and our Corporate Controller, to ensure that our business is conducted in a legal and ethical manner.

All of our directors, officers and employees are required to certify their compliance with the Code of Ethics. The code requires that any exception to or waiver for an executive officer or director be made only by our Board and disclosed as required by law and the listing standards of The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC (the NASDAQ Listing Standards ). To date, we have neither received any requests for, nor granted, waivers of the code for any of our executive officers or directors.

3

#### **Table of Contents**

Among other things, the code addresses:

conflicts of interest;
insider trading;
record keeping and questionable accounting or auditing matters;
corporate opportunities;
confidentiality;
competition and fair dealing;

protection and proper use of our company assets; and

reporting of any illegal or unethical behavior.

It is our policy that there shall be no acts of retaliation, intimidation, threat, coercion or discrimination against any individual for truthfully reporting, furnishing information or assisting or participating in any manner in an investigation, compliance review or other activity related to the administration of the code.

#### **Our Board**

## Determination of Director Independence

As required under the listing standards of The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC ( NASDAQ ), a majority of the members of our Board must qualify as independent, as affirmatively determined by our Board. The Board evaluated all relevant transactions or relationships between each director, or any of his or her family members, and our company, senior management and independent registered accounting firm. Based on this evaluation, our Board has determined that Messrs. John F. Schwalbe, R. Dean Lewis, Robert J. Albers and Peter H. Blum are each an independent director, as that term is defined in the NASDAQ Listing Standards. Messrs. Schwalbe, Lewis, Albers and Blum constitute a majority of the members of our Board. Mr. Billy F. Mitcham, Jr. is not independent because he currently serves as our President and Chief Executive Officer. Mr. Robert P. Capps is not independent because he currently serves as our Executive Vice President of Finance and Chief Financial Officer.

# Attendance at Board and Committee Meetings

During the fiscal year ended January 31, 2009, our Board held four meetings. Each individual serving as a director during such period attended all meetings of our Board and all meetings of the committees on which such individual served, with the exception of one member of the Audit Committee who did not attend one of the five meetings held by that committee during the year.

#### Attendance at Annual Meetings

Our policy is to encourage our directors to attend the annual meetings of our shareholders. All nominees who are currently serving as directors attended the annual meeting of our shareholders in July 2008.

# Shareholder Communications with Our Board

Our Board welcomes communications from our shareholders. Shareholders may send communications to our Board, or any director in particular, by contacting us by mail at Mitcham Industries, Inc., P.O. Box 1175, Huntsville, Texas 77342-1175, Attention: Corporate Secretary or via e-mail through our website at <a href="http://www.mitchamindustries.com">http://www.mitchamindustries.com</a>. Each communication must (1) identify the sender, (2) identify the applicable director(s) and (3) contain the information necessary to enable the director(s) to contact the sender. Our Corporate Secretary will relay this information to the applicable director(s) and request that the sender be contacted as soon as possible.

4

#### **Committees of Our Board**

As of the date of this proxy statement, our Board has standing Audit, Compensation and Nominating Committees. Our Board, in its business judgment, has determined that each committee is comprised entirely of independent directors as currently required under the Securities and Exchange Commission s rules and requirements and the NASDAQ Listing Standards. Each committee is governed by a written charter approved by the full Board.

#### Audit Committee

The Audit Committee has been established to assist our Board in:

overseeing the quality and integrity of our financial statements and other financial information we provide to any governmental body or the public;

overseeing our compliance with legal and regulatory requirements;

overseeing the independent registered public accounting firm s qualifications, independence and performance;

overseeing our systems of internal controls regarding finance, accounting, legal compliance and ethics that our management and our Board have established;

facilitating an open avenue of communication among the registered independent accountants, financial and senior management, and our Board, with the registered independent accountants being accountable to the Audit Committee; and

performing such other duties as directed by our Board.

In connection with these purposes, the Audit Committee annually selects, engages and evaluates the performance and ongoing qualifications of, and determines the compensation for, our independent registered public accounting firm, reviews our annual and quarterly financial statements, and confirms the independence of our independent registered public accounting firm. The Audit Committee also meets with our management and external registered public accounting firm regarding the adequacy of our financial controls and our compliance with legal, tax and regulatory matters and significant internal policies. While the Audit Committee has the responsibilities and powers set forth in its charter, it is not the duty of the Audit Committee to plan or conduct audits, to determine that our financial statements are complete and accurate, or to determine that such statements are in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States and other applicable rules and regulations. Our management is responsible for the preparation of our financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States and our internal controls. Our independent registered public accounting firm is responsible for the audit work on our financial statements. It is also not the duty of the Audit Committee to conduct investigations or to assure compliance with laws and regulations and our policies and procedures. Our management is responsible for compliance with laws and regulations and compliance with our policies and procedures.

During the fiscal year ended January 31, 2009, the Audit Committee, which was comprised of Messrs. Schwalbe (Chairman), Lewis and Albers, held five meetings.

All members of the Audit Committee are independent as that term is defined in the NASDAQ Listing Standards and Rule 10A-3 promulgated under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act ). Our Board has

determined that each member of the Audit Committee is financially literate and that Mr. Schwalbe has the necessary accounting and financial expertise to serve as chairman. Our Board has determined that Mr. Schwalbe is an audit committee financial expert following a determination that Mr. Schwalbe met the criteria for such designation under the Securities and Exchange Commission s rules and regulations. For information regarding Mr. Schwalbe s business experience, see Proposal 1 Election of Directors Information About Director Nominees.

The report of the Audit Committee appears under the heading Audit Committee Report below.

5

#### **Table of Contents**

#### **Compensation Committee**

Pursuant to its charter, the purposes of our Compensation Committee are to:

review, evaluate and approve the agreements, plans, policies and programs to compensate our officers and directors;

review and discuss with our management the Compensation Discussion and Analysis to be included in the proxy statement for our annual meeting of shareholders and to determine whether to recommend to our Board that the Compensation Discussion and Analysis be included in the proxy statement, in accordance with applicable rules and regulations;

produce the Compensation Committee Report for inclusion in the proxy statement, in accordance with applicable rules and regulations;

otherwise discharge our Board s responsibilities relating to compensation of our officers and directors; and

perform such other functions as our Board may assign to the committee from time to time.

In connection with these purposes, our Board has entrusted the Compensation Committee with the overall responsibility for establishing, implementing and monitoring the compensation for our executive officers. In general, executive compensation matters are presented to the Compensation Committee or raised with the Compensation Committee in one of the following ways: (1) at the request of the Compensation Committee Chairman or another Compensation Committee member of our Board, (2) in accordance with the Compensation Committee s agenda, which is reviewed by the Compensation Committee members and other directors on an annual basis, (3) by our Chief Executive Officer or (4) by the Compensation Committee s outside compensation consultant.

The Compensation Committee works with the management team and our Chief Executive Officer to implement and promote our executive compensation strategy. The most significant aspects of management s involvement in this process are:

preparing materials in advance of Compensation Committee meetings for review by the Compensation Committee members:

evaluating employee performance;

establishing our business goals; and

recommending the compensation arrangements and components for our employees.

Our Chief Executive Officer is instrumental to this process. Specifically, our Chief Executive Officer assists the Compensation Committee by:

providing background information regarding our business goals;

annually reviewing performance of each of our executive officers (other than himself); and

recommending compensation arrangements and components for our executive officers (other than himself).

Our other executive officers do not play a role in their own compensation determination, other than discussing individual performance objectives with our Chief Executive Officer.

Pursuant to its charter, the Compensation Committee has the sole authority to retain and terminate any compensation consultant to be used to assist in the evaluation of the compensation of our executive officers and directors and also has the sole authority to approve the consultant s fees and other retention terms

Together with management and any counsel or other advisors deemed appropriate by the Compensation Committee, the Compensation Committee typically reviews and discusses the particular executive compensation matter presented and makes a final determination.

6

#### **Table of Contents**

To the extent permitted by applicable law, the Compensation Committee may form and delegate some or all of its authority under its charter to subcommittees when it deems such action appropriate.

During the fiscal year ended January 31, 2009, the Compensation Committee held one meeting. The Compensation Committee currently consists of Messrs. Schwalbe, Lewis, Albers and Blum (Chairman).

The report of the Compensation Committee appears under the heading Compensation Committee Report below.

#### Nominating Committee

The purposes of the Nominating Committee, as stated in its charter, include the following:

identify individuals qualified to become Board members;

recommend to our Board the persons to be nominated by our Board for election as directors at the annual meeting of shareholders; and

perform such other functions as our Board may assign to the committee from time to time.

During the fiscal year ended January 31, 2009, the Nominating Committee did not meet. The Nominating Committee consists of Messrs. Schwalbe, Lewis and Blum (Chairman).

#### **Director Nomination Process**

The Nominating Committee is responsible for establishing criteria for selecting new directors, actively seeking individuals to become directors and recommending such individuals to our Board. In seeking candidates for our Board, the Nominating Committee will consider the entirety of each candidate s credentials. Currently, the Nominating Committee does not require director candidates to possess a specific set of minimum qualifications, as different factors may assume greater or lesser significance at particular times and the needs of our Board may vary in light of its composition and the Nominating Committee s perceptions about future issues and needs. However, while the Nominating Committee does not maintain a formal list of qualifications, in making its evaluation and recommendation of candidates, the Nominating Committee may consider, among other factors, diversity, age, skill, experience in the context of the needs of our Board, independence qualifications, and whether prospective nominees have relevant business and financial experience, have industry or other specialized expertise, and have high moral character.

The Nominating Committee may consider candidates for our Board from any reasonable source, including from a search firm engaged by the Nominating Committee or shareholder recommendations, provided that the procedures set forth below are followed. The Nominating Committee does not intend to alter the manner in which it evaluates candidates based on whether the candidate is recommended by a shareholder or not. However, in evaluating a candidate s relevant business experience, the Nominating Committee may consider previous experience as a member of our Board.

Shareholders or a group of shareholders may recommend potential candidates for consideration by the Nominating Committee by sending a written request to our Corporate Secretary at Mitcham Industries, Inc., P.O. Box 1175, Huntsville, Texas 77342-1175. For additional information, see Shareholder Proposals and Director Nominations.

### COMPENSATION COMMITTEE INTERLOCKS AND INSIDER PARTICIPATION

No member of the Compensation Committee is now, or at any time has been, employed by or served as an officer of Mitcham Industries, Inc. or any of its subsidiaries or had any substantial business dealings with Mitcham Industries, Inc. or any of its subsidiaries. None of our executive officers are now, or at any time has been, a member of the compensation committee or board of directors of another entity, one of whose executive officers has been a member of the Compensation Committee or our Board.

7

# TRANSACTIONS WITH RELATED PERSONS

#### **Policies and Procedures**

Historically, our Board has reviewed and approved, as appropriate, related person transactions as they have been put before our Board at the recommendation of management. In May 2007, our Board, recognizing that related person transactions involving our company present a heightened risk of conflicts of interest and/or improper valuation (or the perception thereof), adopted a formal written process for reviewing, approving and ratifying transactions with related persons, which is described below.

#### General

Under the policy, any Related Person Transaction may be consummated or may continue only if:

the Audit Committee approves or ratifies the transaction in accordance with the guidelines set forth in the policy and if the transaction is on terms comparable to those that could be obtained in arm s length dealings with an unrelated third party;

the transaction is approved by the disinterested members of our Board; or

the transaction involves compensation approved by the Compensation Committee.

For these purposes, a Related Person is:

a senior officer (which shall include, at a minimum, each executive vice president and Section 16 officer) or director;

a shareholder owning more than 5% of our company (or its controlled affiliates);

a person who is an immediate family member of a senior officer or director; or

an entity which is owned or controlled by someone listed above, or an entity in which someone listed above has a substantial ownership interest or control of that entity.

For these purposes, a Related Person Transaction is a transaction between our company and any Related Person (including any transactions requiring disclosure under Item 404 of Regulation S-K under the Exchange Act), other than:

transactions available to all employees generally; and

transactions involving less than \$5,000 when aggregated with all similar transactions.

# **Audit Committee Approval**

Our Board has determined that the Audit Committee is best suited to review and approve Related Person Transactions. Accordingly, at each calendar year s first regularly scheduled Audit Committee meeting, management recommends Related Person Transactions to be entered into for that calendar year, including the proposed aggregate value of the

transactions (if applicable). After review, the Audit Committee approves or disapproves the transactions and at each subsequently scheduled meeting, management updates the Audit Committee as to any material change to those proposed transactions.

In the event management recommends any further Related Person Transactions subsequent to the first calendar year meeting, the transactions may be presented to the Audit Committee for approval or preliminarily entered into by management subject to ratification by the Audit Committee; provided that if ratification is not forthcoming, management makes all reasonable efforts to cancel or annul the transaction.

# Corporate Opportunity

Our Board recognizes that situations exist where a significant opportunity may be presented to management or a member of our Board that may equally be available to our company, either directly or via referral.

8

#### **Table of Contents**

Before the opportunity may be consummated by a Related Person (other than an otherwise unaffiliated 5% shareholder), the opportunity must be presented to our Board for consideration.

#### Disclosure

All Related Person Transactions are to be disclosed in our applicable filings as required by the Securities and Exchange Commission s rules and regulations. Furthermore, all Related Person Transactions are to be disclosed to the Audit Committee and any material Related Person Transaction are to be disclosed to the full Board.

# Other Agreements

Management assures that all Related Person Transactions are approved in accordance with any requirements of our financing agreements.

#### **Transactions**

Since the beginning of the fiscal year ended January 31, 2008, we have not participated in (or proposed to participate in) any transactions with related persons.

#### STOCK OWNERSHIP MATTERS

#### **Section 16(a) Beneficial Ownership Reporting Compliance**

Section 16(a) of the Exchange Act requires our directors, executive officers and persons who beneficially own more than 10% of our outstanding common stock to file initial reports of ownership and changes in ownership of common stock with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Reporting persons are required by the Securities and Exchange Commission to furnish us with copies of all Section 16(a) forms they file. Based solely on our review of the copies of reports we received and written representations from our directors and officers, we believe that all filings required to be made under Section 16(a) for the fiscal year ended January 31, 2009 were timely made.

#### **Principal Holders of Securities**

The following table sets forth the beneficial ownership of the outstanding shares of common stock as of May 27, 2009 with respect to each person, other than our directors and officers, we know to be the beneficial owner of 5% or more of our issued and outstanding common stock.

	Common Stock Bene	ficially Owned Percent of
Name and Address of Beneficial Owner <sup>(1)</sup>	Number of Shares	Class <sup>(2)</sup>
Pacific Global Investment Management Company 101 N. Brand Blvd Suite 1950 Glendale, CA 91203	852,810(3)	8.7%
Greenwood Investments, Inc. 420 Boylston Street 5th Floor Boston, MA 02116	560,437(4)	5.7%

Wellington Management Company, LLP. 75 State Street Boston, MA 02109 595,334(5)

6.1%

- (1) Beneficial ownership is a term broadly defined by the SEC in Rule 13d-3 under the Exchange Act and includes more than the typical forms of stock ownership, that is, stock held in the person s name. The term also includes what is referred to as indirect ownership, meaning ownership of shares as to which a person has or shares investment or voting power. For the purpose of this table, a person or group of persons is deemed to have beneficial ownership of any shares as of May 27, 2009, if that person or group has the right to acquire shares within 60 days after such date.
- (2) Based on total shares outstanding of 9,802,138 at May 27, 2009. Also based on the number of shares owned and acquirable within 60 days of May 27, 2009.

9

#### **Table of Contents**

- (3) Based solely on a Schedule 13G filed in February 2009 with the Securities and Exchange Commission. According to the Schedule 13G, Pacific Global Investment Management Company, by virtue of its investment discretion and voting authority granted by certain clients which may be revoked at any time, and George A. Henning, as a result of his ownership interest in Pacific Global Investment Management Company, have sole voting power and sole dispositive power over 852,810 shares of our common stock. Pacific Global Investment Management Company and George A. Henning each specifically disclaim beneficial ownership of such shares of common stock.
- (4) Based solely on a Schedule 13G filed in December 2008 with the Securities and Exchange Commission. According to the Schedule 13G, the following reporting persons have sole voting and dispositive power over 560,437 shares of our common stock: Steven Tannenbaum and Greenwood Investments, Inc. According to the Schedule 13G, Greenwood Investors Limited Partnership has sole voting and dispositive power over 267,700 shares of our common stock and Greenwood Capital Limited Partnership has sole voting and dispositive power over 292,737 shares of our common stock.
- (5) Based solely on a Schedule 13F filed in May 2009 with the Securities and Exchange Commission. According to the Schedule 13F, Wellington Management Company, LLP and Wellington Trust Company, NA have shared voting power over 595,334 shares of our common stock.

#### **Security Ownership of Management**

The following table sets forth the beneficial ownership of common stock as of May 27, 2009 by (1) each of the executive officers named in the Summary Compensation Table below, (2) each of our directors and director nominees and (3) all current directors and executive officers as a group. All persons listed have sole disposition and voting power with respect to the indicated shares except as otherwise indicated in the footnotes to the table.

	<b>Common Stock Beneficially Owned</b>		
Name of Beneficial Owner <sup>(1)</sup>	Number of Shares	Percent of Class <sup>(2)</sup>	
Billy F. Mitcham, Jr.	583,309(3)	5.7%	
Peter H. Blum	570,036(4)	5.6%	
John F. Schwalbe	91,000(5)	*	
R. Dean Lewis	94,000(6)	*	
Robert J. Albers	23,000(7)	*	
Paul Guy Rogers	83,548(8)	*	
Robert P. Capps	103,930(9)	1.0%	
Guy Malden	35,425(10)	*	
All current directors and executive officers as a group (8 persons)	1,584,248(11)	14.6%	

<sup>\*</sup> Less than 1%

(1) Beneficial ownership is a term broadly defined by the SEC in Rule 13d-3 under the Exchange Act and includes more than the typical forms of stock ownership, that is, stock held in the person s name. The term also includes what is referred to as indirect ownership, meaning ownership of shares as to which a person has or shares investment or voting power. For the purpose of this table, a person or group of persons is deemed to have

beneficial ownership of any shares as of May 27, 2009, if that person or group has the right to acquire shares within 60 days after such date.

- (2) Based on total shares outstanding of 9,802,138 at May 27, 2009. Also based on the number of shares owned and acquirable within 60 days of May 27, 2009.
- (3) Includes 5,000 shares of restricted stock that vest over one year and an aggregate of 3,100 shares owned by Mr. Mitcham s spouse. Also includes shares underlying exercisable options and options that will become exercisable within 60 days of May 27, 2009 (collectively, the Exercisable Options ) to purchase an aggregate of 373,334 shares of common stock.
- (4) Includes 290,000 shares underlying Exercisable Options, 6,000 shares owned by Mr. Blum s spouse s IRA and 6,500 shares owned by Mr. Blum s minor son.
- (5) Includes 85,000 shares underlying Exercisable Options.
- (6) Includes 85,000 shares underlying Exercisable Options.
- (7) Includes 20,000 shares underlying Exercisable Options.
- (8) Includes 2,668 shares of restricted stock that vest over one year and 72,500 shares underlying Exercisable Options.
- (9) Includes 1,334 shares of restricted stock that vest over one year and 90,000 shares underlying Exercisable Options.
- (10) Includes 2,668 shares of restricted stock that vest over one year and 26,500 shares underlying Exercisable Options.
- (11) Includes 1,042,334 shares underlying Exercisable Options and 11,670 shares of restricted stock that vest over one year.

10

# PROPOSAL 1: ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

#### General

Six individuals will be elected at the Annual Meeting to serve as directors until the next annual meeting, each until their respective successors are duly elected and qualified. Shares or proxies may not be voted for more than five director nominees. Based on recommendations from the Nominating Committee, our Board has nominated the six individuals listed below to serve until our 2010 Annual Meeting of Shareholders. All of the director nominees are currently serving on our Board.

The persons appointed as proxies in the enclosed proxy card will vote such proxy FOR the persons nominated for election to our Board, except to the extent authority to vote is expressly withheld with respect to one or more nominees. If any nominee is unable to serve as a director for any reason, all shares represented by proxies pursuant to the enclosed proxy card, absent contrary instructions, will be voted for any substitute nominee designated by our Board.

Our Board recommends a vote FOR the election of each of the director nominees identified below.

#### **Information About Director Nominees**

The following table sets forth the names and ages, as of May 27, 2009, of our current directors, each of whom is a director nominee. Our directors are elected annually and serve one-year terms or until their death, resignation or removal.

Name	Age	<b>Positions Held</b>	<b>Director Since</b>
Billy F. Mitcham, Jr.	61	Director, President and Chief Executive Officer	1987
Peter H. Blum	52	Non-Executive Chairman	2000
Robert P. Capps	55	Director, Executive Vice President of Finance and Chief Financial Officer	2004
R. Dean Lewis	66	Director	1995
John F. Schwalbe	65	Director	1994
Robert J. Albers	68	Director	2008

Billy F. Mitcham, Jr. has served as our President and Chief Executive Officer since our inception in 1987. From 1987 until July 2004, Mr. Mitcham also served as Chairman of our Board. Mr. Mitcham has more than 28 years of experience in the geophysical industry. From 1979 to 1987, he served in various management capacities with Mitcham Associates, an unrelated equipment leasing company. From 1975 to 1979, Mr. Mitcham served in various capacities with Halliburton Services, primarily in oilfield services.

*Peter H. Blum* was elected Non-Executive Chairman of our Board on July 8, 2004. Mr. Blum is Vice Chairman and Head of Capital Markets of Ladenburg Thalmann & Co., Inc., an investment banking firm. Prior to 2004, Mr. Blum was a senior investment banker with various Wall Street firms. Mr. Blum started his career with Arthur Young & Co. as a C.P.A. and received a Bachelor of Business Administration degree from the University of Wisconson-Madison.

Robert P. Capps has been a member of our Board since July 2004. In June 2006, Mr. Capps was appointed as our Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer. From July 1999 until May 2006, he was the Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of TeraForce Technology Corporation (TeraForce), a publicly-held provider of defense electronics products. On August 2, 2005, TeraForce filed for protection under Chapter 11 of the Federal Bankruptcy Code. On April 6, 2006, TeraForce s Chapter 11 Plan of Reorganization was confirmed. From 1996 to 1999, Mr. Capps was Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of Dynamex, Inc., a NASDAQ-listed supplier of same-day transportation services. Prior to his employment with Dynamex, Mr. Capps was Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of Hadson Corporation, a NYSE-listed energy company. Mr. Capps is a Certified Public Accountant and was formerly with Arthur Young & Co. Mr. Capps holds a Bachelor of Accountancy degree from the University of Oklahoma.

11

#### **Table of Contents**

R. Dean Lewis is Special Assistant to Provost and Professor of Marketing at Sam Houston State University. From June 2008 to April 2009 he was the Vice President of Finance and Administration at Sam Houston State University since June 2008. From October 1995 to June 2008, he was the Dean of the Business School at Sam Houston State University. From 1987 to October 1995, Dr. Lewis was the Associate Dean and Professor of Marketing at Sam Houston State University. Prior to 1987, Dr. Lewis held a number of executive positions in the banking and finance industries.

*John F. Schwalbe* has had a professional career in public accounting for more than 30 years. Mr. Schwalbe s experience includes auditing of oil and gas exploration and production enterprises, school districts and various banking institutions. Prior to his retirement in 2007, Mr. Schwalbe was in private practice for more than 25 years, with primary emphasis in tax planning, consultation and compliance. Mr. Schwalbe is a Certified Public Accountant and holds a Bachelor of Business Administration degree from Midwestern University.

Robert J. Albers was appointed to our Board in January 2008 based on the recommendation of the Nominating Committee. Mr. Albers currently manages Bob Albers Consulting whereby he acts as corporate management advisor to the management of the Sercel Group, a global manufacturer of geophysical equipment. From 1995 to 2002, he was Executive Vice President of Sercel, Inc. From 1990 to 1994, Mr. Albers served as Vice President and General Manager of Halliburton Geophysical Products. In 1982, he joined Geosource, Inc. and served as President and General Manager, Operations and Technology Group; from 1963 to 1982, he held various management and leadership roles at Chevron Oil Company. Mr. Albers holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Mining Engineering from Lehigh University.

12

#### INFORMATION ABOUT OUR EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

The following table sets forth the names, ages and titles, as of May 27, 2009, of each of our executive officers. Our executive officers are elected annually by our Board and serve one-year terms or until their death, resignation or removal by our Board. There are no family relationships between any of our directors and executive officers. In addition, there are no arrangements or understandings between any of our executive officers and any other person pursuant to which any person was selected as an executive officer.

Name	Age	Positions Held
Billy F. Mitcham, Jr.	61	President and Chief Executive Officer
		Executive Vice President of Finance and Chief
Robert P. Capps	55	Financial Officer
Paul Guy Rogers	59	Executive Vice President of Business Development
Guy Malden	57	Executive Vice President of Marine Systems

Billy F. Mitcham, Jr. s biographical information may be located under Proposal 1: Election of Directors Information About Director Nominees.

Robert P. Capps biographical information may be located under Proposal 1: Election of Directors Information About Director Nominees.

*Paul Guy Rogers* has served as our Vice President of Business Development since October 2001. From February 1993 to September 2001, Mr. Rogers served as Senior Sales Representative with Geo Space LP, a worldwide manufacturer of geophysical equipment, with responsibilities for sales in the United States and Latin America. Mr. Rogers has 20 years of experience in the geophysical industry.

Guy Malden has served as our Vice President of Marine Systems since January 2004. Mr. Malden has 30 years experience in the geophysical industry and has been with Mitcham Industries since 2002. From 1999 to 2002, he served as Vice President of Operations for American International Exploration Group. From 1993 to 1999, he served in various management capacities with several seismic equipment manufacturers, most notably Syntron, Inc. From 1975 to 1993, Mr. Malden served in various field and management capacities with Geophysical Service Inc./Halliburton Geophysical Services. Mr. Malden holds a degree in Marine Geology from Long Island University.

13

#### COMPENSATION DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

## **Overview of Our Executive Compensation Program**

Our business strategy is to meet the needs of the seismic industry by providing leasing services for a wide range of equipment and to provide technologically advanced solutions for marine seismic applications. To achieve this, we leverage one of our key strengths the expertise of our executive officers.

Our executive compensation program is structured principally around one goal attracting, motivating and retaining top executive talent with the requisite skills and experience to execute our business strategy. Because we have no direct public competitors in our industry, we compete with many larger companies for top executive-level talent. In addition, we believe our executive officers should be rewarded for executing goals that are designed to increase shareholder value. As a result, the Compensation Committee of our Board (for purposes of this Analysis, the Committee ) considers company performance measures and evaluates individual performance when determining selected elements of our executive compensation program. These elements consist primarily of base salaries, annual cash incentives and long-term equity-based incentives. The Committee combines the compensation elements for each executive officer in a manner that we believe optimizes the officer s contribution to our company.

Throughout this proxy statement, the individuals who served as our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer during the fiscal year ended January 31, 2009, as well as the other individuals included in the Summary Compensation Table, are referred to as Named Executive Officers.

## **Objectives of Our Executive Compensation Program**

We have developed an executive compensation program that is designed to (1) recruit, develop and retain key executive officers responsible for our success and (2) motivate management to enhance long-term shareholder value. To achieve these goals, the Committee s executive compensation decisions are based on the following principal objectives:

providing a competitive compensation package that attracts, motivates and retains qualified and highly skilled officers that are key to our long-term success;

rewarding individual performance by ensuring a meaningful link between our operational performance and the total compensation received by our officers;

balancing the components of compensation so that short-term (annual) and long-term performance objectives are recognized; and

avoiding the creation of an environment that might cause undo pressure to meet specific financial goals.

## **Implementing Our Objectives**

# Role of the Committee, Management and Compensation Consultant

Our Board of Directors has entrusted the Committee with overall responsibility for establishing, implementing and monitoring our executive compensation program. Our Chief Executive Officer also plays an important role in the executive compensation process, by overseeing the performance and dynamics of the executive team and generally

keeping the Committee informed. However, all final decisions regarding our Named Executive Officers compensation remain with the Committee, and, in particular, company management has no involvement with the compensation decisions with respect to our Chief Executive Officer. Additional information regarding the role and authority of the Committee and management in the process for determining executive compensation is provided in this proxy statement in Corporate Governance Committees of Our Board Compensation Committee.

14

# **Table of Contents**

#### **Determining Compensation**

The Committee, which relies upon the judgment of its members in making compensation decisions, has established a number of processes to assist it in ensuring that our executive compensation program supports our objectives and company culture. Among those are competitive benchmarking, assessment of individual and company performance and a total compensation review, which are described in more detail below.

Competitive Benchmarking. Although we have no public direct competitors, the Committee compares our executive pay practices against other companies to assist it in the review and comparison of each element of compensation for our executive officers. This practice recognizes that (1) our compensation practices must be competitive in the marketplace and (2) marketplace information is one of the many factors considered in assessing the reasonableness of our executive compensation program.

The Committee usually begins its competitive market analysis in the first quarter of fiscal the year in which the compensation decisions are made. The Committee only reviews comparative data for base salary and annual cash incentive compensation levels but does not compare equity awards. The comparative compensation data used in the Committee s analysis is derived by the Compensation Consultant from comprehensive surveys performed by third parties. For the fiscal year ended January 31, 2008, compensation indices from the ECS Industry Report on Top Management Compensation, which was prepared by Watson Wyatt Data Services, and the Salary Assessor, which was prepared by Economic Research Institute, were used in the Committee s analysis. As part of this analysis, the Committee compared the compensation of our executive officers with the companies in the following groups (collectively, Peer Companies):

Companies in all industries with comparable total revenues of less than \$250 million.

Companies in the Oil Services / Equipment Sector with comparable total revenues of less than \$250 million.

This same data was used as the basis for the analysis for the year ended January 31, 2009.

Because we have no public direct competitors, the Committee believes it is difficult to obtain directly comparable data from which to derive an overall compensation program for our senior managers, including our Named Executive Officers. We do, however, compete for management personnel with a number of companies within the oil field services industry. Given the strong business environment within this industry, a very competitive market for experienced senior management has developed.

In order to compete effectively for this senior level talent, the Committee determined during fiscal 2008 to develop an incentive compensation program for all of our senior managers, including our Named Executive Officers. The Committee examined the public filings of several companies involved in the oil field services industry, including some who are involved in the seismic industry, to determine the nature of incentive compensation programs that they employ. These companies included Bolt Technology Corporation, Geokinetics, Inc., Ion Geophysical Corporation, Omni Energy Services Corp., OYO Geospace Corporation and Basic Energy Services, Inc. The Committee believes these companies represent a sample of companies companies to ours as well as organizations with which we compete for senior management talent. In particular, these companies are involved in oil field services industry and several are directly involved in the seismic industry, either as service providers or as manufacturers. The Committee also believes that each of these companies has experienced significant growth in recent periods. In addition, several of these companies have international as well as domestic operations. The incentive compensation program adopted by the Committee is described in more detail under Elements of Our Executive Compensation Program Annual Incentive Compensation Program.

Due to the broad responsibilities of our executive officers and our diverse international operations, comparisons of survey data to the job descriptions of our executive officers is sometimes difficult. Furthermore, the complexities of our operations and the skills needed of our executive officers are, we believe, greater than those of most companies with comparable total revenues. Therefore, we at times target base salary and annual cash incentive compensation levels that are in the top quartile of the survey information for our

15

### **Table of Contents**

Peer Companies. The Committee believes that targeting this level of compensation helps to meet our overall total rewards strategy and executive compensation objectives outlined above.

Assessment of Individual and Company Performance. We believe that a balance of individual and company performance criteria should be used in establishing total compensation. Company performance determines a portion of amounts earned under our annual incentive compensation program and is a major factor in the value of equity-based compensation. Individual performance is the primary determining factor in establishing base salaries, as well as a significant portion of our annual incentive compensation program. These performance measures are discussed in more detail below.

Total Compensation Review. Each year, the Committee reviews each executive officer s base salary, annual cash incentive and long-term equity-based incentives. In addition to these primary compensation elements, the Committee periodically reviews perquisites and other compensation as well as payments that would be required under employment agreements and our equity-based plans. Following its 2008 review, the Committee determined that these elements of compensation were reasonable in the aggregate in relation to the market data analyzed by the Committee.

### **Elements of Our Executive Compensation Program**

The Committee evaluates both performance and compensation to ensure that we maintain our ability to attract and retain superior employees in key positions and that compensation provided to our key employees remains competitive relative to the compensation paid to similarly situated executive officers of our Peer Companies. In furtherance of these goals, our executive compensation program consists primarily of three basic components:

base salaries;

annual incentive payments; and

long-term equity-based incentives.

The distribution of compensation among the various components of compensation is driven by our belief that a significant portion of each Named Executive Officer s compensation should be at risk. The practice of emphasizing variable compensation suits our philosophy of linking pay to performance, both on an individual and entity level.

The following table shows the allocation of base salary, annual cash incentives and long-term equity-based incentives among fixed, short-term variable and long-term variable compensation for our Named Executive Officers for the fiscal year ended January 31, 2009:

			Short-Term Variable (Annual	Long-Term Variable
Named Executive		Fixed (Base	Cash	(Equity-Based
Officer	Title	Salary)	<b>Incentives</b> )	<b>Incentives</b> )
Billy F. Mitcham, Jr.	President and Chief Executive Officer	45%	23%	32%
Robert P. Capps	Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer	41%	16%	43%

Paul Guy Rogers	Vice President Business	51%	18%	31%
	Development			
Guv Malden	Vice President Marine Systems	50%	20%	30%

The distribution of compensation between (1) the fixed element of base salary and the variable elements of annual cash incentives and long-term equity-based incentives and (2) the total mix of cash and equity compensation is primarily influenced by the Committee s competitive market analysis and its desire to balance short-term and long-term goals. The distribution of compensation between short-term and long-term variable compensation is primarily influenced by the Committee s desire to provide our executive officers a longer-term stake in our company, act as a long-term retention tool and align employee and shareholder interests by aligning compensation with growth in shareholder value.

16

#### **Table of Contents**

### **Base Salaries**

We provide our executive officers and other employees with an annual base salary to compensate them for services rendered during the year. Our philosophy has been to establish base salaries near the top range of such salaries at the Peer Companies.

In addition to providing a base salary that is competitive with the market, we target salary compensation to align each of our Named Executive Officer s salary level relative to the other officers so that it accurately reflects each officer s relative skills, responsibilities, experiences and contributions to our company. To that end, annual salary adjustments are based on a subjective analysis of many individual factors, including:

the responsibilities of the officer;

period over which the officer has performed these responsibilities;

the scope, level of expertise and experience required for the officer s position;

the strategic impact of the officer s position; and

the potential future contribution and demonstrated individual performance of the officer.

In addition to individual factors listed above, the Committee considers our overall business performance, such as our earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization (or EBITDA), leasing growth, sales growth and implementation of directives. While these metrics generally provide context for making salary decisions, base salaries decisions do not depend on attainment of specific goals or performance levels and no specific weighting is given to one factor over another.

Base salaries are generally reviewed annually, but are not automatically increased if the Committee believes that the other elements of compensation are more appropriate in light of its stated objectives. After consideration of the factors described above, the Committee approved increases in the annual base salary of approximately 9.5% to 11.8% effective July 1, 2007 and 8.0% effective July 1, 2008. We believe that these salaries are consistent with our objective of providing base salaries near the top range of such salaries at the Peer Companies. The Committee specifically considered increased experience and years of service when granting these salary increases.

The following table provides the base salaries for our Named Executive Officers in fiscal years 2008 and 2009 and the percentage increase in their 2009 base salary from their 2008 base salary:

				Percentage			Percentage
Named Executive Officer	007 Base Salary	2	008 Base Salary	Increase	2	2009 Base Salary	Increase
Billy F. Mitcham, Jr.	\$ 335,000	\$	370,000	9.5%	\$	399,600	8.0%
Robert P. Capps	\$ 175,000	\$	195,000	10.3%	\$	210,600	8.0%
Paul Guy Rogers	\$ 175,000	\$	195,000	10.3%	\$	210,600	8.0%
Guy Malden	\$ 172,000	\$	195,000	11.8%	\$	210,600	8.0%

#### **Bonus Awards**

In order to achieve the goals of our compensation program, specifically providing a competitive compensation program and avoiding an environment that might cause undo pressure to meet specific financial goals, we awarded each of the Named Executive Officers a discretionary cash bonus for the fiscal year ended January 31, 2009. In April 2009 a discretionary bonus was awarded to each of our Named Executive Officers in addition to the discretionary amounts provided for in our Annual Incentive Compensation Program. These awards were based upon the individual contributions of each of the Named Executive Officers. The amount of each of the awards was determined based upon our subjective analysis of each individuals contributions. The Committee deemed these awards appropriate and necessary in light of the effect of unprecedented global economic developments on amounts earned under our Annual Incentive Compensation Program and on the value of previously awarded equity-based incentives. The Committee considered these awards an important factor in avoiding an environment that might cause undo pressure to meet financial goals or expectations. The

17

#### **Table of Contents**

awards to each Named Executive Officer under this discretionary component bonus are reflected in the Bonus column of the Summary Compensation Table for the year ended January 31, 2009.

In December 2008, a discretionary bonus was awarded to each of our Named Executive Officers in connection with holiday bonuses given all of our U.S. based employees. These bonus awards are immaterial in amount and ranged in size from 2.0% to 1.0% of base salary. The amounts awarded to our Named Executive Officers during the fiscal year ended January 31, 2008 are set forth in the Bonus column of the Summary Compensation Table.

### Annual Incentive Compensation Program

For the reasons set forth above under Implementing Our Objectives Determining Compensation, the Committee approved an annual incentive compensation program in October 2007 for our senior managers, including, but not limited to, our Named Executive Officers. The program provides for incentive payments ( Performance Awards ) based partially on attainment of corporate-wide financial goals and partially on discretionary factors. The program further provides for payment of a portion of the earned amounts in cash and a portion in phantom shares, as more fully described below. The Committee wanted to provide for a portion of the potential payments based upon attainment of corporate-wide financial goals in order to provide an incentive to our senior managers that was aligned with the financial success of our company as a whole. At the same time, the Committee felt it was important to provide for a discretionary portion of potential payments in order to provide flexibility to recognize contributions made by individual officers that may not be reflected in corporate-wide financial results. The Committee believed that providing a significant discretionary component would mitigate any undue pressure on the officers to achieve specific corporate financial goals. Further, the Committee determined that a portion of any earned amounts should be paid in our common stock and that a service period should be required before such common stock could be sold. The Committee believed this feature would help align the goals of our senior managers with our shareholders over a longer period of time.

The program consists of three components, each of which is described in more detail below. The total value of the combined payments made under the three components may not exceed 100% of each Named Executive Officer s base salary. We determined this amount to be appropriate given the other components of our total compensation program and the size of the awards granted by other companies with similar incentive programs. Each of our Named Executive Officers must remain an employee of our company as of May 15, 2009 to receive payments under the program. If the officer s employment terminates due to death or disability after May 15, 2009 but prior to May 15, 2010, he will immediately vest in any phantom shares awarded and be paid in common stock at that time. If the officer s employment is terminated for any other reason after May 15, 2009 but prior to May 15, 2010, he will forfeit his phantom shares.

Under the first component of the program (the Threshold Component ), each of our Named Executive Officers is entitled to receive an amount equal to 20% of his base salary if our consolidated earnings before income taxes for the fiscal year ended January 31, 2008 (the Actual Earnings ) is equal to or greater than 90% of the target amount (the Earnings Target ) established by the Committee. For fiscal 2009, the Earnings Target was \$22,250,000. At the time the Earnings Target was established the Committee believed this was an aggressive, yet achievable, target in light of industry and general economic conditions then in effect. This amount represented an increase of approximately 31% over the comparable amount actually achieved in fiscal 2008.

Under the second component of the program (the Incentive Pool Component), each of our Named Executive Officers is entitled to receive his pro-rata share of an incentive pool that is equal to 20% of (1) our Actual Earnings less (2) the Earnings Target. The Named Executive Officer s pro-rata share of the incentive pool is calculated by multiplying the aggregate amount of the incentive pool by the ratio of the officer s salary compared to the aggregate salaries of all recipients of Performance Awards. However, the officer s pro rata share of the incentive pool may not exceed 55% of

18

#### **Table of Contents**

Two-thirds of the amount earned under the first and second components of our annual incentive program is payable in cash and one-third is payable in phantom stock (the Equity Payout Value ). The number of phantom shares is determined by dividing the Equity Payout Value by the trading price of our common stock on the date the award is made. The result is the number of phantom shares, rounded to the next highest whole number, which is granted to the officer. The phantom stock vests one year from the date of grant and, upon vesting, convert into an equal number of shares of common stock.

Actual Earnings for fiscal 2009 were \$12,155,000. Accordingly, no amounts were earned in fiscal 2009 pursuant to the Threshold Component or the Incentive Pool Component.

Under the third component of the program (the Discretionary Component ), each of our Named Executive Officers is entitled to receive a cash payment equal up to 25% of his annual base salary at the discretion of the Committee. The amount earned by each officer under this component is based on a subjective analysis of his individual contributions as determined by the Committee. Factors considered in determining the amount for fiscal 2009 included non-financial operational results and accomplishments in each Named Executive Officers—area of responsibility, specific challenges faced by the Named Executive Officer and how those challenges were addressed. The awards earned by each Named Executive Officer under this discretionary component of the program during the fiscal year ended January 31, 2009 are reflected in the—Bonus—column of the Summary Compensation Table.

# Long-Term Equity-Based Incentives

Our long-term equity-based incentive program is designed to give our key employees a longer-term stake in our company, act as a long-term retention tool and align employee and shareholder interests by aligning compensation with growth in shareholder value. To achieve these objectives, we generally rely on a combination of grants of stock options and restricted stock, which are made pursuant to the Mitcham Industries, Inc. Stock Awards Plan.

In determining the level of equity-based compensation, the Committee makes a subjective determination based on the same factors that are used to determine the discretionary portion of the annual cash incentives described above. In addition, when deciding whether to award restricted stock versus stock options, the Committee considers the total amount of awards and attempts to maintain a balance between the restricted stock and stock options held by each executive officer. Providing an equal number of restricted stock and stock options balances the Committee s concern that equity awards serve as a retention tool while also serving as an incentive to increase shareholder value expectation that each Named Executive Officer would focus his efforts on improving our stock price performance. Existing ownership levels are not a factor in the total award determination, as we do not want to discourage executives from holding significant amounts of our common stock.

The Committee made no grants of long-term equity-based incentive grants awarded to our Named Executive Officers during the fiscal year ended January 31, 2009. However, we believe that the previously granted vested and unvested long-term equity-based awards continue to both provide meaningful incentives for our Named Executive Officers and satisfy the objectives of our compensation program. In addition, we believe that Annual Incentive Compensation Program, a portion of which is paid in phantom shares, provides a component of long-term equity-based awards.

### Other Benefits

In addition to base salaries, annual cash incentives and long-term equity-based incentives, we provide the following forms of compensation:

*Health and Welfare Benefits*. Our executive officers are eligible to participate in medical, dental, vision, disability insurance and life insurance to meet their health and welfare needs. These benefits are provided so

as to assure that we are able to maintain a competitive position in terms of attracting and retaining officers and other employees. This is a fixed component of compensation and the benefits are provided on a non-discriminatory basis to all of our employees in the United States.

19

#### **Table of Contents**

Perquisites and Other Personal Benefits. We believe that the total mix of compensation and benefits provided to our executive officers is competitive and perquisites should generally not play a large role in our executive officers total compensation. As a result, the perquisites and other personal benefits we provide to our executive officers are limited. Pursuant to our employment agreement with Mr. Mitcham, we maintain a term life insurance policy in an amount equal to at least three times his annual salary. In addition, we pay for club membership privileges that are used for business and personal purposes by Mr. Mitcham. We also provide each of Messrs. Mitcham, Rogers and Malden with the use of a company-owned automobile, as they are required to drive considerable distances in order to visit existing and potential customers. All of our executive officers participate in our 401(K) retirement plan that is available to all of our employees in the United States.

### **Employment Agreements, Severance Benefits and Change in Control Provisions**

### Employment Agreement with Billy F. Mitcham, Jr.

We maintain an employment agreement with our President and Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Mitcham, to ensure that he will perform his role for an extended period of time. This agreement is described in more detail elsewhere in this proxy statement. Please read Executive Compensation Narrative Disclosure to Summary Compensation Table and Grants of Plan-Based Awards Table Employment Agreement with Billy F. Mitcham, Jr. This agreement provides for severance compensation to be paid if the employment of Mr. Mitcham is terminated under certain conditions, such as constructive termination and termination without cause, each as defined in the agreement.

The employment agreement between Mr. Mitcham and us and the related severance provisions are designed to meet the following objectives:

Constructive Termination. In certain scenarios, the potential for merger or being acquired may be in the best interests of our shareholders. As a result, we have agreed to provide severance compensation to Mr. Mitcham if he terminates his employment within 60 days following a constructive termination (as defined in the employment agreement) to promote his ability to act in the best interests of our shareholders even though his duties and responsibilities could be changed as a result of the transaction.

Termination without Cause. If we terminate Mr. Mitcham s employment without cause, we are obligated to pay him certain compensation and other benefits as described in greater detail in Potential Payments upon Termination or Change in Control below. We believe these payments are appropriate because Mr. Mitcham is bound by confidentiality, non-solicitation and non-compete provisions for a period of two years after termination and because Mr. Mitcham and we have mutually agreed to a severance package that is in place prior to any termination event. This provides us with more flexibility to make a change in senior management if such a change is in our and our shareholders best interests.

We believe that the triggering events under Mr. Mitcham s employment agreement represent the general market triggering events found in employment agreements of companies against whom we compete for executive-level talent at the time they were negotiated.

### **Equity-Based Plans**

Under the terms of our equity incentive plans, any unvested grants will become vested and, in the case of stock options, exercisable, upon the executive officer s death or disability or upon a change in control of our company (as defined in the applicable award agreement). We believe these triggering events represent the general market triggering events found in comparable agreements of companies against whom we compete for executive-level talent.

### **Table of Contents**

### **Other Matters**

# Stock Ownership Guidelines and Hedging Prohibition

Stock ownership guidelines have not been implemented by the Committee for our executive officers. Our Insider Stock Trading Policy discourages, but does not prohibit, executive officers from entering into certain derivative transactions related to our common stock, including transactions in put and call options. We will continue to periodically review best practices and re-evaluate our position with respect to stock ownership guidelines and hedging prohibitions.

# Tax Treatment of Executive Compensation Decisions

Our Board has not yet adopted a policy with respect to the limitation under Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code ), which generally limits our ability to deduct compensation in excess of \$1,000,000 to a particular executive officer in any year.

21

### **Table of Contents**

# **COMPENSATION COMMITTEE REPORT**

The Compensation Committee has reviewed and discussed the disclosure set forth above under the heading Compensation Discussion and Analysis with management and, based on the review and discussions, it has recommended to the Board of Directors that the Compensation Discussion and Analysis be included in this proxy statement and incorporated by reference into Mitcham Industries, Inc. s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended January 31, 2009.

Respectfully submitted by the Compensation Committee,

Peter H. Blum (Chairman) Robert J. Albers R. Dean Lewis John F. Schwalbe

22

#### **Table of Contents**

#### **EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION**

### **Summary Compensation**

The following table summarizes, with respect to our Named Executive Officers, information relating to the compensation earned for services rendered in all capacities. Our Named Executive Officers consist of our four current executive officers, including our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer.

# **Summary Compensation Table for the Year Ended January 31, 2009**

	Fiscal Year					Non-Equity Incentive		
Name and Principal Position	Ended January 31,	Salary (\$)	Bonus (\$)	Stock Awards <sup>(1)</sup> (\$)	Option Awards <sup>(2)</sup> (\$)	Plan Compensation(3 (\$)	All Other Compensation (\$)	ı
Mitcham, Jr.	2009	387,267	204,139(4)	88,850	186,256		85,133(6)	
t and Chief Executive Officer		352,500	92,314 <sub>(4)</sub>	127,906	257,227	224,578 <sub>(5)</sub>	76,671 <sub>(6)</sub>	1,
ι απά Επίες Επέσατινε Οχήτσει	2007	322,500	89,794 <sub>(4)</sub>	52,447	330,601	224,370(3)	75,139 <sub>(6)</sub>	1,
. Capps	2009	204,100	79,238(8)	17,066	200,232		8,164(11)	
e Vice President and Chief	2008	185,000	48,314(8)	13,563	278,998	118,359(10)	(12)	
l Officer <sup>(7)</sup>	2007	105,449	54,503(8)	- ,	277,469(9)		12,500(11)	
Rogers	2009	204,100	69,188(13)	35,241	88,631		10,639(15)	
sident Business Development	2008	185,000	33,689(13)	55,159	91,091	118,359(14)	(12)	
-	2007	170,833	54,889(13)	19,716	93,229		(12)	
den	2009	204,100	79,040(16)	35,241	88,631		10,892(18)	
sident Marine Systems	2008	183,500	48,314(16)	55,159	91,091	118,359(17)	(12)	
·	2007	167,833	54,368(16)	17,545	92,451		(12)	

- (1) This column includes the dollar amount of compensation expense we recognized for the fiscal year ended January 31, 2009 in accordance with Financial Accounting Standards Board's Statement of Financial Accounting Standards (SFAS) No. 123R, Share-Based Payment (FAS 123R). Pursuant to the Securities and Exchange Commission's rules and regulations, the amounts shown exclude the impact of estimated forfeitures related to service-based vesting conditions. These amounts reflect our accounting expense for these awards, and do not correspond to the actual value that will be recognized by our Named Executive Officers. Assumptions used in the calculation of these amounts are included in Note 13 to our audited financial statements for the fiscal year ended January 31, 2009 included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K. The awards for which compensation expense was recognized consist of awards granted on (a) March 31, 2006 and September 11, 2006 to Messrs. Mitcham, Rogers and Malden; and (b) July 12, 2007 to Messrs. Mitcham, Capps, Rogers and Malden. See Narrative Disclosure to Summary Compensation Table and Grants of Plan-Based Awards Table below for a description of the material features of these awards.
- (2) This column includes the dollar amount of compensation expense we recognized for the fiscal year ended January 31, 2009 in accordance with FAS 123R. Pursuant to the Securities and Exchange Commission s rules and

regulations, the amounts shown exclude the impact of estimated forfeitures related to service-based vesting conditions. These amounts reflect our accounting expense for these awards, and do not correspond to the actual value that will be recognized by our Named Executive Officers. Assumptions used in the calculation of these amounts are included in Note 13 to our audited financial statements for the fiscal year ended January 31, 2009 included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K. The awards for which compensation expense was recognized consist of awards granted on (a) January 31, 2005 and March 31, 2006 to Messrs. Mitcham, Rogers and Malden; (b) June 26, 2006 to Mr. Capps; and (c) September 7, 2007 to Messrs. Mitcham, Capps, Malden and Rogers. See Narrative Disclosure to Summary Compensation Table and Grants of Plan-Based Awards Table below for a description of the material features of these awards.

- (3) Includes amounts earned pursuant to the performance-based components of our Stock Awards Plan. See Compensation Discussion and Analysis Annual Incentive Compensation Program.
- (4) Amount for 2009 consists of \$99,900 discretionary cash award paid in May 2009 under the annual incentive compensation program, \$100,100 discretionary cash bonus paid in May 2009 and holiday cash bonus of \$4,139 paid in December 2008. Amount for 2008 consists of \$87,875 discretionary cash award paid in May 2008 under the annual incentive compensation program and holiday cash bonus of \$4,439 paid in December 2007. Amount for 2007 consists of discretionary cash bonus of \$85,000 paid in July 2007 and holiday cash bonus of \$4,439 paid in December 2006.
- (5) Consists of performance-based awards of \$149,719 payable in cash \$74,859 payable in Phantom Stock Units under the annual incentive compensation program.
- (6) For the year ended January 31, 2009, includes life insurance premiums of \$69,000, automobile costs of \$1,127, country club dues of \$5,406 and matching contributions to our 401(k) plan of \$9,600. For the year ended January 31, 2008, includes life insurance premiums of \$69,000, automobile costs of \$1,126, country club dues of \$5,312 and matching contributions to our 401(k) retirement plan of \$1,233. For the year ended January 31, 2007, includes life insurance premiums of \$69,000, automobile costs of \$1,126 and country club dues of \$5,013 Automobile costs are determined by multiplying the Alternative Lease Value, as published by the Internal Revenue Service, by the percentage of personal use mileage versus total mileage for the year.

23

#### **Table of Contents**

- (7) Mr. Capps has served as a member of our Board since July 2004. On June 26, 2006, he also assumed the position of Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer.
- (8) Amount for 2009 consists of \$52,650 discretionary cash award paid in May 2009 under the annual incentive compensation program, \$22,350 discretionary cash bonus paid in May 2009 and holiday cash bonus of \$4,238 paid in December 2008. Amount for 2008 consists of \$43,875 discretionary cash award paid in May 2008 under the annual incentive compensation program and holiday cash bonus of \$4,439 paid in December 2007. Amount for 2007 consists of discretionary cash bonus of \$50,000 paid in July 2007 and holiday cash bonus of \$4,439 paid in December 2006.
- (9) Includes \$73,355 related to awards made in connection with Mr. Capps role as a director before he became an executive officer.
- (10) Consists of performance-based awards of \$78,906 payable in cash and \$39,453 payable in Phantom Stock Units under the annual incentive compensation program.
- (11) For the year ended January 31, 2009, represents matching contributions to our 401(k) plan. For the year ended January 31, 2007, represents Fees Earned or Paid in Cash to Mr. Capps as a member of our Board for the period prior to his becoming an executive officer.
- (12) Value of all other compensation is less than \$10,000 in the aggregate.
- (13) Amount for 2009 consists of \$52,650 discretionary cash award paid in May 2009 under the annual incentive compensation program, \$12,350 discretionary cash bonus paid in May 2009 and holiday cash bonus of \$4,188 paid in December 2008. Amount for 2008 consists of \$29,250 discretionary cash award paid in May 2008 under the annual incentive compensation program and holiday cash bonus of \$4,439 paid in December 2007. Amount for 2007 consists of discretionary cash bonus of \$50,000 paid in July 2007 and holiday cash bonus of \$4,489 paid in December 2006.
- (14) Consists of performance-based awards of \$78,906 payable in cash and \$39,453 payable in Phantom Stock Units under the annual incentive compensation program.
- (15) Consists of matching contributions to our 401(k) plan of \$8,164 and automobile costs of \$2,475.
- (16) Amount for 2009 consists of \$52,650 discretionary cash award paid in May 2009 under the annual incentive compensation program, \$22,350 discretionary cash bonus paid in May 2009 and holiday cash bonus of \$4,040 paid in December 2008. Amount for 2008 consists of \$43,875 discretionary cash award paid in May 2008 under the annual incentive compensation program and holiday cash bonus of \$4,439 paid in December 2007. Amount for 2007 consists of discretionary cash bonus of \$50,000 paid in July 2007 and holiday cash bonus of \$4,368 paid in December 2006.
- (17) Consists of performance-based awards of \$78,906 payable in cash and \$39,453 payable in Phantom Stock Units under the annual incentive compensation program.
- (18) Consists of matching contributions to our 401(k) plan of \$8,164 and automobile costs of \$2,728

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

The following table provides information concerning each grant of an award made to our Named Executive Officers under any plan, including awards, if any, that have been transferred during the fiscal year ended January 31, 2009.

# Grants of Plan-Based Awards for the Year Ended January 31, 2009

		All Other	A 11					
		Stock	All Other		G 4			
		Awards:	Option	Exercise	Grant Date			
			Awards:	or	Fair Value			
		of Shares of	Number of Securities	Base Price of	of Stock and		Unde	
Name	Grant Date	Stock or Units	Underlying Options	Option Awards	Option Awards T			
		(#)	(#)	(\$/Sh)	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)
Billy F. Mitcham, Jr.	5-15-08							79,920(1)
Robert P. Capps	5-15-08							219,780 <sub>(2)</sub> 42,120 <sub>(1)</sub>
Paul Guy Rogers	5-15-08							115,830 <sub>(2)</sub> 42,120 <sub>(1)</sub>
Guy Malden	5-15-08							115,830 <sub>(2)</sub> 42,120 <sub>(1)</sub> 115,830 <sub>(2)</sub>

<sup>(1)</sup> Under the Threshold Component of our Annual Incentive Compensation Program each Named Executive will receive an award equal to 20% of his base salary if our earnings before income taxes for the year ended January 31, 2009 equals or exceeds 90% of the

24

#### **Table of Contents**

Earnings Target. Two-thirds of the award is payable in cash and one-third is payable in Phantom Stock units. The number of phantom shares is determined by dividing the cash value of the award by the trading price of our common stock on the date the award is made. See Annual Incentive Compensation Program under Compensation Discussion and Analysis for a more complete description of this award.

(2) Under the Incentive Pool Component of our Annual Incentive Compensation Program each Named Executive will receive an additional award should our earnings before income taxes for the year ended January 31, 2009 exceed the Earnings Target. The amount of this award will be equal to each Named Executives pro-rata share of an incentive pool amount, based on the base salary of all participants in the program. The incentive pool amount will be equal to 20% of the excess, if any, of earnings before income taxes for the year ended January 31, 2009 over the Earnings Target. In no event, however will a participant s award exceed 55% of his base salary. Two-thirds of the award is payable in cash and one-third is payable in Phantom Stock units. The number of phantom shares is determined by dividing the cash value of the award by the trading price of our common stock on the date the award is made. See Annual Incentive Compensation Program under Compensation Discussion and Analysis for a more complete description of this award.

### Narrative Disclosure to Summary Compensation Table and Grants of Plan-Based Awards Table

The following is a discussion of material factors necessary to an understanding of the information disclosed in the Summary Compensation Table and the Grants of Plan-Based Awards Table.

### Long-Term Equity-Based Incentive Compensation

In July 2007, the Compensation Committee granted Messrs. Mitcham, Capps, Rogers and Malden restricted stock pursuant to our Stock Awards Plan. In September 2007, the Compensation Committee granted Messrs. Mitcham, Capps, Rogers and Malden stock options pursuant to our Stock Awards Plan. For a description of the grants, including the vesting schedule for the stock options and the dates that the restrictions lapse on the restricted stock, please see Compensation Discussion and Analysis Elements of Our Executive Compensation Program Long-Term Equity-Based Incentives.

### Salary and Cash Incentive Awards in Proportion to Total Compensation

The following table sets forth the percentage of each Named Executive Officer s total compensation that we paid in the form of base salary and bonus.

		Percentage of Total
Name	Year	Compensation
Billy F. Mitcham, Jr.	2009	62%
	2008	41%
	2007	47%
Robert P. Capps <sup>(1)</sup>	2009	56%
	2008	36%
	2007	35%
Paul Guy Rogers	2009	67%

	2008 2007	45% 67%
Guy Malden	2009	68%
•	2008	47%
	2007	67%

<sup>(1)</sup> Mr. Capps has served as a member of our Board since July 2004. On June 26, 2006, he also assumed the position of Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer.

# Employment Agreement with Billy F. Mitcham, Jr.

Effective January 15, 1997, we entered into an employment agreement with Mr. Mitcham for a term of five years, beginning January 15, 1997, which term is automatically extended for successive one-year periods unless either party gives written notice of termination at least 30 days prior to the end of the current term. The

25

### **Table of Contents**

agreement provides for an annual salary of \$150,000 subject to increase by our Board. Pursuant to the employment agreement, we are required to maintain a term life insurance policy in an amount equal to at least three times Mr. Mitcham s annual salary.

# **Outstanding Equity Awards Value at Fiscal Year-End Table**

The following table provides information concerning unexercised options, stock that has not vested, and equity incentive plan awards for our Named Executive Officers.

# Outstanding Equity Awards as of January 31, 2009

	Number of Securities	Option Av Number of Securities	vards		Stock A	wards
	Underlying	Underlying			Number of Shares or	Market Value of Shares or
	Unexercised	Unexercised	Option	Option	Units	Units of Stock
	Options (#)	Options (#)	Exercise	Expiration	of Stock That Have Not	That Have Not
Name	Exercisable	Unexercisable	Price (\$)	Date	Vested (#)	Vested (\$)
Billy F. Mitcham, Jr.	70,500		3.56	2-23-09		
	45,000		5.13	7-27-10		
	80,000		5.00	7-18-11		
	85,000		1.99	8-15-12		
	30,000		1.90	7-17-13		
	25,000		4.16	7-13-14		
	50,000		6.18	1-31-15		
	33,333	16,667 <sub>(1)</sub>	16.64	3-31-16		
	8,334	16,666(2)	17.70	9-07-17		
					$13,161^{(3)}$	47,643
Robert P. Capps <sup>(4)</sup>	25,000		8.98	7-21-15		
	40,000	$40,000_{(5)}$	12.57	6-26-16		
	5,000	10,000(2)	17.70	9-07-17		
					$3,264^{(6)}$	11,816
Paul Guy Rogers	10,000		4.60	10-23-11		
, ,	20,000		1.99	8-15-12		
	12,500		1.90	7-7-13		
	10,000		6.18	1-31-15		
	10,000	5,000(1)	16.64	3-31-16		
	5,000	10,000(2)	17.70	9-07-17		
		, ,			5,931 <sup>(7</sup> )	21,471

Guy Malden	6,500		6.18	1-31-15		
	10,000	5,000(1)	16.64	3-31-16		
	5,000	$10,000_{(2)}$	17.70	9-07-17		
					5,931 <sup>(7</sup> )	21,471

- (1) The underlying option shares for the remaining unexercisable stock options granted on March 31, 2006 became exercisable on March 31, 2009.
- (2) One-half of the underlying option shares for the remaining unexercisable stock options granted on September 7, 2007 will become exercisable on each of September 7, 2009 and September 7, 2010.
- (3) The remaining 2,500 shares of unvested restricted stock awards granted on March 31, 2006 vested on March 31, 2009. The remaining 3,000 shares of unvested restricted stock awards granted on September 11, 2006 will vest on September 11, 2009. The remaining

26

### **Table of Contents**

- unvested stock awards granted on July 12, 2007 will vest as follows: 2,000 shares on July 12, 2009 and 2,000 shares on July 12, 2010. Includes 3,661 phantom stock units that vest on May 15, 2009.
- (4) Mr. Capps has served as a member of our Board since July 2004. On June 26, 2006, he also assumed the position of Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer.
- (5) The underlying option shares for the remaining unexercisable stock options granted on June 26, 2006 will become exercisable as follows: 20,000 shares on June 26, 2009 and 20,000 shares on June 26, 2010.
- (6) The remaining unvested restricted stock awards granted on July 12, 2007 will vest as follows: 667 shares on July 12, 2009 and 667 shares on July 12, 2010. Includes 1,930 phantom stock units that vest on May 15, 2009.
- (7) The remaining 667 shares of unvested restricted stock awards granted on March 31, 2006 vested on March 31, 2009. The remaining 2,000 shares of unvested restricted stock awards granted on September 11, 2006 will vest on September 11, 2009. The remaining unvested stock awards granted on July 12, 2007 will vest as follows: 667 sha