SOCKET COMMUNICATIONS INC

Form PRE 14A February 21, 2008

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

SCHEDULE 14A

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

Filed by the Registrant /x/

Filed by a Party other than the Registrant //

Check the appropriate box:

/x/ Preliminary Proxy Statement

// Confidential, for Use of the Commission Only (as

permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2)) Definitive Proxy Statement

// Definitive Proxy Statement
// Definitive Additional Materials

// Soliciting Material Pursuant to Section 240.14a-11(c) or

Section 240.14a-12

SOCKET COMMUNICATIONS, INC.

(Name of Registrant as Specified in its Charter)

Payment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box):

/x/ No fee required.

// Fee computed on table below per Exchange Act Rules 14a-6(i)(4) and 0-11.

1) Title of each class of securities to which

transaction applies:

N/A

2) Aggregate number of securities to which

transaction applies:

N/A

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):

N/A

	4)	Proposed maximum aggregate value of transaction: N/A		
	5)	Total fee paid: N/A		
'	Check box if any Rule 0-11(a)(2) a previously. Ident	usly with preliminary materials. y part of the fee is offset as provided by Exchange Act and identify the filing for which the offsetting fee was paid tify the previous filing by registration statement number, or edule and the date of its filing.		
	1)	Amount Previously Paid: N/A		
	2)	Form, Schedule or Registration Statement No.: N/A		
	3)	Filing Party: N/A		
	4)	Date Filed: N/A		

SOCKET COMMUNICATIONS, INC.

DBA SOCKET MOBILE, INC.

NOTICE OF 2008 ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS To Be Held April 23, 2008

Dear Stockholders:

as independent public accountants of the Company for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2008.

Sincerely,

Kevin J. Mills President and Chief Executive Officer

Newark, California March 10, 2008

YOUR VOTE IS IMPORTANT.
IN ORDER TO ENSURE YOUR REPRESENTATION AT THE ANNUAL MEETING,
YOU ARE REQUESTED TO COMPLETE, SIGN AND DATE THE ENCLOSED PROXY
AS PROMPTLY AS POSSIBLE AND RETURN IT IN THE ENCLOSED ENVELOPE.

SOCKET COMMUNICATIONS, INC. DBA SOCKET MOBILE, INC.

PROXY STATEMENT FOR 2008 ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS

INFORMATION CONCERNING SOLICITATION AND VOTING

GENERAL

RECORD DATE AND PRINCIPAL SHARE OWNERSHIP

REVOCABILITY OF PROXIES

VOTING AND SOLICITATION

QUORUM; ABSTENTIONS; BROKER NON-VOTES

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF STOCKHOLDER PROPOSALS TO BE INCLUDED IN THE COMPANY'S PROXY MATERIALS

stockholder proposal at the 2008 Annual Meeting.

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PROPOSAL ONE

ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

Name of Nominee Age		Position(s) Held With the Company	Director Since	
Charlie Bass (1)(2)	66	Chairman of the Board	1992	
Micheal L. Gifford	50	Executive Vice President and Director	1992	
Leon Malmed (1)(2)	70	Director	2000	
Thomas O. Miller(1)	56	Director, Chairman, Technology Advisory Board	2008	
Kevin J. Mills	47	President, Chief Executive Officer and Director	2000	
Gianluca Rattazzi (1)(2)	55	Director	1998	
Peter Sealey (2)(3)	67	Director	2002	
Enzo Torresi (2)(3)	63	Director	2000	

⁽¹⁾ Member of the Audit Committee. Mr. Miller's appointment was effective on February 17, 2008.

⁽²⁾ Member of the Nominating Committee.

⁽³⁾ Member of the Compensation Committee

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BOARD MEETINGS AND COMMITTEES

meeting of stockholders. No director attended fewer than 75 percent of the meetings of the Board of Directors and the Board committees on which he served. Messrs. Gifford, Malmed, Mills, Rattazzi, Sealey and Torresi attended the 2007 Annual Meeting of Stockholders.

Bass, Malmed and Rattazzi. Mr. Miller was appointed to the Audit Committee on February 17, 2008. As required by NASDAO rules, the members of the Audit Committee each qualify as "independent" under special standards established by the United States Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") for members of audit committees. The Audit Committee also includes one independent member, Dr. Bass, who has been determined by the Board of Directors to meet the qualifications of an "audit committee financial expert" in accordance with SEC rules. Stockholders should understand that this designation is a disclosure required by the SEC relating to Dr. Bass' experience and understanding with respect to certain accounting and auditing matters. This designation does not impose upon Dr. Bass any duties, obligations or liability that are greater than are generally imposed on him as member of the Audit Committee, and his designation as an audit committee financial expert pursuant to this SEC requirement does not affect the duties, obligations or liability of any other member of the Audit Committee or Board of Directors. The Audit Committee met four times by telephone during the year ended December 31, 2007 with management and the independent auditors to review quarterly and annual financial information and to discuss the results of quarterly review procedures performed by the independent auditors before quarterly and annual financial reports were issued. The Audit Committee is responsible for appointing, compensating and overseeing actions taken by the Company's independent auditors and reviews the Company's internal financial controls and financial statements. In connection with the completion of the annual audit of the Company's financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2006, the Audit Committee meeting in February 2007 with management and with the independent auditors reviewed the financial statements and the annual audit results, including an assessment of internal controls and procedures, and discussed the matters with the independent auditors denoted as required communications by Statement of Auditing Standards 61 (SAS 61). The meeting included a review of internal accounting controls, a discussion and review of auditor independence, a review with management and discussion with the independent auditors of the annual financial statements, the pre-approval of fees, and other matters included in required communications with the independent auditors under SAS 61, and a recommendation to the Board of Directors to approve the issuance of the financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2006. The report of the Audit Committee for the year ended December 31, 2007 is included in this Proxy Statement.

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COMPENSATION OF DIRECTORS

Name	Grant
Charlie Bass	50,000
Leon Malmed	40,000
Gianluca Rattazzi	35,000
Peter Sealey	25,000
Enzo Torresi	30,000

VOTE REQUIRED AND RECOMMENDATION OF THE BOARD

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS UNANIMOUSLY RECOMMENDS THAT STOCKHOLDERS VOTE "FOR" ALL OF THE COMPANY'S NOMINEES FOR DIRECTORS.

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PROPOSAL TWO

RATIFICATION OF APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

appointment.

FEES BILLED BY MOSS ADAMS LLP DURING FISCAL YEARS 2007 AND 2006

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VOTE REQUIRED AND RECOMMENDATION OF THE BOARD

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS RECOMMENDS THAT STOCKHOLDERS VOTE "FOR" THE RATIFICATION OF THE APPOINTMENT OF MOSS ADAMS LLP AS THE COMPANY'S INDEPENDENT PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2008.

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PROPOSAL THREE

APPROVAL OF THE AMENDMENT TO AMENDED AND RESTATED CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION TO EFFECT A CORPORATE NAME CHANGE

Three to approve the amendment to the Company's Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation. The affirmative vote of a majority of the shares of the outstanding Common Stock entitled to vote as of the Record Date will be required to approve the amendment to the Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation. Abstentions will be counted toward the tabulation of votes cast on proposals presented to the stockholders and will have the same effect as negative votes. Broker non-votes are counted towards a quorum, but are not counted for any purpose in determining whether this matter has been approved.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS RECOMMENDS THAT STOCKHOLDERS VOTE "FOR" THE PROPOSAL TO AMEND THE COMPANY'S AMENDED AND RESTATED CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION TO EFFECT A CORPORATE NAME CHANGE.

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PROPOSAL FOUR

APPROVAL OF THE AMENDMENT TO AMENDED AND RESTATED CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION TO EFFECT REVERSE STOCK SPLIT

GENERAL

BACKGROUND

PURPOSE OF THE REVERSE STOCK SPLIT

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A reverse stock split may have the following beneficial effects:

The Common Stock is currently quoted on The NASDAQ Global Market under the symbol "SCKT." The reverse stock split is being proposed to give the Board of Directors the flexibility to maintain the eligibility of the Common Stock for listing on The NASDAQ Global Market should the market price for the Common Stock remain below \$1.00 per share for an extended period.

Previously, on December 11, 2007, the Company received a deficiency letter from the Listing Qualifications Department of The NASDAQ Stock Market (the "NASDAQ Staff") indicating that the Company had failed to comply with the minimum bid price requirement of \$1.00 per share over the previous 30 consecutive business days as required by Marketplace Rule 4450(a)(5) (the "Minimum Bid Price Rule").

The Company can regain compliance, if, at any time before June 9, 2008, the bid price of the Company's common stock closes at \$1.00 per share or more for a minimum of 10 consecutive business days. In the interim period, the Company's common stock will continue to trade on the NASDAQ Global Market Exchange. If compliance with the Marketplace Rule 4450(a) cannot be demonstrated by June 9, 2008, the Company would expect the staff of the NASDAQ Stock market Listing Qualifications department (the "Staff") to deliver a written notification that the Company's securities will be delisted from the NASDAQ Global Market Exchange (a "Delisting Notice"). If the Company receives a Delisting Notice, the Company may appeal the Staff's determination to delist its securities to a Listing Qualifications Panel. Alternatively, the Company may apply to transfer its securities to The NASDAQ Capital Market, if the Company satisfies the requirements for initial inclusion set forth in Marketplace Rule 4310(Kc), other than the minimum bid price requirement. If the Company meets the initial listing criteria and its application is approved, the Staff will notify the Company that it has been granted an additional 180-calendar day compliance period in order to regain compliance with the minimum bid price requirement while on The

NASDAQ Capital Market.

The delisting of the Company's Common Stock from the NASDAQ Global Market, or subsequently from the NASDAQ Capital Market, would significantly and adversely affect the trading in and liquidity of the Common Stock. Reverse splits are viewed by The NASDAQ Stock Market as an acceptable way for companies to gain compliance with the minimum \$1.00 per share requirement. Accordingly, the Board of Directors concluded that reducing the number of outstanding shares of the Common Stock might be desirable in order to attempt to support a higher stock price per share based on the Company's current market capitalization.

A higher stock price, which the Company would expect as a result of the reverse stock split, could increase the interest of the financial community in the Common Stock and broaden the pool of investors that may consider investing in the Common Stock, potentially increasing the trading volume and liquidity of the Common Stock. As a matter of policy, many institutional investors are prohibited from purchasing stocks below certain minimum price levels. For the same reason, brokers often discourage their customers from purchasing such stocks. To the extent that the price per share of the Common Stock remains at a higher per share price as a result of the reverse stock split, some of these concerns may be ameliorated.

A higher stock price may help us attract and retain employees and other service providers. Some potential employees and service providers may be less likely to work for a company with a low stock price, regardless of the size of the company's market capitalization. If the reverse stock split successfully increases the per share price of the Common Stock, this increase may enhance the ability to attract and retain employees and service providers.

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RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REVERSE STOCK SPLIT

While the Board of Directors believes that the Common Stock would trade aphigher prices after the consummation of the reverse stock split, there can be no assurance that the increase in the trading price will occur, or, if it does occur, that it will equal or exceed the price that is the product of the market price per share of the Common Stock prior to the reverse stock split times the selected reverse stock split ratio. In some cases, the total

market capitalization of a company following a reverse stock split is lower, and may be substantially lower, than the total market capitalization before the reverse stock split.

The fewer number of shares that will be available to trade might cause the trading market of the Common Stock to become less liquid, which could have an adverse effect on the price of the Common Stock. The liquidity of the Common Stock may also be adversely affected by the increase in the number of stockholders who own "odd lots," which consist of blocks of fewer than 100 shares. Stockholders who hold odd lots may be required to pay higher brokerage commissions when they sell their shares and may have greater difficulty in making sales.

The Company cannot offer any assurance that the Common Stock will continue to meet The NASDAQ Global Market continued listing requirements following the reverse stock split. Even if the Company regains compliance with the Minimum Bid Price Rule, the Company must maintain compliance, and the Company must also continue to satisfy other NASDAQ maintenance standards to remain on The NASDAQ Global Market. In order for the Common Stock to continue to be quoted on The NASDAQ Global Market, it must also satisfy various listing maintenance standards established by NASDAQ, such as (i) having at least 750,000 shares publicly held by persons other than officers, directors and beneficial owners of greater than 10% of the total outstanding shares, (ii) a market value of publicly held shares of at least \$5 million, (iii) at least 400 stockholders who own at least 100 shares, and (iv) stockholder's equity of at least \$10 million.

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EFFECTIVE DATE OF THE REVERSE STOCK SPLIT

EXCHANGE OF STOCK CERTIFICATES AND PAYMENT FOR FRACTIONAL SHARES

Amendment without any further action on the part of the stockholders and without regard to the date that any stockholder physically surrenders the stockholder's certificates representing pre-split shares of Common Stock for certificates representing post-split shares. Each certificate representing pre-split shares of Common Stock will, until surrendered and exchanged as described below, be deemed cancelled and, for all corporate purposes, will be deemed to represent only the number of post-split shares of Common Stock and the right to receive the amount of cash for any fractional shares as a result of the reverse stock split. However, a stockholder will not be entitled to receive any dividends or other distributions payable by us after the Certificate of Amendment is effective until that stockholder surrenders and exchanges the stockholder's certificates. If there are any dividends or distributions, they will be withheld, accumulate and be paid to each stockholder, without interest, once that stockholder surrenders in exchange his, her or its certificates.

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EFFECT ON REGISTERED "BOOK-ENTRY" HOLDERS OF COMMON STOCK

it holds following the reverse stock split.

FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSEQUENCES

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(including any fraction of a post-reverse stock split share deemed to have been received) will be the same as the stockholder's aggregate tax basis in the pre-reverse stock split shares exchanged therefor. The stockholder's holding period for the post-reverse stock split shares will include the period during which the stockholder held the pre-reverse stock split shares surrendered in the reverse stock split.

Information Reporting and Backup Withholding

ACCOUNTING EFFECTS OF THE REVERSE STOCK SPLIT

NO APPRAISAL RIGHTS

EFFECTS OF THE REVERSE STOCK SPLIT

Corporate Matters

Depending on the exact reverse stock split ratio selected by the Board of Directors, between 5 and 10 shares of the Common Stock owned by a stockholder before the reverse stock split would be exchanged for one share of the Common Stock.

Based on the reverse stock split ratio selected by the Board of Directors, proportionate adjustments will be made to the per share exercise price and the number of shares issuable upon the exercise of all outstanding options and warrants entitling the holders thereof to purchase shares of the Common Stock, which will result in approximately the same aggregate price being required to be paid for such options or warrants upon exercise of such options or warrants immediately preceding the reverse stock split.

With respect to the Company's existing equity incentive plans, the number of shares reserved for issuance under the plans, the number of shares by which the share reserve may increase annually, the number of shares for which awards may be granted to any one individual will be reduced proportionately based on the reverse stock split ratio selected by the Board of Directors. In addition, the number of shares issuable upon the exercise of outstanding options and the exercise price for such options will be adjusted based on the reverse stock split ratio selected by the Board of Directors.

Number of Stockholders; Exchange Act Registration

by a reverse stock split, the purpose of the proposed stock split is not to reduce the number of record holders. The reverse stock split is not part of a contemplated "going private" transaction under Rule 13e-3 of the Exchange Act, and the Company will continue to be subject to the periodic reporting requirements of the Exchange Act.

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Authorized Shares

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS ANONYMOUSLY RECOMMENDS A VOTE "FOR" THE PROPOSAL TO AMEND THE COMPANY'S AMENDED AND RESTATED CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION TO EFFECT A REVERSE STOCK SPLIT OF THE COMPANY'S COMMON STOCK AT A RATIO WITHIN THE RANGE FROM ONE-FOR-5 TO ONE-FOR-10 AT ANY TIME PRIOR TO DECEMBER 31, 2008, TOGETHER WITH A CORRESPONDING REDUCTION IN THE NUMBER OF AUTHORIZED SHARES OF COMMON STOCK AND CAPITAL STOCK.

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OTHER INFORMATION

SECURITY OWNERSHIP OF CERTAIN BENEFICIAL OWNERS AND MANAGEMENT

Name of Beneficial Owner (1)	Number of	Percentage of
•	Shares of	Shares of
	Common Stock	Common Stock
	Beneficially	Beneficially

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_	Owned	Owned (2)
Charlie Bass(3)	2,025,459	6.3%
Kevin J. Mills(4)	907,161	2.8
Micheal L. Gifford(5)	730,570	2.2
David W. Dunlap(6)	612,655	1.9
Leonard L. Ott(7)	477,618	1.5
Enzo Torresi(8)	329,000	1.0
Leon Malmed(9)	312,500	1.0
Gianluca Rattazzi(9)	305,000	*
Tim I. Miller(10)	267,803	*
Lee A. Baillif (11)	236,858	*
Peter Sealey(9)	225,000	*
Robert C. Zink(9)	76,042	*
Thomas O. Miller(12)	60,620	*
Thomas L. Noggle(9)	521	*
All Directors and Executive Officers as a		
group (14 persons)(13)	6,566,807	20.2%

^{*}Less than 1%

- (3) Includes 362,500 shares of Common Stock subject to options exercisable within 60 days of February 25, 2008.
- (4) Includes 802,063 shares of Common Stock subject to options exercisable within 60 days of February 25, 2008.
- (5) Includes 486,696 shares of Common Stock subject to options exercisable within 60 days of February 25, 2008.
- (6) Includes 552,188 shares of Common Stock subject to options exercisable within 60 days of February 25, 2008.
- (7) Includes 463,208 shares of Common Stock subject to options exercisable within 60 days of February 25, 2008.
- (8) Includes 281,250 shares of Common Stock subject to options exercisable within 60 days of February 25, 2008.
- (9) Consists of shares of Common Stock subject to options exercisable within 60 days of February 25, 2008.
- (10) Includes 263,250 shares of Common Stock subject to options exercisable within 60 days of February 25, 2008.
- (11) Includes 210,271 shares of Common Stock subject to options exercisable within 60 days of February 25, 2008.
- (12) Includes 55,000 shares of Common Stock subject to options exercisable within 60 days of February 25, 2008
- (13) Includes 4,395,489 shares of Common Stock subject to options exercisable within 60 days of February 25, 2008.

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SECTION 16(a) BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP REPORTING COMPLIANCE

⁽¹⁾ To the Company's knowledge, the persons named in the table have sole voting and investment power with respect to all shares of Common Stock shown as beneficially owned by them, subject to community property laws where applicable and the information contained in the footnotes to this table.

⁽²⁾ Percentage ownership is based on 32,015,975 shares of Common Stock outstanding, each of which is entitled to one vote, on the Record Date and any shares issuable pursuant to securities exercisable for shares of Common Stock by the person or group in question as of the Record Date or within 60 days thereafter.

MANAGEMENT

Name of Officer	Age	Position with the Company
Kevin J. Mills	47	President and Chief Executive Officer and Director
David W. Dunlap	65	Vice President of Finance and Administration, Chief Financial Officer and Secretary
Micheal L. Gifford	50	Executive Vice President and Director
Lee A. Baillif	47	Vice President and Controller
Tim I. Miller	53	Vice President of Worldwide Operations
Thomas L. Noggle	59	Vice President of Engineering
Leonard L. Ott	48	Vice President and Chief Technical Officer
Robert C. Zink	50	Sr. Vice President of Worldwide Sales and Marketing

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DIRECTOR COMPENSATION

Compensation of Non-Employee Directors

	Fees		
	Earned or		
Nome	Paid in	Awards	To4al (\$)
Name	Cash (\$)	(\$)(1)	Total (\$)

Charlie Bass	12,000	35,584(2)	47,584
Leon Malmed	12,000	28,984(3)	40,984
Gianluca Rattazzi	12,000	25,684(4)	37,684
Peter Sealey	12,000	19,084(5)	31,084
Enzo Torresi	12,000	22,384(6)	34,384

- (1) Amounts shown do not reflect compensation actually received by the directors. Instead, the amounts shown are the compensation costs recognized for option awards vesting in fiscal 2007 for financial statement reporting purposes as determined pursuant to Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 123(R), or FAS 123R. (2) Mr. Bass was granted 50,000 options on April 18, 2007 with grant date fair values, computed in accordance with FAS 123R of \$26,500. The aggregate equity awards held by Mr. Bass at December 31, 2007 were options to purchase 362,500 shares of Common Stock. The valuation for these awards at such date determined pursuant to FAS 123R was \$440,550.
- (3) Mr. Malmed was granted 40,000 options on April 18, 2007 with grant date fair values, computed in accordance with FAS 123R of \$21,200. The aggregate equity awards held by Mr. Malmed at December 31, 2007 were options to purchase 312,500 shares of Common Stock. The valuation for these awards at such date determined pursuant to FAS 123R was \$406,850.
- (4) Mr. Rattazzi was granted 35,000 options on April 18, 2007 with grant date fair values, computed in accordance with FAS 123R of \$18,550. The aggregate equity awards held by Mr. Rattazzi at December 31, 2007 were options to purchase 305,000 shares of Common Stock. The valuation for these awards at such date determined pursuant to FAS 123R was \$401,021.
- (5) Mr. Sealey was granted 25,000 options on April 18, 2007 with grant date fair values, computed in accordance with FAS 123R of \$13,250. The aggregate equity awards held by Mr. Sealey at December 31, 2007 were options to purchase 225,000 shares of Common Stock. The valuation for these awards at such date determined pursuant to FAS 123R was \$218,750.
- (6) Mr. Torresi was granted 30,000 options on April 18, 2007 with grant date fair values, computed in accordance with FAS 123R of \$15,900. The aggregate equity awards held by Mr. Torresi at December 31, 2007 were options to purchase 281,250 shares of Common Stock. The valuation for these awards at such date determined pursuant to FAS 123R was \$388,175.

Compensation Discussion and Analysis

Overview

Compensation Philosophy and Objectives

- attract, retain and motivate talented executive officers
- provide executive officers with cash bonus opportunities linked to achievement of business objectives and individual performance goals
- align the financial interests of executive officers with those of stockholders by providing executive officers with an equity stake in the Company

Elements of Executive Compensation.

unchanged primarily due to the overall financial performance of the Company. In July 2007, the base salary levels for the four continuing named executive officers were increased by \$10,000 for Messrs. Mills, Gifford and Dunlap and \$15,000 for Mr. Miller representing an average increase in base salary of 7%. The increase covered a 24 month period since the previous increase in July 2005 and was primarily a cost of living adjustment except for the base salary increase for Mr. Miller that included a merit increase reflecting his assumption of increased levels of responsibility.

- Actual quarterly revenue compared to a Board-approved financial plan ("Financial Plan")
- Actual quarterly gross margins compared to the Financial Plan
- Actual expenses compared to the Financial Plan
- Achievement of quarterly management objectives

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The Financial Plan is approved each year by the Company's Board of Directors and actual results are measured against that Financial Plan. Management objectives are set quarterly by each executive officer's supervisor. Each component is weighted equally, and awards are paid based on the percentage attainment achieved of each component, respectively. Awards are capped at twice the target award levels for each financial component and executive officers earn zero for such component if attainment of such component is less than 80 percent. Variable incentive targets for executives during 2007 were unchanged and ranged from 9 percent to 35 percent of total cash compensation, averaging 24 percent among all executives in fiscal 2007. The Compensation Committee believes that setting variable incentive targets at these levels provides compensation incentives that are meaningful in recognizing successful

performance without causing severe financial hardships should the variable targets not be reached.

compensation to total compensation are generally at or above median levels for similar executives as reported in the salary survey of the American Electronics Association, elevating the importance of reaching or exceeding financial goals as set in the Company's annual Financial Plan. The Company's annual Financial Plan has historically been aggressive in forecasting revenue growth, the level of product margins, and the management of operating expenses. As a result, although the Company's management has performed well relative to achieving operating expense and working capital targets, it has also underperformed in achieving revenue results relative to the annual Financial Plan by underestimating the time required to develop products and bring them to market and by failing to adequately estimate the impact on revenue of delays in product availability by third parties, including handheld computer manufacturers whose products work with the Company's peripheral data collection and connectivity products and third party software vendors supplying mobile business applications. The Variable Incentive Awards plan has three quantitative components that measure actual revenue, gross margins and expense (all elements of profitability) against targets set in the annual Financial Plan and one component, management objectives, that is both quantitative and qualitative. As all components carry equal weight, and because gross margins generally follow revenue (if one is missed, so is the other), revenue shortfalls in combination with a financial cliff at 80% of Plan have historically caused Socket's executives to be compensated below variable target levels as provided for in the Plan. On the upside, the Variable quantitative profitability-based portions of the awards (revenue, gross margins and expenses) can earn up to 200% of the individual's target, providing strong financial incentives to meet or exceed financial Plan objectives.

		T
Named Executive Officer	2007	2006
Kevin J. Mills		
	o &	
and Chief Executive Officer and		
Director	81%	70%
Micheal L. Gifford		
	odnbsp	knbsp
Vice President and Director	82%	64%
Robert C. Zink (1)		
	odnbsp	knbsp
Vice President Worldwide Sales and		
Marketing	82%	70%
David W. Dunlap		
	o &	knbsp
President of Finance and		
Administration,		
	o @	knbsp
Financial Officer and Secretary	100%	
Timothy I. Miller		
	o @	knbsp
President of Worldwide Operations	81%	68%

will result in share price appreciation.

Equity Incentive Grant Policies.

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Compensation Committee awards refresher stock option grants annually, generally to all employees of the Company, based on the recommendations of management about the responsibilities and performance of each employee. Such refresher grants are typically made during the first quarter of the year during open trading windows as defined in the Company's Code of Business Conduct and Ethics including its Insider Trading Policy contained therein. Over the past several years, the executive officers of the Company have received from 40 percent to 50 percent of the total of refresher grants awarded because of the relative importance of their positions in achieving the Company's goals and objectives, managers and senior contributors have received approximately 25 to 30 percent, while other employees have received the balance of 25 to 30 percent. Options to acquire 303,000 common shares were awarded to the eight executive officers of the Company in 2007 ranging from a low of 20,000 shares to a high of 55,000 shares. The Company awards grants to each of its employees in recognition of each employee's critical contribution to meeting the Company's goals and objectives. Refresher grants generally vest monthly over a 48 month period. During 2007, the Company granted a total of 977,900 stock options to 69 employees, representing 38 percent of all stock options granted during the year. In addition, the Company granted 45,000 stock options to the members of the Company's Technical Advisory Board as their sole compensation for serving on the Board, representing 2 percent of all stock options granted during the year.

the full Board of Directors at the first regularly scheduled board meeting following the annual election of directors and vest over the ensuing year of service. Options are awarded equally to all directors for Board and committee service. Additional options are awarded for committee and Board leadership positions and audit committee service, as discussed on page 21 under "Director Compensation". During 2007, the Company granted a total of 180,000 stock options to the 5 independent directors of the Company, representing 9 percent of all stock options granted during the year.

Accounting and Tax Implications

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Compensation of the Chief Executive Officer

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SUMMARY COMPENSATION TABLE For Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2007

Niam Danida

Name and Principal Position	Year	Salary (\$)(1)	-	Incentive Plan Compensation (\$)(2)	Total (\$)
Kevin J. Mills	2007	190,000	68,844	80,588	339,432
	&2006p	&1 /8/0 x/ 0 0000	bs p&,ab3 p	&nbs 69 ; 2 7ident	322,201
and Chief Executive Officer and					

Non-Equity

Name and Principal Position	Year	Salary (\$)(1)	_	Incentive Plan Compensation (\$)(2)	Total (\$)
Director					
Micheal L. Gifford Vice President and Director		175,000 &l r65 sp 6 0nt	,	40,768 & <i>nbs</i> ₽E,96 €utive	279,315 260,193
Robert C. Zink (4) Vice President Worldwide Sales and Marketing		131,250 ∋	-	118,250 & <i>nbsp</i> Sr.	279,313
David W. Dunlap President of Finance and Administration, Financial Officer and Secretary	&200Gp	-		-	271,373 255,580
Timothy I. Miller		155,000 &IAB\D\D&Oni	59,800 bs 6&,abs p	28,273 &nbs py ,īc t 0	243,073 227,028

⁽¹⁾ Represents base salary as described under Compensation Summary and Analysis - Elements of Executive Compensation.

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GRANTS OF PLAN-BASED AWARDS For Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2007

⁽²⁾ Represents Variable Incentive Awards as described under *Compensation Summary and Analysis - Elements of Executive Compensation*.

⁽³⁾ Amounts shown do not reflect compensation actually received by the executive officer. Instead, the amounts shown are the compensation costs recognized for option awards vesting during fiscal 2007 for financial statement reporting purposes as determined pursuant to Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 123(R), or FAS 123R.

⁽⁴⁾ Mr. Zink's employment commenced on April 2, 2007. His non-equity incentive plan compensation includes \$66,250 to defray moving, relocation and other costs associated with commencement of employment.

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Name	Grant Date	All Other Option Awards: Number of Securities Underlying Options (#)	Exercise or Base Price of Option Awards (\$/share)	Grant Date Fair Value of Stock and Option Awards (\$)(1)
Kevin J. Mills	2/26/2007	55,000	1.00	31,350
Micheal L. Gifford	2/26/2007	50,000	1.00	28,500
Robert C. Zink (2)	4/2/2007	300,000	0.93	159,000
David W. Dunlap	2/26/2007	48,000	1.00	27,360
Timothy I. Miller	2/26/2007	40,000	1.00	22,800

⁽¹⁾ The value of option awards is based on the fair value as of the grant date of such award determined pursuant to FAS 123R, which was \$0.57 per share for grants awarded on February 26, 2007 and \$0.53 for the grant awarded on April 2, 2007. The exercise price for all options granted to the Named Executive Officers is 100% of the fair market value of the shares based on the closing market price for the Company's stock on the grant date. Regardless of whatever value is placed on a stock option on the grant date, the actual value of the option will depend on the market value of the Company's Common Stock at such date in the future when the option is exercised.

(2) Mr. Zink's employment commenced on April 2, 2007.

OUTSTANDING EQUITY AWARDS AT FISCAL 2007 YEAR-END

	Option Awards			
Name	Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options Exercisable (#)(1)	Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options Unexercisable (#)(1)(2)	Option Exercise Price (\$)(3)	Option Expiration Date(4)
Kevin J. Mills	25,000	0	0.69	6/10/2008
	67,667	0	0.56	6/16/2009
	300,000	0	3.375	12/20/2010
	90,000	0	1.06	9/27/2011
	67,000	0	1.29	4/3/2012
	50,000	0	0.76	11/27/2012
	45,000	0	0.73	3/21/2013
	48,958	1,042	3.20	2/3/2014
	68,750	31,250	1.50	1/28/2015
	12,604	42,396	1.17	2/17/2016
	10,313	44,688	1.00	2/26/2017

\mathbf{O}	ntion	Awards
\mathbf{v}	puon	Awaius

	-			
Micheal L. Gifford	8,333	0	0.69	6/10/2008
	39,967	0	0.56	6/16/2009
	100,000	0	3.38	12/20/2010
	75,000	0	1.06	9/27/2011
	50,000	0	1.29	4/3/2012
	34,000	0	0.76	11/27/2012
	35,000	0	0.73	3/21/2013
	46,510	990	3.20	2/3/2014
	61,875	28,125	1.50	1/28/2015
	11,458	38,542	1.17	2/17/2016
	9,375	40,625	1.00	2/26/2017

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Option Awards

Name	Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options Exercisable (#)(1)	Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options Unexercisable (#)(1)(2)	Option Exercise Price (\$)(3)	Option Expiration Date(4)
Robert C. Zink (5)	0	300,000	0.93	4/2/2017
David W. Dunlap	17,500 25,000 131,250 75,000 65,000 50,000 34,000 35,000 44,063 58,438 11,000 9,000	0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 937 26,563 37,000 39,000	0.46 0.69 0.56 3.38 1.06 1.29 0.76 0.73 3.20 1.50 1.17 1.00	1/14/2008 6/10/2008 6/16/2009 12/20/2010 9/27/2011 4/3/2012 11/27/2012 3/21/2013 2/3/2014 1/28/2015 2/17/2016 2/26/2017

Option Awards

Timothy I. Miller	142,000	0	0.73	3/21/2013
	39,167	833	3.20	2/3/2014
	51,563	23,438	1.50	1/28/2015
	10,313	34,688	1.17	2/17/2016
	7,500	32,500	1.00	2/26/2017

⁽¹⁾ Options were granted as described under Compensation Summary and Analysis - Elements of Executive Compensation - Long-term, Equity-Based Incentive Awards and - Equity Incentive Grant Policies. The vesting period and vesting start date were established by the Compensation Committee. Shares unexercisable were not vested as December 31, 2007.

⁽²⁾ Grant dates and vesting period information for all grants not fully vested as of December 31, 2007 are as follows:

Grant Date 2/3/2004	Expiration Date 2/3/2014	Vesting Start Date 1/1/2004	Months to fully vest 48
1/28/2005	1/28/2015	1/1/2006	48
2/17/2006	2/17/2016	1/1/2007	48
2/26/2007	2/26/2017	3/1/2007	48
4/2/2007	4/2/2017	4/2/2007	48

⁽³⁾ Exercise price is the closing price of the Company's Common Stock on the date of grant as reported on the NASDAQ Global Markets.

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OPTION EXERCISES AND STOCK VESTED For Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2007

	tio		

	Number of Shares			
	Acquired	on		
	on Exercise	Exercise		
Name	(#)	(\$)(1)		

Kevin J. Mills - -

⁽⁴⁾ Options expire ten years from the date of grant provided that the executive continues employment with the Company.

⁽⁵⁾ Mr. Zink commenced employment on April 2, 2007.

Option Awards

⁽¹⁾ The value realized equals the difference between the option exercise price and the fair market value of the Company's Common Stock on the date of exercise, multiplied by the number of shares for which the option was exercised.

Equity Compensation Plan Information

	Number of securities to be issued upon exercise of outstanding options	Weighted-average exercise price of	Number of securities remaining available for future issuance under equity compensation plans
Equity compensation plans approved by security holders (1) Equity compensation plans not	8,922,490	\$1.49	839,721
approved by security holders (2) Total	1,072,751 9,995,241	\$2.78 \$1.63	- 839,721

⁽¹⁾ Includes the 1995 Stock Plan and its successor, the 2004 Equity Incentive Plan. Pursuant to an affirmative vote by security holders in June 2004, an annual increase in the number of shares authorized under the 2004 Equity Incentive Plan is added on the first day of each fiscal year equal to the lesser of (a) 2,000,000 shares, (b) four percent of the outstanding shares on that date, or (c) a lesser amount as determined by the Board of Directors. A total of 1,279,584 shares became available for grant from the 2004 Equity Incentive Plan on January 1, 2008, in addition to those set forth in the table above.

⁽²⁾ Consists of the 1999 Stock Plan.

Post Employment and Change-In-Control Compensation

Change of Control and Severance Agreements

Compensation and Benefits	Voluntary Resignation	For Cause (1)	For Good Reason(2)	Involuntary Without Cause(2)	Involuntary or For Good Reason After Change-in- Control(2)	Due to Death or Disability(2)
Kevin J. Mills						
Base	-	-	\$95,000	\$95,000	\$95,000	\$95,000
Salary (3)						
 Variable	-	-	\$37,500	\$37,500	\$37,500	\$37,500
Incentive(4)						
 Stock	-	-	-	-	-	-
Options (5)						
 HealthCar	e -	-	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$2,500
Benefits(6)						
 Other	-	-	-	-	-	-
Perquisites (7)						
Micheal L. Gifford			¢97.500	¢97.500	¢07.500	¢97.500
	-	-	\$87,500	\$87,500	\$87,500	\$87,500

Compensation and Benefits	Voluntary Resignation	For Cause (1)	For Good Reason(2)	Involuntary Without Cause(2)	Involuntary or For Good Reason After Change-in- Control(2)	Due to Death or Disability(2)
 Base						
Salary (3) Variable Incentive(4)	-	-	\$18,750	\$18,750	\$18,750	\$18,750
 Stock Options (5)	-	-	-	-	-	-
 HealthCar Benefits(6)	e -	-	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$2,500
 Other Perquisites (7)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Robert C. Zink Base	-	-	\$87,500	\$87,500	\$87,500	\$87,500
Salary (3) Variable Incentive(4)	-	-	\$24,375	\$24,375	\$24,375	\$24,375
 Stock Options (5)	-	-	-	-	-	-
 HealthCar Benefits(6)	e -	-	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$2,500
 Other Perquisites (7)	-	-	-	-	-	-
David W. Dunlap Base Salary (3)	-	-	\$85,000	\$85,000	\$85,000	\$85,000
 Variable Incentive(4)	-	-	\$18,750	\$18,750	\$18,750	\$18,750
 Stock Options (5)	-	-	-	-	-	-
 HealthCar Benefits(6)	e -	-	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$2,500
 Other Perquisites (7)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Timothy I. Miller						
 Base Salary (3)	-	-	\$77,500	\$77,500	\$77,500	\$77,500
 Variable Incentive(4)	-	-	\$13,125	\$13,125	\$13,125	\$13,125
 Stock Options (5)	-	-	-	-	-	-
 AnbspHealthCar Benefits(6)	e -	-	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$2,500
 Other Perquisites (7)	-	-	-	-	-	-

- (1) Cause is defined in each Executive's Employment Contract as gross misconduct or fraud, misappropriation of the Company's proprietary information, or willful and continuing breach of duties following notice and a cure period.
- (2) All other reasons for termination except for cause are considered covered under the terms of the Employment Contract.
- (3) Base salary is continued for six months from the date of termination for reasons other than for cause or voluntary resignation.
- (4) Except in the cases of termination for cause or voluntary resignation, scheduled variable incentive payments are paid equal to 100% of entitlement in the quarter of termination and 50% of entitlement in the following quarter.
- (5) Except in the cases of termination for cause or voluntary resignation, stock options vested as of the date of termination may be exercised for a period of up to one year based on formulas in the employment contract. In the event of a change in control where stock options are not assumed by an acquiring entity, all options granted and outstanding become vested and exercisable. In the event of termination for cause or voluntary resignation, stock options vested as of the date of termination may be exercised for a period of 90 days following the termination date.

 (6) Except in the cases of termination for cause or voluntary resignation, healthcare benefits are continued up to the earlier of six months or the
- (6) Except in the cases of termination for cause or voluntary resignation, healthcare benefits are continued up to the earlier of six months or the Executive securing other employment that includes benefits.
- (7) There are no perquisites in the compensation packages of any of our executive officers.

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Limitation of Liability and Indemnification Matters

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CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

review of these matters, as well as the emerging best practices of other companies, the Company has implemented the following:

Executive Compensation Authority

- The Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors approves all compensation plans and amounts for the executive officers of the Company following consultation with management;
- The Compensation Committee reviews and approves annual salary increases for all other employees of the Company upon the recommendation of management;
- The Compensation Committee approves all stock option grants upon the recommendation of management except director grants, which are approved by the full Board of Directors.

Director Independence

- The Board of Directors has confirmed that a majority of the Company's directors are independent as defined by current SEC and NASDAQ regulations.
- The Company's independent directors hold formal meetings convened separately from management and chaired by an independent director.
- The Audit, Compensation and Nominating Committees consist solely of independent directors.

Audit Committee

- All Audit Committee members possess the required level of financial literacy.
- Mr. Bass, a member of the Audit Committee, possesses the qualifications of an "audit committee financial expert."
- The Audit Committee charter formalizes and makes explicit the following:
 - The Audit Committee's ability to retain independent consultants and experts as it sees fit, at Company expense;
 - The Audit Committee's authority to appoint, review and assess the performance of the Company's independent auditors;
 - The Audit Committee's ability to hold regular executive sessions with the Company's independent auditors, the Company's Chief Financial Officer and Controller, and other Company officers directly, as it considers appropriate;
 - The requirement that the Audit Committee review and approve in advance non-audit services by the Company's independent auditors, as well as related party transactions;
 - The Audit Committee's duty to maintain a formal complaint monitoring procedure ("whistleblower" policy) to enable confidential and anonymous reporting to the Audit Committee; and
 - The Audit Committee's authority over the independent auditors' rotation policy.

Other Governance Matters

- The Company has a formal Code of Business Conduct and Ethics that applies to all officers, directors and employees.
- The Company has a requirement that any waiver or amendment to the Code of Business Conduct and Ethics involving a director or officer be reviewed by the Nominating Committee and disclosed to the Company's stockholders.
- The Company has a Compensation Committee charter and Nominating Committee charter.
- The Company has an Insider Trading Policy, including control procedures to comply with current SEC and NASDAQ regulations.
- The Company has a policy that the Board of Directors review its own performance on an annual basis.
- The Company prohibits loans to its officers and directors.

Policy for Director Recommendations and Nominations

Chairman of the Nominating Committee c/o Corporate Secretary Socket Communications, Inc. dba Socket Mobile, Inc. 39700 Eureka Drive Newark, CA 94560

The notice must include:

- the candidate's name, home and business contact information;
- detailed biographical data and relevant qualifications;
- a signed letter from the candidate confirming his or her willingness to serve;
- information regarding any relationships between the candidate and the Company within the last three years; and
- evidence of the required ownership of Common Stock by the recommending stockholder.

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- The current size and composition of the Board of Directors and the needs of the Board of Directors and the respective committees of the Board of Directors.
- Such factors as judgment, independence, character and integrity, area of expertise, diversity of experience, length of service and potential conflicts of interest.
- Such other factors as the Nominating Committee may consider appropriate.

• The highest personal and professional ethics and integrity.

- Proven achievement and competence in the nominee's field and the ability to exercise sound business judgment.
- Skills that are complementary to those of the existing members of the Board of Directors.
- The ability to assist and support management and make significant contributions to the Company's success.
- An understanding of the fiduciary responsibilities that are required of a member of the Board of Directors and the commitment of time and energy necessary to carry out those responsibilities diligently.

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Stockholder Communications to Directors

Director Independence

Code of Business Conduct and Ethics

wrongdoing and promote ethical conduct among the Company's directors, executive officers and employees. The Code of Business Conduct and Ethics is available on the Company's website at http://www.mkr-group.com/SCKT/board_committee.html. The Company will also post any amendments to or waivers from the Code of Business Conduct and Ethics on its website.

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REPORT OF THE COMPENSATION COMMITTEE

COMPENSATION COMMITTEE

Dated: March 10, 2008 Enzo Torresi Peter Sealey

COMPENSATION COMMITTEE INTERLOCKS AND INSIDER PARTICIPATION

REPORT OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE

financial statements with the Company's independent auditors, who are responsible for expressing an opinion on the conformity of the financial statements with generally accepted accounting principles, as well as their judgment as to the quality, not just the acceptability, of the Company's accounting principles. The Audit Committee also discussed such other matters as the auditors are required to discuss with the Committee under generally accepted auditing standards, including Statement on Auditing Standards No. 61. In addition, the Audit Committee discussed with the independent auditors the auditors' independence from management and the Company, including the matters in the written disclosures and the letter from the independent auditors required by the Independence Standards Board, Standard No. 1.

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AUDIT COMMITTEE

Dated: March 10, 2008

Charlie Bass
Leon Malmed
Gianluca Rattazzi

CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND RELATED TRANSACTIONS

OTHER MATTERS

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dated: March 10, 2008

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This Proxy is solicited on behalf of the Board of Directors of Socket Communications, Inc.

2008 ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS

The undersigned stockholder of SOCKET COMMUNICATIONS, INC., a Delaware corporation, DBA Socket Mobile, Inc., hereby acknowledges receipt of the Notice of Annual Meeting of Stockholders and Proxy Statement, each dated March 10, 2008, and hereby appoints Kevin J. Mills and David W. Dunlap, and each of them, proxies and attorneys-in-fact, with full power to each of substitution, on behalf and in the name of the undersigned, to represent the undersigned at the 2008 Annual Meeting of Stockholders of SOCKET COMMUNICATIONS, INC. to be held on Wednesday, April 23, 2008 at 9:00 a.m. local time, at the Company's headquarters at 39700 Eureka Drive, Newark, California 94560, and at any adjournment or adjournments thereof, and to vote all shares of Common Stock which the undersigned would be entitled to vote if then and there personally present, on the matters set forth below:

1. ELECTION OF EIGHT DIRECTORS.

// FOR all nominees listed // Withhold Authority to vote for ALL Nominees Listed

Nominees: Charlie Bass; Kevin J. Mills; Micheal L. Gifford; Leon Malmed; Thomas O. Miller; Gianluca

Rattazzi; Peter Sealey; Enzo Torresi

If you wish to withhold authority to vote for any individual nominee, strike a line through that nominee's name in the list below:

Charlie Bass; Kevin J. Mills; Micheal L. Gifford; Leon Malmed; Thomas O. Miller; Gianluca Rattazzi; Peter

Sealey; Enzo Torresi

2.		ROPOSAL TO RATIFY THE APPOINTMENT OF MOSS ADAMS LLP AS INDEPENDENT PUBLIC CCOUNTANTS OF THE COMPANY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2008.				
	//	FOR	//	AGAINST	//	ABSTAIN
3.				PANY'S AMENDED AND RES ORPORATE NAME CHANGE		D CERTIFICATE OF
	//	FOR	//	AGAINST	//	ABSTAIN
4.	INCO A RA' CORF COMI	RPORATION TO EFFEOTIO WITHIN THE RANGESPONDING REDUCT	CT A R GE FRO ION IN	OM ONE-FOR-5 TO ONE-FOR THE NUMBER OF AUTHOR STOCK, AT ANY TIME PRIOI	HE CO R-10, TO IZED S	MPANY'S COMMON STOCK AT OGETHER WITH A SHARES OF THE COMPANY'S DECEMBER 31, 2008.
	//	FOR	//	AGAINST	//	ABSTAIN
	any adjo THIS INDIC OF M	ournments thereof. PROXY WILL BE VOT CATED, WILL BE VOT OSS ADAMS LLP AS I I ADVISABLE ON SUC	FED AS ED FO NDEPI	S DIRECTED OR, IF NO CO	NTRA ECTO TANTS	RS, FOR THE RATIFICATION S, AND AS THE PROXIES
	Signat	ure		Signature		2008
	and ret	turned promptly in the end	closed e	nd signed by the stockholder(s) or envelope. Persons signing in a firmmunity property, both should	duciary	as his or her name appears hereon, capacity should so indicate. If