# FREMONT GENERAL CORPORATION

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS





# FREMONT GENERAL CORPORATION Frequently Asked Questions

#### **Company Information**

# In what year and where was Fremont General incorporated?

Fremont General Corporation's (Fremont General" or the "Company") initial public offering of its common stock was 1977. The Company was founded in 1963 and incorporated on January 26, 1972 in the state of Nevada under the name Lemac Corporation. In March 1973, the Company changed its name to Fremont General Corporation.

#### What is the status of Fremont General?

On June 18, 2008, Fremont General Corporation (OTC: FMNTQ) filed a voluntary petition under Chapter 11 of the United States Bankruptcy Code in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Central District of California, Santa Ana Division (the "Bankruptcy Court"). This bankruptcy case continues to be administered in the Bankruptcy Court under the caption "In re Fremont General Corporation, a Nevada corporation, Case No. 8:08-bk-13421." Fremont General Corporation continues to operate its business as "debtor-in-possession" under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Bankruptcy Code and orders of the Bankruptcy Court.

For information about Fremont General Corporation and the status of the bankruptcy case, see the information under the heading "Restructuring Information" on this website, as well as, the periodic reports that Fremont General Corporation files with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC"), which can be viewed through this website and on the IDEA section of the SEC's website at <a href="https://www.sec.gov">www.sec.gov</a>.

#### Where can I find information about Fremont General's management?

Biographies of senior management can be found in the Company section under Fremont General's <u>Board and Management</u> of the Company's website.

# Where can I find information about Fremont General's Board of Directors and the membership of various Board committees?

Information about the Board of Directors, including brief biographies can be found in the Company section of the website under Fremont General's <u>Board and Management</u>. Their responsibilities and membership on Board committees can be found in the <u>Corporate Governance</u> section of the Company's website.

# Do you have a Corporate Governance program?

Yes, to review our Corporate Governance policies, as well as other relevant shareholder information, please visit our Corporate Governance section of our website.



#### Stock Related

## What stock exchange is Fremont General listed on and what is the ticker symbol?

Fremont General's common stock is traded on the Pink Sheets ("OTS") under the symbol "FMNTQ" and Fremont's Trust Originated Preferred Securities are traded on the OTS under the symbol "FMNTPQ."

#### What are Fremont General's CUSIP numbers?

Fremont General's CUSIP number is **357288109** for our common stock; **356905208** for our 9% Trust Originated Preferred Securities and **356609AF4** for our 7.875% Senior Notes due 2009.

### How do I buy Fremont General common stock?

To buy shares of Fremont General common stock or other Fremont securities you will need to contact a brokerage firm. The Company does not offer a direct stock purchase plan.

## Does Fremont General have a stock buyback program?

No, Fremont General does not currently have a stock buyback program.

## What is a transfer agent?

A transfer agent is hired by a publicly traded corporation to maintain records of who owns the company's stock, to transfer shares following transactions (i.e. stock purchases, sales, gifts, transfers, etc.), to issue shares authorized for issuance at the direction of Fremont General, and to keep track of account balances of its registered shareholders. If a registered Fremont General shareholder buys or sells Fremont General stock, Mellon is responsible for transferring the ownership of that stock.

# Who is Fremont General's transfer agent?

Fremont General's transfer agent is BNY Mellon Shareholder Services.

# Does Fremont General's transfer agent have a way for me to check the status of my common stock account online?

Yes. Registered holders may sign up for online account access at www.bnymellon.com/shareowner/isd.

# What is a registered holder?

You are a registered shareholder if your securities are either registered in your name and you hold a certificate of ownership in your possession or, if the shares are registered in your name in book-entry form, in safekeeping with our transfer agent.



# How does a registered shareholder contact Fremont General's transfer agent to change the name or address on my stock certificate or book-entry account?

If you are a registered shareholder, our transfer agent, BNY Mellon Shareowner Services, can help you with stock transfers, address changes and account record keeping. Please contact them at **(800) 710-0910** or visit their website at <a href="https://www.bnymellon.com/shareowner/isd">www.bnymellon.com/shareowner/isd</a>. If you are not a registered shareholder, you will need to contact your broker for assistance.

Information for contacting our transfer agent, BNY Mellon Shareowner Services follows:

480 Washington Boulevard Jersey City, NJ 07310-1900

Shareholder Services Telephone Numbers:

(800) 710-0910 – United States (800) 231-5469 – TDD for Hearing Impaired (201) 680-6610 – TDD for Foreign Shareholders Website: www.bnymellon.com/shareowner/isd

### What if I hold shares through my broker?

If your shares are held in a brokerage account, your securities are considered to be held in "street name." It is the broker's responsibility to keep track of the accounts of their clients and to provide you with information regarding your Fremont securities, including the delivery of proxy materials.

# When has Fremont General common stock split?

A stock split requires the approval of the board of directors. The most recent was a 2 for 1 stock split paid on December 10, 1998. The Company also paid a 10% stock dividend on both May 31, 1982 and June 15, 1995. All of the Company's stock splits are listed in the table below:

Record Date	Payable Date	Factor
6/04/93	6/17/93	3 for 2
1/07/96	2/07/96	3 for 2
11/20/98	12/10/98	2 for 1

### How can I calculate my cost basis if I have recently sold Fremont General shares?

The term cost basis (also called tax basis) refers to the calculation of the original cost of obtaining your stock shares. The cost basis normally includes the purchase price, commission and other expenses associated with purchasing the stock. Your original cost basis is needed when determining whether to report a capital gain or capital loss on the sale of your stock shares.

In order to determine your cost basis, you will need to review your original purchase records. If you purchased through a broker, you may be able to obtain this information from the brokerage firm. You may need to make adjustments to your original purchase price if Fremont General has gone through corporate actions (such as stock splits, stock dividends, mergers, etc.) after the date you originally acquired stock.



#### Financial Information

# When does Fremont General's fiscal year end?

Fremont General's fiscal year ends on December 31.

### Who are Fremont General's independent accountants?

Fremont General's independent accountant is Squar, Milner, Peterson, Miranda & Williamson, LLP.

# What public debt does Fremont General have outstanding?

The public debt that Fremont General has outstanding are the 7.875% Series B Senior notes due 2009 and 9% Trust Originated Preferred Securities.

## What are Fremont General's Trust Originated Preferred Securities?

In 1996, the Company formed Fremont General Financing I, a statutory business trust (the "Trust"), which sold \$100 million of 9% Trust Originated Preferred Securities (the "Preferred Securities") in a public offering. The Preferred Securities represent preferred undivided beneficial interests in the assets of the Trust. Holders of the Preferred Securities are entitled to receive cumulative cash distributions at an annual rate of 9% of the liquidation amount of \$25 per Preferred Security, payable quarterly. The proceeds from the sale of the Preferred Securities were invested in 9% Junior Subordinated Debentures issued by Fremont General (the "Junior Subordinated Debentures"). The Junior Subordinated Debentures are the sole asset of the Trust.

The \$100 million in Preferred Securities will be redeemed at par upon maturity of the Junior Subordinated Debentures in 2026, subject to the election available to Fremont General to extend the maturity up to 2045, and they may be redeemed, in whole or in part, at any time. Fremont General has the right to defer payments of interest on the Junior Subordinated Debentures, at any time, for up to 20 consecutive quarters. If interest payments on the Junior Subordinated Debentures are so deferred, distribution on the Preferred Securities will also be deferred; Fremont General would also generally not be able to declare or pay dividends, or make any distribution, redemption, purchase or acquisition, with respect to its common stock.

The Junior Subordinated Debentures represent liabilities of the Company to the Trust and are subordinate and junior to all indebtedness of Fremont General. Payment of distributions out of cash held by the Trust, and payments on liquidation of the Trust or the redemption of the Preferred Securities are guaranteed by Fremont General to the extent that the Trust has funds available to make such payments.

On February 28, 2008, the Company announced that the Company's Board of Directors approved exercising the Company's right to defer the regularly scheduled quarterly interest payments on its 9% Junior Subordinated Debentures.

#### What are Fremont General's Senior Notes?

In 1999, Fremont General issued \$425.0 million 7.875% Senior Notes due 2009 ("Senior Notes") that consisted of \$200.0 million and \$225.0 million 7.70% Senior Notes due 2004 and 7.875% Senior Notes due 2009. The Senior Notes may be redeemed at any time in whole or in part before maturity, but are not subject to sinking fund payments. These notes are unsecured senior indebtedness of Fremont General ranking equally with Fremont General's existing and future unsubordinated indebtedness.



On March 18, 2008 the Company announced that it has determined to delay its semi-annual interest payment of approximately \$6.6 million which is payable on March 17, 2008 on its \$169.0 million of Series B 7.875% Senior Notes due March 2009 ("Senior Notes") as it attempts to negotiate a comprehensive debt restructuring with the holder of the majority of the Senior Notes.

#### How do I contact the trustee for the Preferred Securities?

The Trustee for Fremont's 9% Trust Originated Preferred Securities is:

Wells Fargo Bank, National Association Corporate Trust Services 45 Broadway – 14th Floor New York, New York 10006 Tel: (212) 515-5258

Fax: (866) 524-4681

#### How do I contact the trustee for the 7.875% Senior Notes?

The Trustee for Fremont's 7.875% Senior Notes is:

HSBC Bank USA, N.A. 10 East 40th Street New York, NY 10018 (212) 525-1314

#### Do you issue preferred stock?

The Company is authorized to issue preferred stock but to date none has been issued.

#### How do I obtain copies of Fremont General's financial information?

Most of the Company's reports and financial filings can be printed or downloaded from the <u>Annual Reports</u>, <u>Quarterly Reports</u> and <u>SEC Filings</u> sections of our website. If you still need a copy mailed to your address, you may request the materials by submitting our <u>information request</u> form.

#### **Contact Information**

#### Where are Fremont General's headquarters located?

Fremont General is located in Brea, California. Our mailing address is:

Fremont General Corporation 2727 E. Imperial Highway Brea, CA 92821



# How do I contact Fremont General's Investor Relations department?

You may email your questions or comments to <a href="mailto:invrel@fmtinv.com">invrel@fmtinv.com</a>. You may call us at (714) 961-5000 or fax us at (714) 961-7515. If you would like to write us, our address is:

Fremont General Corporation c/o Investor Relations Department 2727 E. Imperial Highway Brea, CA 92821