

Change in Control Severance Protection Agreements

We have entered into Change in Control Severance Protection Agreements (“change in control agreements”), the specific form of which is available as Exhibit 10.23 to our Form 10-K filed on November 25, 2008, with each of the named executive officers, our other executive officers, and certain key employees of our company, because we believe such agreements are valuable aspects in enabling a smooth transition and providing continuity of management in the event of a change in control of our company; all of the change in control agreements remain unamended and according to such filed exhibit. Under the change in control agreements, which are “double trigger” agreements and which we believe are in compliance with the American Jobs Creation Act, each executive officer, including the named executive officers, whose employment with us terminates (including an executive’s voluntary termination of employment for either “good reason”, as defined in the agreement, or during the thirty-day period commencing on the first anniversary of a “change in control”), other than for cause, disability, death, or certain other specified reasons, within thirteen months after a “change in control” of our company (as such term is defined in the agreements), is entitled to a severance benefit. The severance benefit includes:

- accrued and unpaid compensation including: base salary, reimbursement for reasonable and necessary expenses incurred by the executive on our behalf through the date of termination, vacation pay and earned and unpaid bonuses and incentive compensation with respect to the period prior to the termination date;
- the Bonus Amount (which is the greatest of (i) the executive’s target bonus amount for the fiscal year in which the change in control occurs, (ii) the executive’s target bonus amount for the fiscal year in which the termination date occurs, and (iii) the highest bonus paid or payable to the executive in respect of any of the three fiscal years preceding the fiscal year in which change in control occurs), pro-rated for the number of days that have elapsed in the fiscal year through the termination date;
- two times (in the case of Mr. Johnson, Mr. Weisman, Dr. Spiro, and Ms. Bernstein) or three times (in the case of Mr. Noglows), the executive’s annual base salary plus the Bonus Amount plus an amount equal to the contributions made or credited by us under all qualified and non-qualified retirement plans for the benefit of the executive for the most recently completed plan year of each such plan (e.g., the 401(k) Plan and Supplemental Plan), payable in a lump sum;
- health and welfare benefits (consistent with health and welfare benefits available to all employees for which they had been eligible prior to their termination) for 24 months (in the case of Mr. Johnson, Mr. Weisman, Dr. Spiro, and Ms. Bernstein) or 36 months (in the case of Mr. Noglows) following the executive’s termination date;
- payment or reimbursement for the costs, fees and expense of outplacement assistance services, up to a maximum of fifteen percent of the executive’s annual base salary; and
- a full “gross-up payment” of any and all excise (but not income) taxes assessed on amounts received under the change in control agreements, as well as all other taxes, other than income taxes, that may become due as a result of the gross-up payment.

Cause as defined in the agreements means (i) the willful and continued failure to perform substantially the duties reasonably assigned to the executive and (ii) the willful engaging in conduct that is demonstrably and materially injurious to the company, monetarily or otherwise.

The agreements define “Good Reason” as the taking of actions by the company that result in a material negative change in the executive’s employment relationship, including (i) a change in the executive’s status, title, position or responsibilities (including reporting responsibilities) which represents a material adverse change from those in effect immediately prior to the Change in Control, (ii) an assignment of the executive’s duties or responsibilities that are materially inconsistent with his or her status, title, position or responsibilities as of immediately prior to the Change in Control, (iii) a material decrease in the executive’s annual base salary below the rate in effect as of the Change in Control or as of any date following the Change in Control, whichever is greater (iv) relocation of the offices of the company or operating unit at which the executive is principally employed that increases the executive’s one-way commute by more than thirty-five (35) miles from the location of the offices