

COMCAST CORP
Form S-8
December 08, 2004

As Filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on December 8, 2004

Registration No. 333-_____

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, DC 20549

FORM S-8

REGISTRATION STATEMENT

Under

THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

COMCAST CORPORATION

(Exact name of registrant as specified in charter)

Pennsylvania
(State or other jurisdiction of
incorporation or organization)

27-0000798
(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

1500 Market Street

Philadelphia, PA 19102-2148

(215) 665-1700

(Address of principal executive offices)

COMCAST CORPORATION 2005 DEFERRED COMPENSATION PLAN

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(Full title of the plan)

Arthur R. Block

Senior Vice President and General Counsel

Comcast Corporation

1500 Market Street

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19102-2148

(Name and address of agent for service)

(215) 665-1700

(Telephone number, including area code, of agent for service)

CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

| Title of securities to be registered | Amount to be registered | Proposed | | Amount of registration fee(2) |
|---|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|----------------------------------|
| | | maximum offering price per unit(1) | Proposed maximum aggregate offering price(2) | |
| Deferred Compensation Obligations(1) | \$200,000,000 | 100% | \$200,000,000 | \$25,340 |

(1) The deferred compensation obligations to which this Registration Statement relates (the "Deferred Compensation Obligations") arise under the Comcast Corporation 2005 Deferred Compensation Plan (the "Plan") and are unsecured obligations of Comcast Corporation to pay deferred compensation in the future pursuant to compensation deferral elections made by participants in the Plan in accordance with the terms of the Plan.

(2) Estimated pursuant to rule 457(h) under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, solely for the purpose of calculating the registration fee.

PART I

INFORMATION REQUIRED IN THE SECTION 10(a) PROSPECTUS

Item 1. Plan Information.

The document(s) containing the information specified in Part I of Form S-8 will be sent or given to participants in the Plan as specified by Rule 428(b)(1) of the Securities Act. Such documents are not being filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the Commission), but constitute, along with the documents incorporated by reference to this Registration Statement, a prospectus that meets the requirements of Section 10(a) of the Securities Act.

Item 2. Registrant Information and Employee Plan Annual Information.

Comcast Corporation (the Registrant) will furnish, without charge, to each person to whom the prospectus is delivered, upon the written or oral request of such person, a copy of any and all of the documents incorporated by reference, other than exhibits to such documents (unless such documents are specifically incorporated by reference to the information that is incorporated). Requests should be directed to: Comcast Corporation, 1500 Market Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19102-2148; telephone (215) 665-1700.

PART II

INFORMATION REQUIRED IN THE REGISTRATION STATEMENT

Item 3. Incorporation of Documents by Reference.

The following documents, which have been filed by the Registrant with the Commission, are incorporated by reference into this Registration Statement:

- (i) Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2003;
- (ii) Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the quarters ended March 31, 2004, June 30, 2004, and September 30, 2004; and
- (iii) The Registrant's Current Reports on Form 8-K filed with the Commission on October 19, 2004, May 13, 2004, April 28, 2004, and February 11, 2004.
- (iv) The Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the Commission on September 21, 2004, which contains audited consolidated financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2003, that supersede the audited consolidated financial statements contained in the Form 10-K.

The Registrant is not incorporating by reference any Form 8-Ks through which it furnished, rather than filed, information with the Commission.

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All documents filed by the Registrant pursuant to Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the Exchange Act) after the date hereof and prior to the filing of a

post-effective amendment which indicates that all securities offered pursuant to this Registration Statement have been sold or which deregisters all securities then remaining unsold, shall be deemed to be incorporated by reference herein and to be a part hereof from the date of filing of such documents.

Item 4. Description of Securities.

The following description of the Deferred Compensation Obligations of the Registrant under the Registrant's 2005 Deferred Compensation Plan (the "Deferred Compensation Plan") is qualified by reference to the Deferred Compensation Plan, which is included as an exhibit to this Registration Statement. Capitalized terms used in this subsection of Item 4 and not otherwise defined in this Registration Statement shall have the respective meanings attributed to such terms in the Deferred Compensation Plan.

The Deferred Compensation Obligations incurred by the Registrant under the Deferred Compensation Plan will be unsecured general obligations of the Registrant to pay the compensation deferred in accordance with the terms of the Deferred Compensation Plan and will rank equally with other unsecured and unsubordinated indebtedness of the Registrant. Because the Registrant has subsidiaries, the right of the Registrant, and hence the right of creditors of the Registrant (including Participants in the Deferred Compensation Plan), to participate in a distribution of the assets of a subsidiary upon its liquidation or reorganization or otherwise, necessarily is subject to the prior claims of creditors of the subsidiary, except to the extent that claims of the Registrant itself as a creditor may be recognized.

Under the Deferred Compensation Plan, the Registrant will provide Eligible Employees of the Registrant and each of the Registrant's subsidiaries which is a Participating Company and members of the Registrant's Board of Directors (the "Board") who are not employees of a Participating Company (the "Outside Directors") with the opportunity to elect to defer all or a portion of the compensation to be received from the Registrant or another Participating Company, provided that sales commissions or similar payments or awards or Severance Pay shall not be included as compensation for purposes of the Deferred Compensation Plan.

Except for amounts credited to the Accounts of Participants who are Outside Directors who have elected to defer receipt of Compensation payable in the form of the Registrant's Class A Common Stock, \$0.01 par value (the "Company Stock"), all amounts credited to Participant's Accounts will be credited with income, gains and losses as if it were invested in the Income Fund. Amounts credited to the Accounts of Outside Directors in the form of Company Stock will be credited with income, gains and losses as if it were invested in the Company Stock Fund. Distributions of amounts credited to the Company Stock Fund with respect to Outside Directors' Accounts will be distributable in the form of Company Stock, rounded to the nearest whole share.

As defined in the Deferred Compensation Plan, the Income Fund is a hypothetical investment fund pursuant to which income, gains and losses are credited to a Participant's Account as if such Account, to the extent deemed invested in the Income Fund, were credited with interest at the Applicable Interest Rate. As defined in the Deferred Compensation Plan, the Applicable Interest Rate means 12% per annum, compounded annually as of the last day of the calendar year (the "Standard Applicable Interest Rate"), except to the extent the Committee, in its sole discretion, designated for the period extending from the date of a Participant's termination of employment to the date of his or her

Account's distribution in full an Applicable Interest Rate equal to the lesser of (i) the Standard Applicable Interest Rate and (ii) the Prime Rate plus one percent, compounded annually as of the last day of the calendar year.

As defined in the Deferred Compensation Plan, the Company Stock Fund is a hypothetical investment fund pursuant to which income, gains and losses are credited to a Participant's Account as if the Account, to the extent deemed invested in the Company's Stock Fund, were invested in hypothetical shares of Company Stock and all dividends and other distributions paid with respect to Company Stock were temporarily held uninvested in cash and then reinvested, as of the next succeeding December 31, in additional hypothetical shares of the Company Stock, based on the Fair Market Value of the Company Stock as of such date.

Except as otherwise provided in the case of a liquidation of the Registrant or a Change of Control, each Participant is permitted to specify by election the method of distribution of any amount credited to his or her Account. Under the terms of the Deferred Compensation Plan, a Participant may elect from among the following methods of distribution: (i) a lump sum payment; and (ii) substantially equal annual or monthly installments over a period of five, ten or 15 years.

If a Participant terminates employment (or, in the case of a Participant who is an Outside Director, such Participant terminates service as an Outside Director) because of disability, or the Participant becomes disabled after termination of employment or service, to the extent permitted by the American Jobs Creation Act of 2004 and the regulations to be issued thereunder (the "AJCA"), the Participant may elect to accelerate the payment of the distribution so that payment is made or commences at a time that is as soon as reasonably practicable following the time the Disability occurred.

If a Participant terminates employment or service due to death, or if a Participant dies after termination of employment or service, to the extent permitted under the AJCA, the Participant's beneficiary or beneficiaries may elect to accelerate the time of payment of the Deceased Participant's Account to a time that is as soon as reasonably practicable following the Deceased Participant's date of death.

Notwithstanding the terms of an election, if, upon the written application of a Participant, the Committee determines that such Participant has a financial emergency of such a substantial nature and beyond the individual's control that payment of amounts previously deferred under the Deferred Compensation Plan is warranted, the Committee, in its sole discretion, may authorize the immediate distribution to the Participant of all or a portion of his or her Account.

The Deferred Compensation Plan provides that the Registrant shall give Participants at least 30 days notice (or, if not practicable, such shorter notice as may be reasonably practicable) prior to the anticipated date of the consummation of a liquidation of the Registrant or a Change of Control (each a "Terminating Event"). To the extent permitted by the AJCA, the Registrant may, in its discretion, provide in such notice that notwithstanding any other provision of the Deferred Compensation Plan or the terms of any election, upon the consummation of a Terminating Event, the Account balance of each Participant shall be distributed in full.

Whether or not the Registrant is a Participant's employer, all compensation deferred under the Deferred Compensation Plan will continue for all purposes to be a part of the general funds of

the Registrant and the Participant's Account will at all times represent the general obligation of the Registrant. Each Participant will be a general creditor of the Registrant with respect to all of the Registrant's Deferred Compensation Obligations to the Participant under the Deferred Compensation Plan, and will not have a secured or preferred position with respect to his or her Account. Nothing contained in the Deferred Compensation Plan shall be deemed to create an escrow, trust, custodial account or fiduciary relationship of any kind or to eliminate any priority or preferred position of a Participant in a bankruptcy matter with respect to claims for wages. Under the terms of the Deferred Compensation Plan, the right of a Participant in or to an Account, benefit or payment under the Deferred Compensation Plan shall not be subject in any manner to attachment or other legal process for the debts of such Participant; and no such Account, benefit or payment shall be subject to anticipation, alienation, sale, transfer, attachment, execution, garnishment, assignment or encumbrance.

The Registrant, by action of the Board or the Committee, without the consent of the Participants, may amend or modify the Deferred Compensation Plan at any time, except that no such action shall change the Applicable Interest Rate with respect to the portion of a Participant's Account that is attributable to an election made with respect to compensation earned in a calendar year and filed with the Committee before the date of such action. The Registrant, by action of the Board, reserves the right at any time, or from time to time, to terminate the Deferred Compensation Plan.

The Plan is intended to comply with the requirements of the AJCA. Notwithstanding any provision of the Plan to the contrary, the Committee reserves the right to amend the Plan, either retroactively or prospectively, in whatever respect is required to achieve and maintain compliance with AJCA.

Item 5. Interests of Named Experts and Counsel.

Not applicable.

Item 6. Indemnification of Directors and Officers.

Sections 1741 through 1750 of Subchapter D, Chapter 17, of the Pennsylvania Business Corporation Law of 1988 (the "BCL") contain provisions for mandatory and discretionary indemnification of a corporation's directors, officers and other personnel, and related matters.

Under Section 1741, subject to certain limitations, a corporation has the power to indemnify directors and officers under certain prescribed circumstances against expenses (including attorneys' fees), judgments, fines and amounts paid in settlement actually and reasonably incurred in connection with an action or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative or investigative, to which any of them is a party by reason of his being a director, officer, employee or agent of the corporation or serving at the request of the corporation as a director, officer, employee or agent of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise if he acted in good faith and in a manner he reasonably believed to be in, or not opposed to, the best interests of the corporation and, with respect to any criminal proceeding, has no reasonable cause to believe his conduct was unlawful. Under Section 1743, indemnification against expenses actually and reasonably incurred, is mandatory to the extent that the director, officer, employee or agent has been successful on the merits or otherwise in defense of any action or proceeding relating to third-party or derivative and corporate actions or in defense of any claim, issue or matter therein.

Section 1742 provides for indemnification in derivative and corporate actions except in respect of any claim, issue or matter as to which the person has been adjudged to be liable to the corporation unless and only to the extent that the proper court determines upon application that, despite the adjudication of liability but in view of all the circumstances of the case, the person is fairly and reasonably entitled to indemnity for the expenses that the court deems proper.

Section 1744 provides that, unless ordered by a court, any indemnification under Section 1741 or 1742 shall be made by the corporation only as authorized in the specific case upon a determination that the representative met the applicable standard of conduct set forth in those sections and such determination shall be made: (1) by the board of directors by majority vote of a quorum of directors not parties to the action or proceeding; (2) if a quorum is not obtainable and a majority of disinterested directors so directs, by independent legal counsel in a written opinion; or (3) by the shareholders.

Section 1745 provides that expenses incurred by an officer, director, employee or agent in defending a civil or criminal action or proceeding may be paid by the corporation in advance of the final disposition of such action or proceeding upon receipt of an undertaking by or on behalf of such person to repay such amount if it shall ultimately be determined that he is not entitled to be indemnified by the corporation. Advancement of expenses must be authorized by the board of directors.

Section 1746 provides generally that except in any case where the act or failure to act giving rise to the claim for indemnification is determined by the court to have constituted willful misconduct or recklessness, the indemnification and advancement of expenses provided by this Subchapter of the BCL shall not be deemed exclusive of any other rights to which a person seeking indemnification or advancement of expenses may be entitled under any bylaw, agreement, vote of shareholders or disinterested directors or otherwise, both as to action in his official capacity and as to action in another capacity while holding that office. Section 1746 also provides that a corporation may create a fund of any nature, which may, but need not be, under the control of a trustee, or otherwise secure or insure in any manner its indemnification obligations.

Section 1747 grants a corporation the power to purchase and maintain insurance on behalf of any person who is or was a representative of the corporation or is or was serving at the request of the corporation as a representative of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise, against any liability incurred by him in any such capacity, whether or not the corporation would have the power to indemnify him against that liability under this Subchapter of the BCL.

Sections 1748 and 1749 extend the indemnification and advancement of expenses provisions contained in Sections 1741 through 1750 of the BCL to constituent corporations absorbed in a consolidation, merger or division, as well as the surviving or new corporations surviving or resulting therefrom and to representatives serving as fiduciaries of employee benefit plans.

Section 1750 provides that the indemnification and advancement of expenses provided by, or granted pursuant to, Sections 1741 through 1750 of the BCL shall, unless otherwise provided when authorized or ratified, continue as to a person who has ceased to be a representative of the corporation and shall inure to the benefit of the heirs and personal representatives of such person.

Section 7.02 of the Registrant's By-laws provides that the Registrant will indemnify any director or officer of the Registrant to the fullest extent permitted by Pennsylvania law against all expense, liability and loss reasonably incurred or suffered by such person in connection with any threatened pending or completed action, suit or proceeding (a Proceeding) involving such person by reason of the fact that he or she is or was a director or officer of the Registrant or is or was serving at the request or for the benefit of the Registrant in any capacity for another corporation or other enterprise. No indemnification pursuant to Section 7.02 may be made, however, in any case where the act or failure to act giving rise to the claim for indemnification is determined by a court to have constituted willful misconduct or recklessness.

Section 7.02 further provides that the right to indemnification includes the right to have the expenses incurred by the indemnified person in defending any Proceeding paid by the Registrant in advance of the final disposition of the Proceeding to the fullest extent permitted by Pennsylvania law. In addition, Section 7.02 provides that, to the extent that an indemnified person has been successful on the merits or otherwise in defense of any Proceeding or in defense of any claim, issue or matter therein, the Registrant shall indemnify such person against expenses actually and reasonably incurred by such person in connection therewith. Section 7.02 also provides that the Registrant may purchase and maintain insurance for the benefit of any person on behalf of whom insurance is permitted to be purchased by Pennsylvania law against any expense, liability or loss whether or not the Registrant would have the power to indemnify such person under Pennsylvania or other law. The Registrant may also purchase and maintain insurance to insure its indemnification obligations, whether arising under the By-laws or otherwise. Furthermore, Section 7.02 states that the Registrant may create a fund of any nature or otherwise may secure in any manner its indemnification obligations, whether arising under the By-laws or otherwise. Indemnification pursuant to Section 7.02 shall continue as to an indemnified person who has ceased to be a director or officer and shall inure to the benefit of his heirs, executors and administrators. The rights to indemnification and to the advancement of expenses provided in or pursuant to Article 7 of the By-laws are not exclusive of any other rights that any person may have or acquire under any provision of the By-Laws or otherwise.

Section 7.03 of the Registrant's By-laws states that the provisions of the By-laws relating to indemnification constitute a contract between the Registrant and each of its directors and officers which may be modified as to any director and officer only with that person's consent or as provided in Section 7.03. Furthermore, any repeal or amendment of the indemnification provisions of the By-laws adverse to any director or officer will apply only on a prospective basis. In addition, no repeal or amendment of the By-laws may affect the indemnification provisions of the By-laws so as either to reduce the limitation of directors' liability or limit indemnification or the advancement of expenses in any manner unless adopted by (a) the unanimous vote of the directors of the Registrant then serving or (b) the affirmative vote of shareholders entitled to cast at least 80% of the votes that all shareholders are entitled to cast in the election of directors, provided that no such amendment will have a retroactive effect inconsistent with the preceding sentence.

Item 7. Exemption From Registration Claimed.

None.

Item 8. Exhibits.

- 4.1 Comcast Corporation 2005 Deferred Compensation Plan.
- 5.1 Opinion of Pepper Hamilton LLP.
- 5.2 Opinion of Pepper Hamilton LLP.
- 23.1 Consent of Deloitte & Touche LLP.
- 23.2 Consent of Pepper Hamilton LLP (contained in Exhibits 5.1 and 5.2).
- 24.1 Power of Attorney (contained in the signature pages hereto).

Item 9. Undertakings.

The undersigned Registrant hereby undertakes:

(1) To file, during any period in which offers or sales are being made, a post-effective amendment to this Registration Statement:

(i) to include any prospectus required by Section 10(a)(3) of the Securities Act;

(ii) to reflect in the prospectus any facts or events arising after the effective date of the Registration Statement (or the most recent post-effective amendment thereof) which, individually or in the aggregate, represent a fundamental change in the information set forth in the Registration Statement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, any increase, decrease in volume of securities offered (if the total dollar value of securities offered would not exceed that which was registered) and any deviation from the low or high and of the estimated maximum offering range may be reflected in the form of a prospectus filed with the Commission pursuant to Rule 424(h) if, in the aggregate, the changes in volume and price represent no more than a 20 percent change in the maximum aggregate offering price set forth in the Calculation of Registration Fee table in the effective Registration Statement; and

(iii) to include any material information with respect to the plan of distribution not previously disclosed in the Registration Statement or any material change to such information in the Registration Statement;

provided, however, that clauses (1)(i) and (1)(ii) do not apply if the information required to be included in a post-effective amendment by those clauses is contained in periodic reports filed with or furnished to the Commission by the Registrant pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Exchange Act that are incorporated by reference in the Registration Statement.

(2) That, for the purpose of determining any liability under the Securities Act, each such post-effective amendment shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

(3) To remove from registration by means of a post-effective amendment any of the securities being registered which remain unsold at the termination of the offering.

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The undersigned Registrant hereby undertakes that, for the purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act, each filing of the Registrant's annual report pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Exchange Act that is incorporated by reference in the Registration Statement shall be

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deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act may be permitted to trustees, officers and controlling persons of the Registrant pursuant to the foregoing provisions or otherwise, the Registrant has been advised that in the opinion of the Commission such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and is, therefore, unenforceable. In the event that a claim for indemnification against such liabilities (other than the payment by the Registrant of expenses incurred or paid by a trustee, officer or controlling person of the Registrant in the successful defense of any action, suit or proceeding) is asserted by such trustee, officer or controlling person in connection with the securities being registered, the Registrant will, unless in the opinion of its counsel the matter has been settled by controlling precedent, submit to a court of appropriate jurisdiction the question whether such indemnification by it is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and will be governed by the final adjudication of such issue.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, the Registrant certifies that it has reasonable grounds to believe that it meets all of the requirements for filing on Form S-8 and has duly caused this Registration Statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, on December 8, 2004.

COMCAST CORPORATION

By: /s/ Arthur R. Block
 Name: Arthur R. Block, Senior Vice
 President, General Counsel and Secretary

POWER OF ATTORNEY

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, that each person whose signature appears below hereby constitutes and appoints each of David L. Cohen, Lawrence S. Smith, Arthur R. Block and Lawrence J. Salva his true and lawful attorney-in-fact and agent, with full power of substitution and resubstitution, for him and in his name, place and stead, in any and all capacities, to sign any and all amendments (including post-effective amendments) to this registration statement, and to file the same, with exhibits thereto, and other documents in connection therewith, with the Securities and Exchange Commission, granting unto said attorney-in-fact and agent full power and authority to do and perform each and every act and thing requisite and necessary to be done, as fully to all intents and purposes as he might or could do in person, hereby ratifying and confirming all that said attorney-in-fact and agent or either of them, or their or his substitute or substitutes, may lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, this registration statement has been signed below by the following persons in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

| <u>Signature</u> | <u>Title</u> | <u>Date</u> |
|----------------------|---|------------------|
| /s/ Ralph J. Roberts | Chairman of the Executive and Finance | December 8, 2004 |
| Ralph J. Roberts | Committee of the Board of Directors; Director | |
| | Chairman of the Board, President and Chief | December 8, 2004 |
| /s/ Brian L. Roberts | Executive Officer; Director (Principal | |
| Brian L. Roberts | Executive Officer) | |
| | Executive Vice President, Co-Chief Financial | December 8, 2004 |
| /s/ John R. Alchin | Officer and Treasurer (Co-Principal Financial | |
| John R. Alchin | Officer) | |

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| Signature | Title | Date |
|---|---|------------------|
| _____ /s/ Lawrence S. Smith Lawrence S. Smith | Executive Vice President and Co-Chief Financial Officer (Co-Principal Financial Officer) | December 8, 2004 |
| _____ Lawrence S. Smith | Senior Vice President, Chief Accounting Officer and Controller (Principal Accounting Officer) | December 8, 2004 |
| _____ /s/ Lawrence J. Salva Lawrence J. Salva | Officer and Controller (Principal Accounting Officer) | |
| _____ /s/ S. Decker Anstrom S. Decker Anstrom | Director | December 8, 2004 |
| _____ S. Decker Anstrom | Director | |
| _____ C. Michael Armstrong | Director | |
| _____ Kenneth J. Bacon | Director | |
| _____ /s/ Sheldon M. Bonovitz Sheldon M. Bonovitz | Director | December 8, 2004 |
| _____ /s/ Julian A. Brodsky Julian A. Brodsky | Director | December 8, 2004 |
| _____ /s/ Joseph L. Castle, II Joseph L. Castle, II | Director | December 8, 2004 |
| _____ /s/ Joseph J. Collins Joseph J. Collins | Director | December 8, 2004 |
| _____ /s/ J. Michael Cook J. Michael Cook | Director | December 8, 2004 |
| _____ J. Michael Cook | Director | |
| _____ Dr. Judith Rodin | Director | |
| _____ Michael I. Sovern | Director | |

EXHIBIT INDEX

| Exhibit Number | Exhibit Description |
|---------------------------|---|
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