

NETGEAR, INC
Form DEF 14A
April 22, 2009
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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
(Amendment No. __)

Filed by the Registrant

Filed by a Party other than the Registrant

Check the appropriate box:

Preliminary Proxy Statement

Confidential, for Use of the Commission Only (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2))

Definitive Proxy Statement

Definitive Additional Materials

Soliciting Material Pursuant to §240.14a-12

NETGEAR, INC.

(Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)

(Name of Person(s) Filing Proxy Statement, if other than the Registrant)

Payment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box):

- No fee required.
- Fee computed on table below per Exchange Act Rules 14a-6(i)(1) and 0-11.

(1) Title of each class of securities to which the transaction applies:

(2) Aggregate number of securities to which the transaction applies:

(3) Per unit price or other underlying value of the transaction computed pursuant to Exchange Act Rule 0-11 (set forth the amount on which the filing fee is calculated and state how it was determined):

(4) Proposed maximum aggregate value of the transaction:

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.. Fee paid previously with preliminary materials.

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(1) Amount Previously Paid:

(2) Form, Schedule or Registration Statement No.:

(3) Filing Party:

(4) Date Filed:

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NETGEAR, INC.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS

Tuesday, June 2, 2009

10:00 a.m. local time

To Our Stockholders:

The 2009 Annual Meeting of Stockholders of NETGEAR, Inc. will be held on Tuesday, June 2, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. local time at our executive offices at 350 East Plumeria Drive, San Jose, California 95134 for the following purposes:

1. To elect nine (9) directors to serve until the next Annual Meeting of Stockholders;
2. To approve an amendment to the NETGEAR, Inc. 2003 Employee Stock Purchase Plan to increase the number of shares of NETGEAR, Inc. common stock authorized for sale thereunder by 500,000 shares;
3. To ratify the appointment of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2009; and
4. To transact such other business as may properly come before the annual meeting, including any motion to adjourn to a later date to permit further solicitation of proxies, if necessary, or before any adjournment thereof.

The foregoing items of business are more fully described in the Proxy Statement accompanying this Notice. Stockholders who owned shares of our stock at the close of business on Friday, April 3, 2009 are entitled to attend and vote at the meeting. A complete list of these stockholders will be available during normal business hours for 10 days prior to the meeting at our headquarters located at 350 East Plumeria Drive, San Jose, California 95134. A stockholder may examine the list for any legally valid purpose related to the meeting. The list also will be available during the annual meeting for inspection by any stockholder present at the meeting.

This year, we are pleased to take advantage of the Securities and Exchange Commission's rules that allow issuers to furnish proxy materials to their stockholders on the Internet. We believe these rules allow us to provide you with the information you need while lowering the costs of delivery and reducing the environmental impact of the annual meeting.

Whether or not you plan to attend the annual meeting, we hope you will vote as soon as possible. If you received or requested printed proxy materials, you may vote by mailing a proxy or voting instruction card. If you received a Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials (the "Notice"), you may vote over the Internet. Please review the instructions on each of your voting options described in the proxy materials, as well as the Notice if you received one.

For the Board of Directors of
NETGEAR, INC.
Patrick C.S. Lo
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer

San Jose, California

April 22, 2009

YOUR VOTE IS IMPORTANT

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PLEASE VOTE AS PROMPTLY AS POSSIBLE.

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NETGEAR, INC.

**PROXY STATEMENT FOR THE
2009 ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS**

GENERAL INFORMATION

The Board of Directors of NETGEAR, Inc., a Delaware corporation, has made these materials available to you on the Internet or in printed proxy materials in connection with the solicitation of proxies for use at its 2009 Annual Meeting of Stockholders, which will take place at 10:00 a.m. local time on Tuesday, June 2, 2009 at its executive offices located at 350 East Plumeria Drive, San Jose, California 95134.

This proxy statement contains important information regarding our annual meeting. Specifically, it identifies the proposals on which you are being asked to vote, provides information you may find useful in determining how to vote and describes the voting procedures.

We use several abbreviations in this proxy statement. We may refer to our Company as NETGEAR, we, us or our. The term proxy materials includes this proxy statement and our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2008, as well as the proxy or voter instruction card if you received or requested printed proxy materials.

We are mailing the proxy materials on or about April 22, 2009 to all of our stockholders as of the record date, April 3, 2009. Stockholders who owned NETGEAR common stock at the close of business on April 3, 2009 are entitled to attend and vote at the annual meeting. On the record date, we had approximately 34,379,316 shares of our common stock issued and outstanding and no shares of our preferred stock issued and outstanding. We had 37 stockholders of record as of the record date and our common stock was held by approximately 28,056 beneficial owners.

You may also view this proxy statement, as well as our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2008, online at the following address: <http://materials.proxyvote.com/64111Q>.

Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials

Pursuant to rules adopted by the Securities and Exchange Commission, we have elected to provide access to the proxy materials over the Internet. Accordingly, we are sending a Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials (the Notice) to some of our stockholders. All stockholders will have the ability to access the proxy materials on the website referred to in the proxy materials and on the website referred to in the Notice. Instructions on how to access the proxy materials over the Internet or to request a printed copy may be found in the Notice.

Voting Procedures

As a stockholder, you have the right to vote on certain business matters affecting us. The three proposals that will be presented at the annual meeting, and upon which you are being asked to vote, are discussed in the sections entitled Proposal One, Proposal Two, and Proposal Three. Each share of NETGEAR common stock you own entitles you to one vote. You can vote by:

returning the proxy or voter instruction card in the envelope provided, if you received or requested printed proxy materials;

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following the instructions on the Notice and voting on the Internet, if you received the Notice; or

attending the annual meeting and voting in person at the annual meeting.

Methods of Voting

Voting by Mail. If you received or requested printed proxy materials, then by signing and returning the proxy or voter instruction card according to the enclosed instructions, you are enabling our Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Patrick C.S. Lo, and our Chief Financial Officer, Christine M. Gorjanc, who are named on the proxy and voter instruction card as proxies and attorneys-in-fact, to vote your shares as proxy holders at the meeting in the manner you indicate. We encourage you to sign and return the proxy or voter instruction card even if you plan to attend the meeting. In this way, your shares will be voted even if you are unable to attend the meeting.

Your shares will be voted in accordance with the instructions you indicate on the proxy or voter instruction card. If you submit the proxy or voter instruction card, but do not indicate your voting instructions, your shares will be voted as follows:

FOR the election of the director nominees identified in Proposal One;

FOR the approval of an amendment to the NETGEAR, Inc. 2003 Employee Stock Purchase Plan to increase the number of shares of NETGEAR, Inc. common stock authorized for sale thereunder by 500,000 shares; and

FOR the ratification of the appointment of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2009.

Voting on the Internet. If you received the Notice (as described above), you can vote by proxy over the Internet by following the instructions provided on the Notice.

Voting in Person at the Meeting. If you plan to attend the annual meeting and vote in person, we will provide you with a ballot at the meeting. If your shares are registered directly in your name, you are considered the stockholder of record and you have the right to vote in person at the meeting. If your shares are held in the name of your broker or other nominee, you are considered the beneficial owner of shares held in your name, but if you wish to vote at the meeting, you will need to bring with you to the annual meeting a legal proxy from your broker or other nominee authorizing you to vote these shares.

To reduce the expenses of delivering duplicate voting materials to our stockholders who may have more than one NETGEAR stock account, we are delivering only one set of the voting materials to certain stockholders who share an address unless otherwise requested. For stockholders receiving printed proxy materials, a separate proxy card is included in the voting materials for each of these stockholders. If you share an address with another stockholder and have received only one set of voting materials, you may request a separate copy of these materials at no cost to you by writing our Company Secretary at NETGEAR, Inc., 350 East Plumeria Drive, San Jose, California 95134, or calling our Company Secretary at (408) 907-8000. For future annual meetings, you may request separate voting materials, or request that we send only one set of voting materials to you if you are receiving multiple copies, by writing our Company Secretary at NETGEAR, Inc., 350 East Plumeria Drive, San Jose, California 95134, or calling our Company Secretary at (408) 907-8000. **You may receive a copy of NETGEAR's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2008, including the Consolidated Financial Statements, schedules and list of exhibits, and any particular exhibit specifically requested by sending a written request to NETGEAR, Inc., 350 East Plumeria Drive, San Jose, California 95134, Attn: Corporate Secretary.**

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Revoking Your Proxy

You may revoke your proxy at any time before it is voted at the annual meeting. In order to do this, you may either:

sign and return another proxy bearing a later date;

provide written notice of the revocation to Andrew W. Kim, our Vice President, Legal and Corporate Development and Company Secretary, at NETGEAR, Inc., 350 East Plumeria Drive, San Jose, California 95134, prior to the time we take the vote at the annual meeting; or

attend the meeting and vote in person.

Quorum Requirement

A quorum, which is a majority of our outstanding shares as of the record date, must be present in order to hold the meeting and to conduct business. Your shares will be counted as being present at the meeting if you appear in person at the meeting, if you vote on the Internet, or if you submit a properly executed proxy or voter instruction card.

Votes Required for Each Proposal

The vote required and method of calculation for the proposals to be considered at the annual meeting are as follows:

Proposal One Election of Directors. The nine director nominees receiving the highest number of votes, in person or by proxy, will be elected as directors. You may vote (i) for all nominees, (ii) withhold for all nominees or (iii) withhold for certain nominees by indicating the name(s) of such nominees on your proxy or voter instruction card.

Proposal Two Approval of an amendment to the NETGEAR, Inc. 2003 Employee Stock Purchase Plan. Approval of an amendment to the NETGEAR, Inc. 2003 Employee Stock Purchase Plan will require the affirmative vote of a majority of the shares present at the annual meeting, in person or by proxy. You may vote for, against, or abstain from voting on this proposal.

Proposal Three Ratification of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm. Ratification of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm will require the affirmative vote of a majority of the shares present at the annual meeting, in person or by proxy. You may vote for, against, or abstain from voting on the proposal to ratify PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm.

Abstentions and Broker Non-Votes

If you return a proxy or voter instruction card that indicates an abstention from voting on all matters, the shares represented will be counted as present for the purpose of determining a quorum, but they will not be voted on any matter at the annual meeting. Consequently, if you abstain from voting on the proposal to approve an amendment to the NETGEAR, Inc. 2003 Employee Stock Purchase Plan or the proposal to ratify the appointment of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm, your abstention will have the same effect as a vote against that proposal.

Under the rules that govern brokers who have record ownership of shares that are held in street name for their clients, who are the beneficial owners of the shares, brokers have discretion to vote these shares on routine matters but not on non-routine matters. Thus, if you do not otherwise instruct your broker, the broker may turn in a proxy or voter instruction card voting your shares FOR routine matters but expressly instructing that the broker is NOT voting on non-routine matters. A broker non-vote occurs when a broker expressly instructs on a proxy or voter instruction card that it is not voting on a matter, whether routine or non-routine. Broker non-votes

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are counted for the purpose of determining the presence or absence of a quorum but are not counted for determining the number of votes cast for or against a proposal. Your broker will have discretionary authority to vote your shares on Proposals One (Election of Directors) and Three (Ratification of Appointment of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm), which are routine matters.

Proxy Solicitation Costs

We will bear the entire cost of proxy solicitation, including the preparation, assembly, printing and mailing of proxy materials. We expect our Vice President, Legal and Corporate Development and Company Secretary, Andrew W. Kim, to tabulate the proxies and act as inspector of the election.

Deadline for Receipt of Stockholder Proposals for 2010 Annual Meeting

As a stockholder, you may be entitled to present proposals for action at a forthcoming meeting if you comply with the requirements of the proxy rules established by the Securities and Exchange Commission. Proposals by our stockholders intended to be presented for consideration at our 2010 Annual Meeting of Stockholders must be received by us no later than December 23, 2009 (120 calendar days prior to the anniversary of the mailing date of this proxy statement), in order that they may be included in the proxy statement and form of proxy related to that meeting. The submission of the stockholder proposal does not guarantee that it will be included in our 2010 proxy statement.

The Securities and Exchange Commission rules establish a different deadline with respect to discretionary voting for stockholder proposals that are not intended to be included in a company's proxy statement. The proxy and voter instruction card grants the proxy holders discretionary authority to vote on any matter raised at the annual meeting. The discretionary vote deadline for our 2010 annual meeting is March 8, 2010, which is 45 calendar days prior to the anniversary of the mailing date of this proxy statement. If a stockholder gives notice of a proposal after the discretionary vote deadline, our proxy holders will be allowed to use their discretionary voting authority to vote against the stockholder proposal when and if the proposal is raised at our 2010 annual meeting.

In addition, our amended and restated bylaws establish an advance notice procedure with regard to specified matters, including stockholder proposals and director nominations, which are proposed to be properly brought before an Annual Meeting of Stockholders. To be timely, a stockholder's notice shall be delivered no less than 120 days prior to the date of the annual meeting specified in the proxy statement provided to stockholders in connection with the preceding year's annual meeting, which is February 2, 2010 in connection with our 2010 Annual Meeting of Stockholders. In the event that no annual meeting was held in the previous year or the date of the annual meeting is changed by more than 30 days from the date contemplated at the time of the previous year's proxy statement, notice by the stockholder must be received not later than the tenth business day following the day notice of the date of the meeting was mailed or public disclosure was made, whichever occurs first. A stockholder's notice shall include: (i) a brief description of the business desired to be brought before the annual meeting and the reasons for conducting such business at the annual meeting, (ii) the name and address of the stockholder proposing such business, (iii) the class and number of shares of our stock which are beneficially owned by the stockholder, (iv) any material interest of the stockholder in such business and (v) any other information required by the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "1934 Act"). In addition, if a stockholder wishes to nominate a candidate for director, the stockholder's notice shall also include the following information for the candidate: (i) name, age, business address and residence address, (ii) principal occupation or employment of such nominee, (iii) class and number of shares of our stock beneficially owned by such nominee, (iv) description of all arrangements between the stockholder and the nominee and (v) any other information required by the 1934 Act (including the candidate's written consent to being named in the proxy statement as a nominee and to serving as a director if elected). A copy of the full text of our amended and restated bylaws is available from our Corporate Secretary upon written request. Proposals should be sent to our Corporate Secretary, c/o NETGEAR, Inc., 350 East Plumeria Drive, San Jose, California 95134.

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Nomination of Director Candidates

The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee considers candidates for Board membership suggested by members of our Board of Directors, management and stockholders. It is the policy of the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee to consider recommendations for candidates to our Board of Directors from stockholders by submitting: the candidate's name; home and business contact information; detailed biographical data and qualifications; information regarding any relationships between the candidate and NETGEAR within the last three years; and evidence of the nominating person's ownership or beneficial ownership of NETGEAR stock and amount of stock holdings. The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee will consider persons recommended by our stockholders in the same manner as a nominee recommended by our Board of Directors, individual board members or management. See "Election of Directors" Policy for Director Recommendations and Nominations for additional information.

In addition, a stockholder may nominate a person directly for election to our Board of Directors at an annual meeting of our stockholders provided such person meets the requirements set forth in our amended and restated bylaws and the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission related to stockholder proposals. The process for properly submitting a stockholder proposal, including a proposal to nominate a person for election to our Board of Directors at an annual meeting, is described above in the section entitled "Deadline for Receipt of Stockholder Proposals for 2010 Annual Meeting."

Stockholder Communications to Directors

Stockholders may communicate directly with our Board of Directors by writing to them c/o NETGEAR, Inc., 350 East Plumeria Drive, San Jose, California 95134. Unless the communication is marked "confidential," our Company Secretary will monitor these communications and provide appropriate summaries of all received messages to the Chairperson of our Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee. Any stockholder communication marked "confidential" will be logged as received, but will not be reviewed by the Company Secretary. Such confidential correspondence will be immediately forwarded to the Chairperson of the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee for appropriate action. Where the nature of a communication concerns questionable accounting or auditing matters directed directly to the Audit Committee, our Company Secretary will log the date of receipt of the communication as well as (for non-confidential communications) the identity of the correspondent in the Company's stockholder communications log.

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The nominees for election at the Annual Meeting of Stockholders are Patrick C.S. Lo, Jocelyn E. Carter-Miller, Ralph E. Faison, A. Timothy Godwin, Jef Graham, Linwood A. Lacy, Jr., George G. C. Parker, Gregory J. Rossmann, and Julie A. Shimer. If elected, they will each serve as a director until the Annual Meeting of Stockholders in 2010, and until their respective successors are elected and qualified or until their earlier resignation or removal.

Unless otherwise instructed, the proxy holders will vote the proxies received by them for election of all of the director nominees, all of whom currently serve as directors. In the event the nominees are unable or decline to serve as a director at the time of the annual meeting, the proxies will be voted for any nominee who shall be designated by the present Board of Directors to fill the vacancy. We are not aware that any nominee will be unable or will decline to serve as a director. In the event that additional persons are nominated for election as directors, the proxy holders intend to vote all proxies received by them in such a manner as to assure the election of the nominees listed above.

Vote Required

If a quorum is present and voting, the nine nominees receiving the highest number of votes will be elected to our Board of Directors. Abstentions are not counted in the election of directors. If you hold your shares through a broker, bank or other nominee and you do not instruct them how to vote on this proposal, your broker may have the authority to vote your shares. Stockholders are not entitled to cumulative voting in the election of directors.

Information Concerning the Nominees and Incumbent Directors

The name and age of the nominees and incumbent directors as of March 13, 2009, the principal occupation of each and the period during which each has served as our director are set forth below. Information as to the stock ownership of each of our directors and all of our current directors and executive officers as a group is set forth below under Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management.

Name	Age	Office	Director Since
Patrick C.S. Lo	52	Chairman and Chief Executive Officer/Nominee	2000
Jocelyn E. Carter-Miller	51	Director/Nominee	2009
Ralph E. Faison	50	Director/Nominee	2003
A. Timothy Godwin	59	Director/Nominee	2003
Jef Graham	53	Director/Nominee	2005
Linwood A. Lacy, Jr.	63	Director/Nominee	2002
George G. C. Parker	69	Director/Nominee	2007
Gregory J. Rossmann	47	Director/Nominee	2002
Julie A. Shimer	56	Director/Nominee	2007

Patrick C.S. Lo has served as Chairman of our Board of Directors since March 2002 and our Chief Executive Officer since March 2000. From September 1999 to March 2002, he served as our President, and from our inception in 1996 until September 1999, he served as Vice President and General Manager. Mr. Lo joined Bay Networks, a networking company, in August 1995 to launch a division targeting the small business and home markets and established the NETGEAR division in January 1996. From 1983 until 1995, Mr. Lo worked at Hewlett-Packard Company, a computer and test equipment company, where he served in various management positions in software sales, technical support, network product management, sales support and marketing in the United States and Asia, including as the Asia/Pacific marketing director for Unix servers. Mr. Lo received a B.S. degree in Electrical Engineering from Brown University.

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Jocelyn E. Carter-Miller has served as one of our directors since January 2009. From 2004 to the present, Ms. Carter-Miller has served as President of TechEdVentures, Inc., a community empowerment firm that educates and inspires children, families and communities through the development and management of charter schools and community-based programs. From February 2002 until March 2004, Ms. Carter-Miller served as Executive Vice President and Chief Marketing Officer of Office Depot, Inc. Prior to that, she spent a decade with Motorola, initially as a Director of Marketing and Network Service Quality and ultimately as Corporate Vice President and Chief Marketing Officer. She also spent eight years at Mattel in marketing, product development and strategic business planning roles. Ms. Carter-Miller is a member of the Board of Directors of the Principal Financial Group, Inc., the Interpublic Group of Companies, Inc. and a non-profit organization. Ms. Carter-Miller holds a B.A. degree in Accounting from the University of Illinois and an M.B.A. from the University of Chicago.

Ralph E. Faison has served as one of our directors since August 2003. Mr. Faison currently is a private investor. From February 2003 to December 2007, Mr. Faison served as Chief Executive Officer of Andrew Corporation, a public company and a manufacturer of communications equipment and systems, and from June 2002 to December 2007, Mr. Faison also served as President and a director of Andrew Corporation. From June 2002 to February 2003, Mr. Faison served as Chief Operating Officer of Andrew Corporation. From June 2001 to June 2002, Mr. Faison served as President and Chief Executive Officer of Celiant Corporation, a manufacturer of power amplifiers and wireless radio frequency systems, which was acquired by Andrew Corporation in June 2002. From October 1997 to June 2001, Mr. Faison was Vice President of the New Ventures Group at Lucent Technologies, a communications service provider, and from 1995 to 1997, he was Vice President of advertising and brand management at Lucent Technologies. Prior to joining Lucent, Mr. Faison held various positions at AT&T, a voice and data communications company, including as Vice President and General Manager of AT&T's wireless business unit and manufacturing Vice President for its consumer products unit in Bangkok, Thailand. Mr. Faison received a B.A. degree in Marketing from Georgia State University and an M.S. degree in Management as a Sloan Fellow from Stanford University.

A. Timothy Godwin has served as one of our directors since August 2003. Mr. Godwin currently is a private investor. From July 1989 to January 1997, Mr. Godwin worked at Tech Data Corporation, an information technology products distributor, in various capacities including serving as a member of its Board of Directors, Vice Chairman focusing on worldwide finance and administration, President and Chief Operating Officer, Chief Financial Officer and Senior Vice President of Finance. From 1974 to June 1989, Mr. Godwin was employed by Price Waterhouse (now part of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP), most recently as an audit partner from July 1987 to June 1989. Mr. Godwin is a Certified Public Accountant and received a B.S. degree in Accounting from the University of West Florida.

Jef Graham has served as one of our directors since July 2005. From January 2006 to the present, Mr. Graham has served as the Chairman and CEO of RGB Networks, Inc., a provider of video and bandwidth management products. From July 2005 until January 2006, Mr. Graham served as the Executive Vice President, Application Products Group, of Juniper Networks, Inc., a provider of IP networking and security products. From October 2001 to July 2005, Mr. Graham served as the President and CEO of Peribit Networks Inc., a provider of wide area network optimization appliances, which was acquired by Juniper Networks. Before Peribit, Mr. Graham served as the Senior Vice President of the commercial and consumer business units for 3Com Corporation, where he managed networking and connectivity product offerings. From 1993 to 1995, he served as the CEO of Trident Systems, a document management systems integrator. Mr. Graham also worked for Hewlett-Packard Company for 15 years, including ten years in sales and marketing around the world and as general manager of both a hardware and a software division. Mr. Graham holds a B.A. with Honors in Business Studies from Sheffield Hallam University in the United Kingdom.

Linwood A. Lacy, Jr. has served as one of our directors since September 2002. Mr. Lacy currently is a private investor. From July 1998 to July 2001, Mr. Lacy served as Chairman of 4Sure.com, a direct marketer of computer and technology products. From October 1996 to October 1997, Mr. Lacy served as President and Chief Executive Officer of Micro Warehouse Incorporated, a microcomputer direct-marketing company. From 1985 to

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May 1996, he served as the Co-Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Ingram Micro, Inc., a microcomputer products distributor and a then wholly-owned subsidiary of Ingram Industries Inc. From April 1996 to May 1996, Mr. Lacy served as Vice Chairman of Ingram Industries Inc.; from June 1995 to April 1996, he served as its President and Chief Executive Officer; and from December 1993 to June 1995, he served as its President. Mr. Lacy is a director of several private companies, including Ingram Industries Inc. and Mail Express, Inc. He is also the Chairman of Mail Express, Inc. Mr. Lacy received both a B.S. degree in Chemical Engineering and an M.B.A from the University of Virginia.

George G. C. Parker, Ph.D. has served as one of our directors since January 2007. Professor Parker has been a distinguished member of the faculty of Stanford University's Graduate School of Business since 1973 and is currently the Dean Witter Distinguished Professor of Finance (Emeritus). He is also Director of the Financial Management Program and the Finance and Accounting for Non-financial Executives Program. At Stanford, Professor Parker has held a series of senior positions, including Senior Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, Director of the M.B.A. Program, Director for Executive Education, and Director of the Stanford Sloan Program for Executives. Professor Parker is a member of the Board of Directors of BGI Mutual Funds, an investment company, Continental Airlines, a transportation company, Tejon Ranch Company, a real estate development company and Threshold Pharmaceuticals, Inc., a biotechnology company. Professor Parker holds a B.S. degree from Haverford College and an M.B.A. and Ph.D. degree from the Stanford Graduate School of Business.

Gregory J. Rossmann has served as one of our directors since February 2002. Mr. Rossmann currently is a private investor. From November 2007 to January 2009, Mr. Rossmann served as a Managing Director of The Carlyle Group, a private equity firm. From April 2000 to November 2007, Mr. Rossmann served as a Managing Director of Pequot Capital Management, Inc., a private equity firm. From April 1994 to April 2000, Mr. Rossmann served as Managing Director and partner at Broadview International, an investment banking firm. From June 1991 to April 1994, he worked at Dynatech Corporation, a technology holding company, where he served as manager of new business development. Prior to that, he was a co-founder of Telemaster Corporation. Mr. Rossmann is a director of several private companies. Mr. Rossmann received a B.S. degree in Electrical Engineering from the University of Cincinnati and an M.B.A. from Santa Clara University.

Julie A. Shimer, Ph.D. has served as one of our directors since March 2007. Dr. Shimer is currently the president and CEO of Welch Allyn, a leading manufacturer of frontline medical products and solutions. Prior to Welch Allyn, Dr. Shimer served as president and CEO of Vocera Communications, a provider of wireless communications systems enabling instant voice communication among mobile workers for companies, from September 2001 through February 2007. Dr. Shimer also previously held executive positions at 3Com Corporation from January 2000 through August 2001, most recently serving as vice president and general manager of its networking products. Before joining 3Com, she held executive positions at Motorola, Inc., a wireless and broadband communications company, from 1993 through 1999, where she was vice president and general manager for the paging division, and prior to that post, vice president of its semiconductor products section. Dr. Shimer worked for AT&T Bell Laboratories and Bethlehem Steel Company before joining Motorola. Dr. Shimer is a member of the Board of Directors of Welch Allyn and several other private foundations. Dr. Shimer is also a member of the Society of Women Engineers and the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers. Dr. Shimer holds a B.S. degree in Physics from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and Master's and Doctorate degrees in Electrical Engineering from Lehigh University.

There are no family relationships between any director or executive officer. Our Board of Directors has determined that Messrs. Faison, Godwin, Graham, Lacy, Jr., Parker and Rossmann and Meses. Carter-Miller and Shimer are independent under Rule 4200(a)(15) of the National Association of Securities Dealers' listing standards. We strongly encourage the attendance of members of our Board of Directors at the annual meeting. At the 2008 Annual Meeting of Stockholders, all of our current directors who were directors at that time were in attendance.

Table of Contents**Vote Required and Board of Directors Recommendation**

The nominees receiving the greatest number of votes of the shares present and entitled to vote at the annual meeting will be elected as directors. **Our Board of Directors has unanimously approved each of the director nominees listed above and recommends that stockholders vote FOR the election of these nominees.**

Board and Committee Meetings

Our Board of Directors held a total of 7 meetings during 2008. Our Board of Directors has standing Audit, Compensation and Nominating and Corporate Governance Committees. Each member of the committees meets the independence standards of Rule 4200(a)(15) of the Nasdaq Stock Market and applicable independence rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission. A majority of our Board of Directors are independent directors, as defined by the Nasdaq Marketplace rules. Mr. Lacy has served as the lead independent director since April 2006. All of our directors attended at least 75% of the meetings of our Board of Directors and any applicable committee on which they served while they were members of our Board of Directors or the applicable committee.

Committee	Date of Inception	Members at the End of 2008	Committee Functions	Meetings Held in 2008
Audit	2000	A. Timothy Godwin (Chair)	Reviews internal accounting procedures	10
		Linwood A. Lacy, Jr.	Appoints independent registered public accounting firm	
		George G. C. Parker	Reviews annual audit plan of the independent auditor, the results of independent audit, and the report and recommendations of the independent auditor	
Compensation	2000	Ralph E. Faison (Chair)	Evaluates the adequacy of our internal financial and accounting processes and controls	8
		Jef Graham	Determines investment policy and oversees its implementation	
		Gregory J. Rossmann	Administers our equity plans	
Nominating and Corporate Governance	2004	Julie A. Shimer	Reviews compensation of directors and officers and makes recommendations to the Board with respect thereto	4
		Linwood A. Lacy, Jr. (Chair)	Reviews and recommends general policies relating to compensation and benefits	
		Ralph E. Faison	Recommends nomination of Board members	
		A. Timothy Godwin	Assists with succession planning for executive management positions	

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Jef Graham

Oversees and evaluates Board performance

Evaluates composition, organization and governance of Board and its committees

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Audit Committee

Our Board of Directors first adopted a written charter for the Audit Committee in August 2000. A copy of our current amended and restated Audit Committee charter is available on the investor relations section of our website at www.netgear.com. Our Audit Committee currently consists of Messrs. Godwin, Lacy, Jr., Parker and Ms. Carter-Miller. Our Board of Directors has determined that each of Messrs. Godwin, Lacy, Jr., Parker and Ms. Carter-Miller is an audit committee financial expert, as defined in the rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission. Our Board of Directors has determined that Messrs. Godwin, Lacy, Jr., Parker and Ms. Carter-Miller are independent under the listing standards of the Nasdaq Stock Market. Mr. Godwin serves as chairman of our Audit Committee.

Compensation Committee

Our Board of Directors first adopted a written charter for the Compensation Committee in August 2000. A copy of our current amended and restated Compensation Committee charter is available on the investor relations section of our website at www.netgear.com. Our Compensation Committee currently consists of Messrs. Faison, Graham, Rossmann and Ms. Shimer, each of whom is a non-management member of our Board of Directors. Mr. Faison serves as chairman of our Compensation Committee.

Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee

Our Board of Directors formed a Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee and adopted its written charter in April 2004. A copy of our current Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee charter is available on the investor relations section of our website at www.netgear.com. Our Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee currently consists of Messrs. Faison, Godwin, Graham and Lacy, Jr. None of the current members of the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee is an employee of NETGEAR and each is independent under the listing requirements of the Nasdaq Stock Market. Mr. Lacy, Jr. serves as chairman of the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee.

Policy for Director Recommendations and Nominations

The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee considers candidates for Board membership suggested by members of our Board of Directors, management and stockholders. It is the policy of the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee to consider recommendations for candidates to our Board of Directors from stockholders who have provided the following written information: the candidate's name; home and business contact information; detailed biographical data and qualifications; information regarding any relationships between the candidate and NETGEAR within the last three years; and evidence of the nominating person's ownership or beneficial ownership of NETGEAR stock and amount of stock holdings. The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee will consider persons recommended by our stockholders in the same manner as a nominee recommended by our Board of Directors, individual Board members or management.

In addition, a stockholder may nominate a person directly for election to our Board of Directors at an annual meeting of our stockholders provided they meet the requirements set forth in our amended and restated bylaws and the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission related to stockholder proposals. The process for properly submitting a stockholder proposal, including a proposal to nominate a person for election to our Board of Directors at an annual meeting, is described above in the section entitled "General Information - Deadline for Receipt of Stockholder Proposals for 2010 Annual Meeting."

Where the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee has either identified a prospective nominee or determines that an additional or replacement director is required, the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee may take such measures that it considers appropriate in connection with its evaluation of a director candidate, including candidate interviews, inquiry of the person or persons making the recommendation or nomination, engagement of an outside search firm to gather additional information, or reliance on the knowledge

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of the members of the committee, the Board or management. In its evaluation of director candidates, including the members of our Board of Directors eligible for re-election, the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee considers a number of factors, including the following:

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; and

such factors as judgment, independence, character and integrity, area of expertise, diversity of experience, length of service, and potential conflicts of interest.

In connection with its evaluation, the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee determines whether it will interview potential nominees. After completing the evaluation and review, the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee approves the nominees for election to our Board of Directors.

Corporate Governance Policies and Practices

We maintain a corporate governance page on our company website at www.netgear.com. This website includes, among other items, profiles of all of our directors and officers, charters of each committee of the Board, our code of ethics, the information regarding our whistleblower policy, and our director and officer stock ownership guidelines.

Our policies and practices reflect corporate governance initiatives that are compliant with the listing requirements of the Nasdaq Stock Market and the corporate governance requirements of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, including:

A majority of the members of the Board are independent directors, as defined by the Nasdaq Marketplace rules. Independent directors do not receive consulting, legal or other fees from us other than Board and Committee compensation.

Mr. Lacy has served as the lead independent outside director since April 2006.

The independent directors of the Board meet regularly without the presence of management.

The Board has adopted a code of ethics that is applicable to all of our employees, officers and directors. This code is intended to deter wrongdoing and promote ethical conduct. Directors, officers and employees are required to complete annual surveys relating to their knowledge of any violation of legal requirements or the code of ethics. We will post any amendments to, or waivers from, our code of ethics on our website.

Directors stand for re-election every year.

The Audit, Compensation and Nominating and Corporate Governance Committees each consist entirely of independent directors.

The charters of the Board committees clearly establish their respective roles and responsibilities.

At least annually, the Board reviews our business initiatives, capital projects and budget matters.

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The Audit Committee reviews and approves all related party transactions.

The Board has implemented a process of periodic self-evaluation of the Board and its Committees.

As part of our Whistleblower Policy, we have made a whistleblower hotline available to all employees for anonymous reporting of financial or other concerns. The Audit Committee receives directly, without management participation, all hotline activity reports, including complaints on accounting, internal controls or auditing matters.

Directors are encouraged to attend our annual meeting. While their attendance is not required, at the 2008 Annual Meeting of Stockholders, every one of our directors who was a director at that time was in attendance.

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Directors and officers are encouraged to hold and own common stock of the company to further align their interests and actions with the interest of our stockholders, pursuant to our director and officer stock ownership guidelines.

Director Compensation

Our non-employee directors receive a \$25,000 annual retainer. The chairman of the Audit Committee is also paid an additional annual retainer of \$10,000, and each chairman of our other committees is also paid an additional annual retainer of \$4,000. Retainers are paid on a quarterly basis at the end of each quarter.

Our non-employee directors receive \$1,000 per meeting and are entitled to reimbursement of travel (first-class domestic and business-class international) and other related expenses incurred in connection with their attendance at meetings of the Board of Directors and committee meetings. The chairman of the Audit Committee receives an additional \$1,000 per committee meeting or sub-meeting with management attended, and the chairman of the Compensation Committee and of the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee each receives an additional \$500 per meeting attended. Meeting fees are aggregated and paid on a quarterly basis at the end of each quarter.

Upon joining the Board, a non-employee director is eligible to receive an initial grant of 8,000 restricted stock units. The restricted stock units will vest 1/3 on each anniversary of the grant date, so that the entire grant will be fully vested over a three year period. On an annual basis, a non-employee director who has been with us for at least six months at the time of our annual stockholder meeting is eligible to receive an annual grant of 6,000 restricted stock units, which will be fully vested on the date of the following year's annual stockholder meeting.

In order to encourage continuing director education, the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee has established a budget for director compensation of \$6,000 over any two-year period for each director. Directors serving on multiple boards are encouraged to obtain pro rata reimbursement of their director education expenses from each corporation that they serve.

As a result of the current global economic climate, our non-employee directors agreed not to take any cash compensation associated with their membership on the Board or any committee for the first quarter of 2009.

Fiscal Year 2008 Director Compensation

The following Director Compensation Table sets forth certain information regarding the compensation of our non-employee directors for the 2008 fiscal year.

Name	Fees			Total (\$)
	Earned In Cash (\$)	Stock Awards (\$ (1))	Option Awards (\$ (2))	
Jocelyn E. Carter-Miller (4)	\$	\$	\$	\$
Ralph E. Faison (3)	\$ 49,500	\$ 112,020	\$	\$ 161,520
A. Timothy Godwin (3)	\$ 73,000	\$ 112,020	\$	\$ 185,020
Jef Graham (3)	\$ 44,000	\$ 112,020	\$ 32,777	\$ 188,797
Linwood A. Lacy, Jr. (3)	\$ 51,000	\$ 112,020	\$	\$ 163,020
George G. C. Parker (3)	\$ 42,000	\$ 133,717	\$	\$ 175,717
Gregory J. Rossmann (3)	\$ 39,000	\$ 112,020	\$	\$ 151,020
Julie A. Shimer (3)	\$ 40,000	\$ 123,957	\$	\$